As part of the University of Virginia, we hold ourselves to the same standards and honor code.

At Darden, students are encouraged to pursue their why — their personal challenge — to develop the modern leader within.

Here, ambition and collaboration catalyze each other to spawn career-long success that accompanies a deeper sense of meaning in one’s work.

WE ARE GUIDED BY A FIVE PILLAR PHILOSOPHY THAT MODELS OUR APPROACH.

**No. 1**
Spontaneous yet deliberate learning experience that promotes critical thinking, learning by doing and confidence in the face of uncertainty.

**No. 2**
Concentrated and purposeful intensity of experience that mimics the performance pressures of modern business and teaches at its true pace — not the nearest simulation.

**No. 3**
High intellectual and emotional engagement that creates a culture of mutual respect, positive intent, global inclusion and collaborative rigor.

**No. 4**
Commitment to immediacy and proximity to business practice within an accessible, open-door research ecosystem.

**No. 5**
Dedication to leading lives of honor and purpose through a commitment to meaningful work and leadership in the field of business ethics.
IN CLASS

It all starts with the case method. No lectures. No recitations. Just you, your classmates, your professors and the discussions you build together.

To preserve a custom, improvised atmosphere, students are assigned to smaller 60-65 person sections on Day One, each with its own spirit, identity and inside jokes. Perspective matters. Here, every voice is heard, every opinion earns its platform and no assumption remains assumed.

The classroom is a forum, not an auditorium.

OUT OF CLASS

Each student is also assigned to a 4-5 person learning team that spans sections, interests and backgrounds. Together, you’ll grapple with assignments and advance each other’s comprehension of the day’s lessons. Students further pursue their purpose in the form of professional reward. Darden’s Career Development Center advisers provide 1-on-1 support, starting before your first day of class. And Second Year mentors help new students navigate the recruiting process.

Darden’s top-ranked entrepreneurship offerings can show you an ROI before graduation day. From our i.Lab Incubator to academic coursework to professors who have done and seen it all in their own ventures.

1 We’re one of the few MBA programs that teaches through the case method, and we use it for its unparalleled ability to prep students for the world outside our walls.

2 Inside jokes are just the start of it. Every year, sections compete in the Darden Cup, a serious (yet not-so-serious) yearlong competition of wits, athletics, food drives, trivia and more.

3 Learning teams are like family. Provided your family does regression analyses over dinner. You’ll quickly see the benefits of your smaller group helping you prepare for every assignment, every paper and every exam.

THE DARDEN MBA EXPERIENCE
The First Year of a Darden MBA doesn’t just prepare you for the Second Year of a Darden MBA.

You’ll dive headfirst into a rigorous core curriculum, immersed in a case-based learning experience that facilitates learning by doing.

**CORE COURSES**
- Management Communication
- Global Economies and Markets
- Financial Management and Policies
- Accounting for Managers
- Marketing
- Operations Management
- Leading Organizations
- Decision Analysis
- Business Ethics
- Strategic Thinking and Action

The Second Year? Same exact experience, just completely different.

Now’s the moment to align expertise with purpose. Your Second Year gives you the chance to sharpen your professional interests, personalizing our unique approach to your career path and in-demand skill sets.

**ELECTIVE AREAS**
- Accounting
- Consulting
- Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Strategy
- Ethics
- Finance
- Global Economies and Markets
- Leadership and Organizational Behavior
- Management Communication
- Marketing
- Operations
- Quantitative Analysis
- Sustainability

Advance a passion. Advance a position.

Amazon, Danaher, Goldman Sachs, Microsoft, McKinsey & Co. — those are a few of the names you’ll see on recent Darden grad resumes. We’ll work to get you where you want to be with one-on-one professional development always available from our Career Development Center. The results speak for themselves: the average salary of new Darden graduates ranked fourth highest among all B-schools, according to U.S. News & World Report.
WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A DARDEN MBA?

A MIND TRAINED FOR THE MOMENT.

Every day at Darden is an experience unique to itself, sharpening immediate analysis and critical thinking skills via self-guided classroom discussions.

A MIND TRAINED FOR TOMORROW.

By May of Second Year, you’ll have a whole new mentality beneath your graduation cap, prepped and ready to face a real world that looks modest compared to the one you just conquered.
June, July and August are all about testing your skills in the workplace, employing what you’ve learned over the past year and culling industry experience to help map the next. Students complete internships for major corporations all over the world. Many pursue startup dreams, and Darden supports those with an entrepreneurial purpose, too. The i.Lab Incubator serves as a summer accelerator that has launched several multimillion-dollar companies, while the Batten Institute’s Venture Internship Program and Technology Venture Fellows program place students in impactful internships with early stage startups. The Darden Nonprofit Internship Fund helps cover living costs while students contribute to social causes.

“CORE,” AS STUDENTS CALL IT, IS AN EXPERIENCE UNLIKE ANY OTHER. EACH TOPIC IS BUILT TO COVER THE IMPORTANT THEMES AT THE HEART OF EVERY BUSINESS DECISION.

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EACH SUMMER, 95% OF DARDEN STUDENTS COMPLETE AN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM, MANY OF THEM RETURNING WITH FULL-TIME JOB OFFERS.

CORE CLASSES
Think of your core curriculum as true Darden concentrate. The first three quarters are a rigorous, rewarding endeavor shaped by foundational coursework.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS
Dozens of clubs and organizations let you research, select and make a difference in groups creating enduring change on Grounds and off.

RECRUITING
Darden’s Career Development Center puts you in the perfect position for information sessions, interviews and site visits with top firms worldwide. You’ll even meet your career coach before your first day on Grounds.

DARDEN WORLDWIDE COURSES
All Darden students are invited to participate in a worldwide course before graduation. Some choose to do so during First Year, selecting between dozens of countries and countless experiences.

FROM THE GLACIERS OF PATAGONIA TO THE CATHEDRALS OF MOSCOW, YOUR WORLDWIDE EXPERIENCE WILL HELP YOU DISCOVER UNCOMMON PERSPECTIVES ON COMMERCE, LEADERSHIP AND SOCIETY ACROSS THE GLOBE.

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ELECTIVES
Like core courses, all elective courses follow an energizing, discussion-based format. More than 100 elective topics span as many student interests.

CLUB & ORGANIZATIONS LEADERSHIP
Your Second Year is a full-scale immersion into leadership. Students ascend to leading positions across clubs, organizations and student government.

DARDEN WORLDWIDE COURSES
First Year, Second Year or both, a Darden Worldwide Course can stoke professional curiosities beyond borders, revealing new perspectives.

FROM THE GLACIERS OF PATAGONIA TO THE CATHEDRALS OF MOSCOW, YOUR WORLDWIDE EXPERIENCE WILL HELP YOU DISCOVER UNCOMMON PERSPECTIVES ON COMMERCE, LEADERSHIP AND SOCIETY ACROSS THE GLOBE.

Put your why to work
93% Class of 2017 received a job offer within three months of graduation
$124,684 Average starting salary
$32,006 Average signing bonus

The only difference between Darden alumni and Darden students? A job and a diploma. All Darden graduates receive career services for life, carrying the same purpose-forged mindset into the workplace to join a network with implications larger than its impressive numbers.

You’ll join a distinguished network of 15,000 alumni spanning 90 countries.

You’ll join a distinguished network of 15,000 alumni spanning 90 countries. Not too shabby.

ALL DARDEN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ARE EXCLUSIVELY RUN BY FIRST AND SECOND YEARS. EVERY YEAR, WE RECOGNIZE THE MOST EXCEPTIONAL LEADERS WITH THE DARDEN PRIZE FOR CLUB EXCELLENCE.

WHERE YOU’LL FIND US.

Thursdays are for DARDEN COLD CALLS, a themed tradition in which student-run clubs host fellow students, faculty and families to celebrate the personality and diversity of the Darden community.

Student-run clubs are also responsible for much of our off-campus social life. One of our most popular? Beer release events from the Darden School of Brew.

First Coffee is a tradition that runs as deep as our Grounds. Every morning, you can count on a fresh cup and a stimulating conversation waiting for you between classes.

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EVERY DAY AFTER

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WHERE YOU’LL FIND US.
Faculty don’t see themselves as researchers for their own benefit, and they don’t see tradeoffs between teaching and research. Instead, they look to the critical thinking from their classrooms to inform their fieldwork, and vice-versa.

**THE ETHICIST**  
Ed Freeman  
BUSINESS ETHICS  
The father of stakeholder theory and champion of business ethics. A truly modern leader (before it was modern).

**THE DESIGN THINKER**  
Jeanne Liedtka  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION  
Organizational sage and pioneer of design thinking, a problem-solving technique that’s transforming companies, nonprofits and government agencies.

**THE FUTURIST**  
Ed Hess  
STRATEGY & ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
Author of 12 books, 100+ practitioner articles, 60+ Darden cases and some just-far-enough-out-there ideas you won’t find elsewhere.

**THE DIFFERENCE MAKER**  
Martin Davidson  
LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR  
Renowned for changing how executives across the globe leverage the diversity and differences in their organizations, with too many credentials to count.

**THE FINANCIER**  
Elena Loutskina  
FINANCE  
Trusted consultant for students, professors and corporations for all things commercial banking. (Oh, and the Federal Reserve and International Monetary Fund.)
THINKING ABOUT A VISIT?
CONTACT OUR MAIN OFFICE.
darden@virginia.edu

THINKING ABOUT THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
CONTACT A STUDENT AMBASSADOR.
darden.virginia.edu/mba/community/contact-a-student

THINKING ABOUT OUR MASTER’S IN BUSINESS ANALYTICS?
CONTACT THE MSBA TEAM.
msba@virginia.edu

THINKING ABOUT APPLYING?
CONTACT OUR ADMISSIONS OFFICE TO SCHEDULE A CONVERSATION.
darden.virginia.edu/mba/admissions/conversation

PURPOSE IS EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.