The demand for skilled and experienced leaders who can guide their firms to compete in today’s highly competitive, global, technology-based economy has never been higher. Columbia University’s **M.S. in Technology Management** provides new technology professionals and recent graduates with the key strategic and tactical skills necessary to drive enhanced organizational performance through the use of technology and to become leaders in the field. For the full-time option, courses take place on Columbia’s New York City campus and the program takes one year to complete. For the part-time option, courses take place on Columbia’s New York City campus and the program takes up to 2 years to complete. Courses are scheduled to accommodate working professionals.

At a Glance

In This Master’s Program, You Will…

* **Develop the technical, strategic, political, and communications skills** necessary to lead through constant digital innovation and disruption.
* **Learn how to implement new technology** that enhances business performance and growth.
* **Develop the management and communications skills** to successfully lead initiatives and major projects within or between organizations.
* **Leverage technology** as a driver for business process innovation and improvement.
* **Anticipate, adapt to and accelerate**technology’s impact on individuals, organizations, and industries

Program Features Include…

* **A dynamic curriculum,**including current trends and issues in high-level technology management.
* **An esteemed faculty,**including accomplished executives from the C-suites of major organizations worldwide and from Columbia’s Schools and affiliates, who bring practical experience, management skills, and leadership expertise.
* **An in-depth Capstone Project** in which students critically assess and creatively address a real-world challenge, culminating in an oral defense in front of an executive panel.
* **Access to Columbia University’s Ivy League resources**, networking opportunities, and global alumni base.

Your statement of academic purpose (500–750 words) should clearly and concisely address the following:

Your purpose and interest in pursuing the M.S. in Technology Management, focusing on how it relates to your immediate and long-term professional plans, including your current role. The areas you hope to explore in our curriculum. What you will contribute to the program and student cohort

Growing up in a family with a deep business background has shaped me into a natural problem solver who always has an eye out for problems and solutions. Ever since I could remember, I’ve always felt the urge to continue my family’s legacy in the paper industry. As someone with deep connection and concern for the well-being of the firm, I’ve spent years understanding the inner working of the company and its current weaknesses. One particular case that led me to pursue M.S. in Technology Management was when I helped the company face technology management crisis.

Due to complacency, traditional way of thinking, and ageing business managers, most employees lacked the necessary knowledge in using technology like ERP, Integrated banking system, and many other fundamental yet essential tools. They all preferred to use the traditional way to track and record all pertinent business information: paper and pen. This naturally caused the company severe headaches in tracking historical sales, purchasing demand, auditing, and many other processes.

I realized that my company need a breakthrough for technology innovation so that the company can utilize the technology like ERP to help managers in making better decision. Therefore, after I graduated from Columbia University, I’m planning to continue and grow my family’s business back in my home country using the knowledge that I learn in the Technology Management program such as technology innovation and leadership skills. This knowledge that I learned is best for educating the employees by creating training sessions on various digital tools. We can bring together tech-savvy employees and formed trainer teams in various divisions to help in the transition and enforce the implementation timeline target. After implementing these tools, the mindset and organizational structure of the company will slowly become more efficient and become more data-based due to the benefits of optimizing technology as the basis of business processes. However, this approach may take years to complete, and it requires the CEO to have strong managerial leadership skills so that the employees can put trust in the CEO that the system overhaul and SOP changes in the company will thrive. Other than training, the CEO can also hire additional young and tech savvy professionals in each team to support the older people in using tools like Excel or ERP. This would result the company’s culture and SOP to change drastically and it would affect the quality of the inventory management, cash flow, and net income with the help of technology. Furthermore, in my long-term goal, I want to create my own start up business that will help to solve people’s problems in my home country. For instance, creating an app or website similar to LinkedIn for blue collar workers instead of professional workers. This app or website will make blue collar workers easier in finding jobs. M.S. in Technology management will be the basic foundations of creating a start-up company because the program provides necessary technical skills in better at managing the start up with the help of technology.

In this Technology Management program, I want to explore more about operations management and digital strategy with the hope improving my family business. The operations management class is the study of the policies and processes that govern the internal operations of a technology-driven organization. It emphasizes the principles of risk management and quality control, training and documentation requirements, standards design, and IT support systems. Furthermore, the digital strategy class is an assessment of technology as a critical aspect of most firms' operations which focuses on the structuring and planning of technology projects and investments as well as product development, marketing, and the positioning of an organization in its external environment. I believe that these 2 classes are the areas that I want to focus on which will help me in gaining the knowledge that I need to improve the system of my family business.

Since the technology management in Columbia University is a very competitive program, I realize that I need to contribute to the program by being a fast learner, so I can quickly adapt in this program and help other students in adapting to Columbia’s environment. Other than that, since I have contributed a lot in a group environment from my past internship experiences, I am more likely able to work together as a group in the program and help other students in the group projects. For instance, in my previous working experience, I worked together as a team, and I was able to lead the project which is to present the use of Slimstock software to 11 managers and help the team in passing the KPI requirements by proposing a recommendation for the managers to input the historical demand in Slimstock to minimize manual calculation and avoid data inaccuracy, hence allowing an increase in the forecast accuracy by 10%. Based on those two factors, I’m confident that I’ll be able to contribute to the program by being a fast learner and able to work as a team in order to become one of the best candidates for the Master of Science in Technology Management Program at Columbia University.

My journey ahead is still long. There are important factors that I can only attain through MS in Technology Management at Columbia, such as sharpening my technical skills regarding technology as a past issue when trying to lead teams of various backgrounds, or problem-solving process to ensure sustainability of a business strategy. I believe Columbia University will teach me how to not only survive in the fierce business jungle, but also thrive in it.