# HOWARD UNIVERSITY'S PROJECT MANAGEMENT ESSENTIALS RANKS AS TOP UNIVERSITY COURSE AMONG 100 MOST POPULAR ONLINE COURSES OF 2024

**WASHINGTON, D.C**. — Howard University's "Project Management Essentials" course has emerged as the highest-ranking university course in Class Central's annual Top 100 Most Popular Online Courses ranking. The course placed 15th overall and stands as the #1 university-created course in a field dominated by corporate offerings from tech giants like Google, IBM, and Microsoft.



"Howard University entered the MOOC space to advance opportunities and expand Howard's reach outside of our traditional degree offerings," said Morris Thomas, Ph.D., MBA, PMP, Assistant Provost for Digital and Online Learning (DOL) and instructor for the Project Management Essentials course. "This recognition validates our strategic vision to make Howard's educational excellence more accessible to broader learner population worldwide."

The course's success represents a collaborative effort across Howard University's Office of Digital and Online Learning team. The course was developed, produced, and marketed by the DOL team, including Melvin Bogard, Director of Programming and Marketing; Brian Long, Director of Multimedia Production; and Tamasa Nelson, Director of Learning Design and Quality Assurance. The initiative was made possible through the vision of the Office of Academic Innovation's partnership with Coursera, led by Dr. Barron Harvey, Associate Provost for Academic Innovation and Strategic Initiatives (OAI) and Dean Emeritus, School of Business, along with Ke'Anna Skipwith, Director of OAI.

Class Central, the leading search engine and review site for online courses and MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), analyzed enrollment data from over 5,300 new courses launched in 2024 across major platforms including Coursera, edX, FutureLearn, and Swayam. The ranking methodology considered enrollment numbers across these platforms, which collectively garnered over 5.7 million enrollments.



This recognition is particularly significant as the 2024-2025 list marks a dramatic shift in the MOOC landscape, with corporate-created courses comprising the majority of top offerings. Howard University's achievement in securing both the highest university ranking and 15th position overall demonstrates the institution's leadership in creating compelling, high-demand digital education content.

For more information about Howard University's online learning initiatives access: HU Online, Project Management Essentials course and other Howard University Coursera offerings.