

Hello, this is Professor Russell James. Here are some details about the Graduate Certificate in Charitable Financial Planning at Texas Tech University. The university website for the program is here:

<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/pfp/graduate/certificates.php>

The basic structure is that it requires four graduate courses, each of which is three hours.

Most commonly the four courses would be two on tax law:

PFP 5325: Introduction to charitable planning

PFP 5326: Advanced charitable planning for large estates

and two on decision-making/marketing

PFP 5327: Charitable giving - research, theory, and marketing

PFP 5328: Planned giving - demographics and decision-making

The first two courses focus on law and tax issues. The second two are about donor decision-making and the communication/marketing (or fundraising) side of things. PFP 5327 is more about major gifts and PFP 5328 is more about planned gifts.

However, some students choose to replace one of these courses with another such as Estate planning (which is not being offered online right now) or Introduction to Personal Financial Planning (which is being offered online regularly).

You may take the courses in any order. You may take them one per semester, one per year, or two per semester.

PFP 5325 is offered online in the fall

PFP 5326 is offered online in the spring

PFP 5327 is offered online in the fall

PFP 5328 is offered online in the summer.

The typical structure for the online courses is to have a weekly set of lectures, quizzes, and assignments. The lectures are pre-recorded. I would say about 60-90 minutes per week. However, these are open

about 6 weeks in advance, so you can usually work ahead to add flexibility around your other work and life obligations. Many working professional fundraisers and financial planners have completed these online courses and the assignments are intended to be ones that would have application in your regular work. The setup for each week is 1. Learn (reading and lectures) 2. Test (open note quizzes) and 3. Do (practical application projects, often intended to be useful to working professionals' current roles).

That's the general overview. The part of the process that takes the longest is just getting all of your admissions documents to the graduate school. (This is at www.applytexas.org) There are no entrance examination, essays, or reference requirements. The grad school requires your transcripts and such along with their application.

I believe the tuition costs are the in-state costs regardless of your location since this program is entirely online. You can go to the tuition estimator at <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentbusinessservices/feeinfo/tuition-estimator.php>

then click Begin> I Accept > (Choose a semester) > Non-Resident Distance Education > OK > Graduate > Other/undecided > 3 hours (for one course) Continue > College of Human Sciences, 3 hours, Continue

Let me know what else I can help to explain or talk about. You can reach me at russell.james@ttu.edu or on LinkedIn.