

Information & Knowledge Strategy (IKNS)

Strategic use of data and information in the AI age
Data | People | Strategy

Master of Science

Part-Time / Full-Time

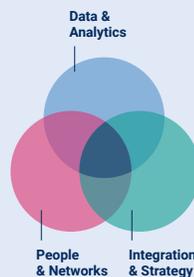
Online / On-Campus Instruction

Open to international students on a visa

STEM-Designated

IKNS Portrait

Whether you are an analyst or CEO—in the private sector, NGO, or nonprofit—you have at your fingertips a deluge of data and fast-evolving analytical tools. But how do you separate the signal from the noise? How do you leverage both data and human talent to arrive at smarter, more innovative management decisions and translate those insights into lasting change? Enter Columbia's Master of Science in Information & Knowledge Strategy (IKNS).



Our interdisciplinary curriculum equips you with the theoretical foundations and practical skills to dramatically increase your impact in any sector or organization type. Become a leader across the entire value chain of data-driven management. Getting the data and analytics right (e.g., AI adoption, business analytics), creating a high performing, people-centric culture (collaboration, team/project management, organizational psychology), and finally the right change management to turn your strategy into reality.

As an IKNS student, you will train under world-class faculty, including current and former executives from Google, IBM, NASA, and Oliver Wyman. You will join a powerful, global alumni network in coveted positions at organizations such as Alphabet, Goldman Sachs, Nike, Pfizer, and The World Bank.

Core Competencies You Will Acquire

Gain technical and people skills that are immediately applicable to your workplace, including how to:

Master the adoption of AI and the latest trends in business analytics to lead at the intersection of data, people, and strategy

Build and lead collaborative, diverse and agile teams while fostering cultures that embrace both IQ and EQ

Navigate the "Future of Work" by guiding organizations through evolving technological and cultural shifts

Critically assess analytic outputs to arrive at smarter, more innovative executive-level management decisions

Design digital products using human-centered design and UI/UX skills to create innovative, marketable assets

Lead digital transformations and get from mere ideas to actions by state-of-the-art change management

Build human networks that provide support, opportunity, and purpose

Career Snapshots

Our students and graduates achieve positions such as:

- Associate Director, Data & AI, **Accenture**
- Head of Global Key Accounts, **Alibaba Group**
- Senior Manager, Process Reengineering, **American Express**
- Chief Marketing Officer, **Bank al Etihad**
- Global Knowledge Lead, **BCG Digital Ventures**
- Senior Director, **Gilead Sciences**
- Senior Knowledge Manager, **Harvard Business Publishing**
- Senior Institutional Affairs Analyst, **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**
- Staff Product Manager, Safety and Trust, **Instagram/Meta**
- Vice President, Digital Learning Solutions, **JPMorgan Chase & Co.**
- Deputy Chief Knowledge Officer, **NASA**
- Director of Operations, **National Basketball Players Association**
- Director, North America Marketing Technology, **Nike**
- Director of Operations, **NYC Department of Education**
- Head of Marketing, **Sidewalk Labs/Alphabet**
- Founder and CEO, **Smart Alto** (Y Combinator W17)
- Product Development Manager, **Telkom Indonesia**
- Senior Strategist, Data Production & Methods, **The World Bank**



"At IKNS, the goal is to empower our students to think about technologies like AI to bring about positive change in their organizations and also in the larger world."

Nitesh Goyal, Ph.D.

Lecturer; Research Leader, Google DeepMind

Apply Online sps.columbia.edu/ikns

Contact us anytime at ikns@sps.columbia.edu with your questions or to schedule a meeting with an Admissions Counselor.



World-Class Faculty with Deep Industry Experience

Our faculty are former and current executives at global organizations including:

- Accenture
- NASA
- U.S. Navy
- Amazon
- Oliver Wyman
- World Economic Forum
- Ernst & Young
- Oracle
- Project Management Institute (PMI)
- Google
- IBM
- Meta

The Capstone Project

Under the guidance of program faculty, you will work in small teams and directly with representatives from a leading for-profit or nonprofit organization.

Sample Capstone

Collaborate with Microsoft Garage to explore the role of sensemaking in an AI-driven workplace and develop frameworks to cultivate this critical skill in younger generations (Gen Z and Gen Alpha). The objectives include defining sensemaking within the context of human-AI collaboration, identifying the risks of over-reliance on automated systems, and proposing actionable strategies to embed sensemaking practices into organizational learning and future innovation hackathons.

Other examples include Boeing, The Economist, L'Oréal, NASA, Nestlé, Nike, NYC Department of Design and Construction, Pfizer, United Nations, WWF, and many more.

A Flexible Degree for Working Professionals and Students from All Over the World

Study While Employed: Yes

Time Commitment: From three semesters to three years

Flexible Pacing, Modality, and Location

- Full-time or part-time; synchronous online and on-campus instruction
- Multiday Residencies on Columbia's campus in New York City
- Networking events with global thought leaders and alums
- International students can take advantage of CPT and extended OPT after graduation
- Full access to Columbia University's world-class student services, career resources, library facilities, and landmarked campus in New York City

Craft Your Own Curriculum

As an IKNS student, you are eligible to earn 50% of your degree requirements by choosing elective courses from all across Columbia University: Explore the Data Science Institute, Business School, School of Engineering, School of International and Public Affairs, Mailman School of Public Health, and more.

Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning

Digital Product Design and UX/UI

Entrepreneurship

Human-Centered Design and Human/Machine Collaboration

Independent Study

Leading Diversity and Cross-Cultural Global Organizations

Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Project Management and Change Management

Strategic Communication and Marketing

Sustainability Analytics and Management

Public Health

NYC Campus Residencies

Our students tailor their IKNS experience to their individual goals—ranging from a mostly online to a mostly on-campus experience. To provide opportunities for networking and community-building, all students come together on Columbia's campus for three in-person Residencies during their studies. These multiday Residencies offer curated block-programming to apply theory to practice and allow for networking opportunities among students, faculty, alums, and thought leaders.

Who Should Apply

Leaders and decision-makers keen to achieve positive change throughout their organizations by leveraging IQ and EQ

Early and mid-career professionals with demonstrated capacity for executive roles who want to hone their data, people, and strategy skills to achieve their next professional milestone

Career pivoters who want to combine the value of a generalist, business-oriented master's degree with a focus on information science

Entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs with the drive and resourcefulness to work across diverse stakeholders and transform ideas into lasting change

Knowledge management specialists who want to upskill for the AI age



"As a Silicon Valley entrepreneur, IKNS provided me with the skill set to develop and commercialize knowledge-driven products."

Mary Palmieri | '15SPS, Information & Knowledge Strategy (IKNS)

Founder and CEO, The Beauty Marketplace Inc.; Senior Product Marketing Manager, Amazon