“MIT Sloan PhD training is a transformative experience. The heart of the process is the student’s transition from being a consumer of knowledge to being a producer of knowledge. This involves learning to ask precise, tractable questions and addressing them with creativity and rigor. Hard work is required, but the reward is the incomparable exhilaration one feels from having solved a puzzle that had bedeviled the sharpest minds in the world!”

Ezra Zuckerman
*Alvin J. Siteman (1948) Professor of Entrepreneurship*
*Deputy Dean*
Why study management at MIT Sloan?

Leadership. Innovation. Entrepreneurial spirit. The culture here is singularly dynamic and innovative, just as one would expect when in the company of the best minds in the world. The MIT Sloan School of Management is renowned as one of the world’s leading broad-based management schools, while continuing to maintain its inherent technology focus.

A Distinctive Research Culture

Rigorous, discipline-based research is the hallmark of the MIT Sloan PhD Program. The program is committed to educating scholars with outstanding intellectual skills who will lead in their fields and forward productive research on the complex organizational, financial, and technological issues that characterize an increasingly competitive and challenging business world. MIT Sloan PhD graduates go on to teach for the world’s most prestigious universities.

PhD Program Curriculum

MIT Sloan PhD applicants choose to focus on one of our primary research groups that fall within the three broad areas of Management Science, Behavioral & Policy Sciences, and Economics, Finance & Accounting.
Management Science

**Information Technologies** incorporates a range of computer software and hardware, networking, and telecommunications systems. Students develop a solid grasp of underlying computer technologies, along with the organizational and economic implications of these technologies, while learning how to research managers’ evolving information needs and how to evaluate computer-based information systems.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/information-tech.php

**Marketing** measures the realities of customer demand, mapping and measuring possibilities, and, designing and implementing competitive strategies. Students acquire a solid grasp of behavior and management science theory and method through their coursework. Relevant disciplines include behavioral science, economics, operations research, and statistics.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/marketing.php
System Dynamics incorporates components of human behavior into economic models, offering managers a framework for understanding complex situations and the dynamics those situations produce. Students study the principles of systems, economic and industrial dynamics, and policy analysis while completing additional work in economics, information systems, statistics, and political science.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/system-dynamics.php

**Behavioral & Policy Sciences**

**Economic Sociology** acquaints students with the processes by which great social science research is conducted. The program stresses the importance of qualitative research (e.g., fieldwork, case studies, ethnography), quantitative research (e.g., surveys, archival databases, social network analysis), and modeling (e.g., systems dynamics, game theory, agent-based models).

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/esp.php

**Institute for Work & Employment Research** faculty and students conduct research on the broad range of issues related to the role of work and employment in the contemporary economy and society. Coursework in this concentration addresses industrial relations theory and research, labor economics, comparative systems of industrial relations, collective bargaining and labor management relations, management of human resources, labor law, and public policy.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/iwer.php
Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Strategic Management faculty study the organization, market, and technological factors shaping innovation and competitive success. They also examine the formation, development, and growth of technology-based entrepreneurial firms. Students can have a substantive focus on research at the firm, community, network, or institutional level and develop a strong foundation in a social science discipline.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/ties.php

Organization Studies incorporates the concepts and research methodology of social psychology, sociology, anthropology, and other social sciences. This concentration focuses on the interaction across individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions as well as on the organizational processes themselves. Students learn how to think about research methods—clinical, experimental, and ethnographic.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/os.php

Finance is the study of markets for real and financial assets. Students gain an understanding of the underlying theory on which the field is based and conduct theoretical and applied research. Required coursework includes subjects in microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory, and econometrics, as well as subjects in finance theory and its applications.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/finance.php

Accounting, one of the fundamental tools for grappling with management problems, is a thorough grounding in accounting as a control device. Students acquire economics depth through studying financial reporting, disclosure, and contracts using financial information.

mitsloan.mit.edu/phd/accounting.php

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*The ROTC programs located at MIT are operated under Department of Defense (DoD) policies and regulations, and do not comply fully with MIT’s policy of nondiscrimination with regard to gender identity. MIT continues to advocate for a change in DoD policies and regulations concerning gender identity, and will replace scholarships of students who lose ROTC financial aid because of these DoD policies and regulations.