JOINT EXECUTIVE
SEM-PD21 2018-2020 CLASS (COHORT 721-191)
Naval Postgraduate School
ANNOUNCEMENT FOR APPLICATIONS
FOR SEPTEMBER 2018-2020 CLASS (COHORT 721-191)

Joint Executive
Systems Engineering Management (SEM)
An Executive Graduate Education Program for Defense
Offered in partnership with MIT’s “Educational Consortium for
Product Development Leadership in the 21st Century” (PD21)

A Distance Learning Program with Unique Joint Focus
Joint Services, Joint Engineering & Management, Joint Government & Industry

A LIMITED NUMBER OF OPEN SEATS AVAILABLE
OPEN TO QUALIFIED UNIFORMED OFFICERS, SENIOR ENLISTED,
FEDERAL CIVILIANS AND DEFENSE CONTRACTOR CIVILIANS.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS AND TESTIMONIALS
The Joint Executive SEM-PD21 program certified by Secretary of the Navy to Congress
allowing contractor civilian participation:

“Our progress in privatizing acquisition has resulted in the migration of many activities once
performed by Navy uniformed or civilian personnel to the private sector. It makes sense for Navy
personnel and defense industry civilians to participate shoulder to shoulder in graduate studies
focusing on improving Navy research, development, and acquisition cost, schedule, and
performance. Such a program will greatly enhance the educational experience of both sets of
students and will strengthen partnerships between the private and public sectors which is a
critical element in our efforts to transform the Navy and Marine Corps acquisition and
procurement process.” (Letter to Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, March 9, 2001)

Recognized in Business 2.0, (December, 2001) as one of the top, “Straight-to-the-Point
Executive Education Courses.”

Letter to the President of MIT by the Honorable Mr. Hultin, Undersecretary of the Navy,
(May 17, 2000):

“SEM-PD21 is aligned with our efforts to transform the Navy and Marine Corps acquisition and
procurement process. This initiative fits nicely with our broader campaign entitled Revolution in
Business Affairs (RBA), a strategic change initiative aimed at dramatically improving the way we
acquire, deliver, maintain, deploy and operate the business side of our national defense
institution. We fully expect that the graduates of SEM-PD21 will soon become significant leaders
and change agents in our Revolution in Business Affairs and help reduce the acquisition life
cycles and development times for new defense systems by a factor of two or more.”
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: The program is open to uniformed officers (03 and above), federal civilians (GS11 and above) and equivalent defense contractor civilians. Senior enlisted (E-7 and above) are eligible on a space available basis. To participate in the Joint Executive SEM-PD21 program, candidates must have the following credentials:

- An undergraduate degree in engineering or a related scientific or technical field with high academic achievement (2.6 GPA or higher); non-technical degrees considered with attainment of college level calculus and/or on a case-by-case basis. Probability & statistics desired but not required.
- At least five years experience directly related to product/systems development, systems engineering or systems acquisition. This experience must reflect continued growth and professional development. For candidates that hold a Master’s degree, the experience requirement can be reduced to three years;
- Sponsored by your service, command or company with senior leadership endorsement.

PROGRAM INFORMATION
NPS and the PD21 consortium believe that this joint engineering & management degree is the best, unified curriculum available in systems engineering and end-to-end product development leadership education. It also ideally aligns with DOD leadership vision for defense transformation and acquisition excellence. All students who successfully complete the two-year distance-learning course of study will receive:

- **Degree:** Master of Science in Systems Engineering Management or Master of Science in Product Development.
- **PD21 Certificate:** Certificate of Recognition from MIT.
- **DAU Equivalencies:** Defense Acquisition University (DAU) ACQ101, ACQ202, ACQ203, PMT251, PMT257, ENG101, ENG202 and ENG301 training courses for the Engineering (ENG) career field.

ELECTIVE TRACKS: Sponsors and students have great flexibility in designing their elective structure. Currently, there are six advertised elective tracks which, when taken with the SEM-PD21 core/fundamental courses, earn participating students additional certificates:

- **Advanced Systems Engineering**
- **Advanced Systems Architecting**
- **Cyber Security (still TBD)**
- **Human Systems Integration**
- **Space Systems**
- **Systems Analysis**
- **System of Systems**

SCHEDULE
- September 10 through 21, 2018: Program kick-off and orientation at Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California. Orientation includes program indoctrination, Silicon Valley Industry trip, start of first two core courses and participation in graduation events.
After the kickoff, students return to their organization locations and take courses over the Internet synchronously using COLLABORATE, a web-conferencing academic tool and/or asynchronously using SAKAI, the NPS ONLINE course management system. Students take two core courses per quarter offered in two 3.5 hour sessions per week on Fridays (0730-1100 and 1130-1500) Pacific Time for the first year then take two remaining core courses (0730-1100) Pacific Time in each of Fall and Winter quarters of second year plus an elective course track day/time offerings will vary based on the track selected; see SEM-PD21 2018-2020 Class (Cohort 721-191) curriculum lineup for typical elective track course options.

Students are expected to attend the two-week program kickoff on campus, participate in two (2) one-week industry trips during the two-year course of study and one (1) one-week on campus graduation week at the completion of the program. Students are also required to participate in a quarterly Systems Engineering seminar that will host a thesis writing workshop and provide guest speaker lectures either live by Collaborate or recorded by video streaming. The lectures are also open to all participating student commands and companies.

TUITION
For the 2018-2020 class there are 30 total seats available. Each service (Army, Air Force, Navy) and defense contractors are allocated a minimum of 5 seats. Additional seats are available to service sponsors or the best qualified candidates from any DOD or federal agency. Tuition must be collected before commencement of each class (see tuition letter for due dates and additional details). (Note: Qualified active duty Navy and Marine Corps officers may be eligible for NPS mission funding but the student or their command will be responsible to purchase books and pay for all travel expenses).

Note: The total ownership price per seat is $50,000 for military, federal government civilian employees and Defense contractor civilian employees, payable according to the payment schedule provided below and in the SEM-PD21 tuition letter (or as negotiated with the joint executive SEM-PD21 program office). Tiered pricing is offered to a command or company sponsoring 5 or more students (call Dr. Wally Owen, SEM-PD21 Program Director for more details). This total ownership price includes all tuition, textbooks, course support materials and equipment (software, handouts, case studies, etc.), travel, transportation and per diem for all campus/industry visits including graduation and a PC camera and microphone headset. Students must have high-speed Internet access to participate in COLLABORATE and SAKAI course offerings.

Payment Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration and kickoff:</td>
<td>$6K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First year tuition/industry trips:</td>
<td>$22K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second year tuition/graduation:</td>
<td>$22K</td>
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APPLICATION DEADLINES

**June 15, 2018**: all candidates ensure that they have completed the NPS admissions online application (contact your local representative for any additional internal deadlines).

Apply at [http://my.nps.edu/web/dl/degProgs_PD21](http://my.nps.edu/web/dl/degProgs_PD21) by selecting “Apply Now” under the Quick Links section of the program website. Once at the NPS online application, candidates should fill out all requested information, select **New Applicant** for distance learning, **721 Curriculum-Joint Executive SEM-PD21 program commencing Academic Year 2019, Quarter 1**.

Applicants must ensure all official transcripts are ordered and sent directly to the NPS admissions office and submit a participation agreement (PA) signed by an appropriate organization representative.

Sponsoring commands/organizations/companies must also have a formal agreement in place with NPS (MOA for Navy commands and DD1144 for non-Navy organizations). Check with program director if unsure of existing agreements or to initiate an agreement.

Late applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis dependent upon seat availability but no later than August 10, 2018.

Maximum enrollment is 30 students with a target allocation for 25 military officer/federal government civilians and 5 Defense contractor civilians. *(Note: Qualified active duty Navy and Marine Corps officers may be eligible for NPS mission funding but the student or their command will be responsible to purchase books and pay for all travel).*

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Visit [http://my.nps.edu/web/dl/degProgs_PD21](http://my.nps.edu/web/dl/degProgs_PD21) and/or contact either of us below:

- **Dr. Wally Owen, DPA**  
  Dept of Systems Engineering  
  SEM-PD21 Program Director  
  Cell: (831) 402-6086  
  E-mail: [wowen@nps.edu](mailto:wowen@nps.edu)

- **Dr. Kristin Giammarco, PhD**  
  Dept of Systems Engineering  
  SEM-PD21 Academic Associate  
  Tel: (443) 602-9965  
  E-mail: [kmgiamma@nps.edu](mailto:kmgiamma@nps.edu)