Master of Data Analytics (MDA) Admission Requirements



Minimum Eligibility Requirements Checklist

1. Academic Degree & Academic Average

Applicants must possess a four-year degree from an accredited university with a minimum average of at least 75% in the last two years of full-time undergraduate study.

2. Prerequisites – an overall average of at least 75% across the following courses:

2 Calculus courses

- 1 Linear Algebra course
- 1 Calculus-based Probability course
- 1 Calculus-based Statistics course
- 2 Computer Programming courses (an introductory programming course; and a course covers abstract data types, data organization and manipulation, recursion; file handling and storage)
- 1 upper year course that demonstrates mathematical maturity (e.g., a 3rd or 4th year course in actuarial science, applied mathematics, astronomy, computer science, economics/econometrics, engineering, finance, industrial engineering, operations research, physics, statistics, etc.)
- Applicants to the Artificial Intelligence specialty field must have completed these additional courses:
 - 1 Data Structures & Algorithms course
 - 1 Software Tools & Systems Programming OR Software Design course
 - 1 Logic for Computer Science course

3. English Language Proficiency, at least ONE of the following:

- English as a first language, or
- English as a second language test with TOEFL or IELTS or Duolingo with the following scores
 - TOEFL (Overall 94, Reading 22, Listening 22, Speaking 26, Writing 24)
 - IELTS Academic (Overall 7 out of 9, with not individual score less than 6.5)
 - Duolingo (Minimum score of 120)

Applicants whose first language is not English, who have recently studied 2 or more years at a university where English is the language of instruction and that university was in a country where English is or is one of the official languages must provide English language proficiency test results from within the last 5 years. Applicants in this situation can submit English language testing results from when they applied to their undergraduate degree or another recently completed university degree, provided such tests are not more than 5 years old.

Application Assessment

We take a holistic approach to application assessment and extend offers to strong applicants with exceptional technical skills; particularly in the area of statistics, math and computer science. These skills should be complimented by strong communication skills and a commitment to pursuing a career in data analytics.

The Admissions Committee assesses application based upon:

Prerequisite
Courses

• Does the applicant have sufficient quantitative and analytical background to be successful in a rigorous program?

Communication Skills

•Does the applicant demonstrate a strong command of the English language? All applicants whose first language is not English must provide formal documentation demonstrating that they meet or exceed the MDA program's English Language Proficiency requirements. Oral and written communication skills will also be evaluated in short-listed candidate in a video interview and written assessment.

Results of Technical Test •Short-listed applicants will be asked to complete a technical test of 20 multiple-choice questions in the areas of calculus, linear algebra, probability, statistics and computer programming.

References

• Do the referees confirm the applicant has the intellect, aptitude, and initiative to successfully pursue graduate studies?

Curriculum Vitae • Does the applicant possess relevant professional experience from internship/co-op or full-time employment? (The MDA is a direct entry program which does not require prior work experience, however, we do consider employment experience, if applicable, as well as volunteer and extra-curricular activities, projects, leadership and so on in the assessment process)

Please note the following:

- Admission to the 1-year MDA program is competitive. Consequently, we are unable to provide preliminary assessments of potential applicants due to the large number of applications received.
- Applications that do not include all required documentation, including proof of English language proficiency from applicants where English is not their first language, will be considered incomplete.
- A strong application is one that follows all instructions and clearly demonstrates all admissions requirements are met (ideally exceeded), providing full and appropriate documentation as necessary.