With U.S. News & World Report’s Best Online MBA Program rankings just released, William & Mary’s Raymond A. Mason School of Business jumps to number 28 overall, and ranks even higher for veterans, coming in at number 22. According to Pamela Suzadail, Associate Dean for Online Programs, the amazing rise in U.S. News’ rankings is attributed to the unique design of the program and its adherence to the guiding principles of William & Mary’s academic philosophy.

The program was built around the concept of solving a “wicked problem,” which students define in the first course – “Renaissance Manager.” The wicked problem each student selects is either tied to their current professional work or a broader business issue they are likely to encounter as they progress in their career. Course content across business disciplines including marketing, analytics, finance and economics, are then anchored in applications focused on solving the wicked problem. Themes unique and omnipresent throughout William & Mary’s business programs such as design thinking and creative problem-solving, provide context and philosophy students can call upon throughout their academic studies and future professional endeavors.

With an emphasis on maintaining small class sizes and the benefit of a faculty consistently ranked among the best in the nation, William & Mary’s online MBA fulfills on the promise of creating a highly collaborative group of students who develop strong relationships despite living, in many cases, hundreds of miles apart. The bond students create during the program creates lifelong friendships and enables online MBA graduates to join a global network of highly accomplished William & Mary alumni who stand ready to help their newly anointed alumni achieve professional success. William & Mary’s online MBA truly offers many of the benefits of studying in a cohort-based residency program with the convenience of studying and interacting online.