Supply Chain Management, PhD

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Business Administration (Supply Chain Management)

Supply chain management incorporates the core areas of logistics management, operations management and supply management. The PhD program in business administration with a concentration in supply chain management is a full-time residential program for students whose career goals are full-time university research and teaching. The curriculum guides students in conducting high-quality research and teaching at the university level.

Students are trained to develop the capability to recognize problems related to supply chain management and frame these problems into research questions which are then addressed in a scholarly way, and they are required to review, analyze, conduct and publish research. They are prepared to do this through a series of doctoral seminars and research methods courses and by participating in active research projects. Students are also required to develop their teaching skills through assignments as teaching assistants or instructors. Teaching assignments typically take place during the last two years of the program.

This program is designed to be completed in four years.

At a Glance

- College/School: W. P. Carey School of Business
- Location: Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

The doctoral program requires the completion of coursework, the completion of academic papers for submission to journals, a comprehensive exam and a dissertation. The program is generally viewed as a four-year process. Most students will serve in research assistantships for all four years. During the program,
students are expected to actively participate in required courses as well as in seminars and presentations from colleagues, department faculty and visiting scholars. Students will also have the opportunity to teach courses during their doctoral program. Teaching assistantships typically will be made available during the last two years of the program. This will allow doctoral degree students to get research projects and manuscripts into the multiyear pipeline typical of accepted research articles. Through areas of excellence, centers and the faculty, the supply chain management program has special opportunities for industry-based research projects.

**Coursework**
The program consists of a minimum of 84 credit hours of approved graduate coursework beyond the bachelor’s degree. The department requires doctoral students to take 48 credit hours of graduate coursework in residence at ASU during their first two years. The specific classes must be approved by faculty members in the students’ areas of excellence. Students are also required to take 12 hours of research and 12 hours of dissertation credit. A maximum of 12 credit hours can be transferred from previous graduate coursework. Moreover, students' plans of study must be approved in advance by their program chair.

**Academic Papers**
Students are expected to work on academic papers for submission to journals during their doctoral program. Summer months are intended for manuscript writing for those students who have yet to successfully defend their dissertation proposals. At the end of each summer, all doctoral students are required to have at least one new manuscript ready for submission to a journal for publication. Faculty in the areas of excellence will supervise manuscript planning and writing. The bulk of the writing is done during the summer by the students. Faculty in the students’ areas of excellence will evaluate the papers and provide detailed feedback and instructions for rewriting of papers.

**Comprehensive Examinations**
Upon completion of all necessary coursework on a student's approved plan of study, the academic unit may initiate the scheduling and administering of a student's comprehensive examinations. The comprehensive examinations consist of a minimum of a written exam and, at the discretion of the academic unit, an oral exam may also be required.

**Candidacy**
Doctoral students are notified of achieving candidacy status when they receive a letter from the dean of the Graduate College upon passing the comprehensive examinations and successfully defending the dissertation prospectus.

**Dissertation Requirements**
Students are required to present a dissertation to satisfy the research requirement for the doctorate. The dissertation is defended in an oral examination commonly known as the dissertation defense.

Students must be enrolled for at least one credit hour that appears on the plan of study or one hour of appropriate graduate-level credit (such as 795 Continuing Registration) during the semester (including a summer session) in which the student defends the dissertation.
For detailed information regarding the university's doctoral degree requirements, students should refer to the Graduate College's policies and procedures.

**Maximum Time Limit**
Doctoral students must complete all program requirements within 10 consecutive years.

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**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the W. P. Carey School of Business.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GMAT or GRE scores
4. prior academic performance records
5. letters of recommendation
6. a personal statement
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Applications are initially reviewed by a faculty committee using a portfolio approach. Materials are reviewed to ensure a good fit between students' goals and research interests and those of the department. Recommendations for action are then made to Graduate Admission Services, which admits or denies each applicant and notifies them in writing.

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**Application Deadlines**

Spring
Contact Information

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