College of Business Administration

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History

The University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Business Administration was established in 1967 and earned accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) six years later, the shortest time on record for any school. Nearly 50 years since the inception of our College, UMSL Business is proud to remain accredited in both business and accounting by AACSB, the only internationally recognized accrediting agency for business and accounting programs.

Mission

The College of Business Administration’s mission is to provide cutting edge research - and practice - based programs that prepare students to enter the workforce and succeed locally and globally across a wide range of business professions. In achieving this mission, we offer quality, value, access, and innovation to our student body. The College benefits from its location in Missouri’s largest metropolitan area. The majority of our graduates continue to live and work in the St. Louis region, and our College plays a key role in educating the workforce of the region.

In conclusion, we are dedicated to strengthening the region by transforming the lives of our students and making an impact on our corporate and civic partners.

Vision

The College will continue to be the leader in the pursuit of excellence in global oriented business education in order to provide the next generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs for the region. We will continue to provide quality, value, access, and innovation.

Quality.

We are St. Louis’ only public university. Faculty recruited from around the world balance meaningful research with excellent teaching and engaged service. We augment this core faculty with instructors equipped with practical business experience and strong teaching skills. Eight advisory boards ensure that our curriculum is up-to-date, addresses employers’ needs, and keeps up with instructional technology. Our new business building encourages innovative learning in accessible, bright open spaces.

Value.

We offer the best value in business education in the St. Louis region. We make quality faculty, programs, and instruction affordable to every St. Louisan. We are extremely focused on student success, offering frequent career-specific job and career fairs in addition to those offered by the campus. The campus mission distilled into the words “we transform lives” is ingrained into our culture. Faculty engage students in service learning opportunities to provide value and help transform lives in the surrounding communities. Increasingly, this orientation has made us attractive to students outside the St. Louis region, including international students attracted to our nationally ranked programs.

Access.

We believe that the transformative power of education should be available to everyone who is willing and able to seek it out. Nearly 80% of our graduates remain in the region, and throughout our 54-year history, we continue to provide business leaders for most organizations in the region. Fully one-third of all UMSL alumni are graduates of the College.

We schedule and price our programs to serve the widest population of college-bound and mid-career students, be they first generation college students, those who are returning to college, those who are place bound, or those who are remove and otherwise unable to pursue a college degree. We use innovative delivery modes - face-to-face, hybrid, and online - to enable students to tailor a program that fits their schedules. We coordinate progression to graduation. At the graduate level, we offer the same level of accessibility. We continue to offer a Fortune 20 company MBA program on their campus. We also make doctoral level education accessible through our highly innovative DBA program which currently includes student from 10 states.

Innovation.

Reflecting our region’s strong emphasis on entrepreneurship as critical to our future economic growth, the College has made entrepreneurship and innovation a part of who we are. UMSL Accelerate, devoted to education, innovation, and collaboration is a driver for the curriculum and initiatives with the campus and the business community. Cybersecurity is being created in a unique way, emphasizing business problems, not just technical solutions. Analytics is being incorporated into each department’s offerings and the UMSL NOW program is targeting adult learners. Each semester we have been growing inter-UM System collaboration.

Lastly, innovative faculty are bringing service learning projects into the class and using the latest instructional technology to increase student engagement. The pillars of the College of Business brand – global focus, technical competency, and innovation - remain our guideposts as we continue to enhance the quality of our programs, remain the value leader in the market, and improve access for our students.

College of Business Administration Programs

Undergraduate Degrees

- Bachelor of Science in Accounting
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (with emphasis areas available in)
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Finance
  - International Business
  - Information Systems and Technology
  - Management
  - Marketing
  - Supply Chain Management
- Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity, Information Systems Emphasis
- Bachelor of Science in Information Systems and Technology

Undergraduate Minors

- Accounting
- Cybersecurity
- Digital Marketing Communications
- Finance
- General Business
- Information Systems and Technology
• International Business
• Supply Chain Management
• Management
• Marketing
• Transportation Studies

**Undergraduate Certificates**
- Cybersecurity Certificate
- Entrepreneurship Certificate
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Accounting

**Graduate Degrees**
- Master of Accounting
- Master of Business Administration
  - Accounting
  - Business Analytics
  - Finance
  - Information Systems
  - International Business
  - Supply Chain Management
  - Management
  - Marketing
- Master of Business Administration Online Program
- Master of Science in Cybersecurity, Information Systems Emphasis
- Master of Science in Information Systems
- Master of Science in Supply Chain Analytics
- Doctor of Business Administration
- Ph.D. in Business Administration
  - Logistics and Supply Chain Management

**Graduate Certificates**
- Graduate Certificate in Accounting Data Analytics
- Graduate Certificate in Accounting Data Security
- Graduate Certificate in Auditing
- Graduate Certificate in Business Administration
- Graduate Certificate in Business Intelligence
- Graduate Certificate in Corporate Controllship
- Graduate Certificate in Corporate Financial Reporting
- Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity
- Graduate Certificate in Digital and Social Media Marketing
- Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship
- Graduate Certificate in Enterprise Systems Development
- Graduate Certificate in Fintech
- Graduate Certificate in Information Security Management and Auditing
- Graduate Certificate in Information Systems and Technology
- Graduate Certificate in Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Graduate Certificate in Marketing Management
- Graduate Certificate in Talent Management
- Graduate Certificate in Taxation

**Admission Requirements**
Students entering UMSL may declare themselves as Business majors in the College of Business Administration (COBA). They are advised by Business and may take Business courses as long as they maintain “good standing” status (see General Degree Requirements listed below) and have satisfied the prerequisites for the courses they propose to take.

**Credit Hour Requirements**
Student must complete a minimum number of hours in the following areas:
- 120 credit hours for the baccalaureate degree
- 48 credit hours of coursework offered by the College of Business
- 36 credit hours of upper-division coursework offered by the College of Business

**Credit Hour Requirements for Transfer Students**
- Students must complete a minimum of 60 hours from four-year, baccalaureate degree granting colleges or universities.
- A minimum of 50% of all business course work must be completed at UMSL.
- Students must complete a minimum of 21 graded hours in business courses.
- Students must complete their last 30 hours in residence at UMSL.

**Credit for Lower Division Transfer Courses**
Students seeking to use a lower division course to satisfy an upper division business requirement must validate the course being transferred. If successfully validated, the transfer course will waive the need to take the upper division equivalent course at UMSL, but the course transferred will be counted as lower division; it will not count toward the 36 upper division hours required in business.

**GPA Requirements**
Student must carry a minimum 2.3 GPA in the following areas in order to graduate. Grade modification may be used.
- Campus GPA
- College of Business Coursework GPA
- Major GPA
- Emphasis Area GPA

**Grade Requirements**
A minimum grade of C- is required for each course in the business core (except MGMT 4219); for each course which serves as a prerequisite for another course; and for each course in an emphasis area and/or major.

**Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Option**
Majors may take no more than 9 satisfactory/unsatisfactory hours in the College. Unsatisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading is restricted to elective coursework.

**Prerequisite Requirements**
Business course prerequisites are enforced by the College of Business Administration and include a minimum campus grade point average of 2.0 as a condition for taking any upper division business course.
The Doctor of Business Administration program is a three-year, cohort-based program that offers a flexible format, with limited monthly visits to campus. Over the course of the program, participants will make only three weekend trips to campus per term.

DBA students move through the program in a cohort and meet face-to-face one weekend a month, then engage and collaborate with faculty and students in the online learning platform for discussions. The first two years cover an array of cutting-edge business and management topics and the third year is spent focusing on the candidate’s dissertation research. The DBA is designed to train engaged management scholars in a learning community supported by select internationally renowned faculty with close ties to business and recognized for their research impact and expertise in graduate education.

Master of Business Administration Program (MBA)

The MBA is available in three formats: the FlexMBA (formerly evening MBA), the Online MBA, the Professional MBA (an accelerated Internet-enhanced weekend program), and the International MBA program. All programs are fully accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the premier accrediting body in collegiate business education. The MBA programs are designed to prepare students for administrative and professional positions. They also provide an appropriate foundation for students contemplating doctoral work and eventual careers in college teaching and research. The programs admit students with bachelor’s degrees from accredited institutions, including those with undergraduate backgrounds in the sciences, engineering, humanities, or arts as well as business. Graduate Business program information is available at the College of Business Administration website.

The FlexMBA Program

The FlexMBA curriculum familiarizes participants with the fundamental areas of business administration. The core program is designed to generate a working knowledge of the concepts and interrelationships of four broad categories fundamental to management training:

- The external environment confronting business organizations and management’s response to legal, economic, social, and political issues.
- The internal operation of various business organizations and management’s role in channeling human behavior to satisfy both personal and organizational goals.
- Basic concepts, terminology, and interaction of the accounting, marketing, finance, information systems and operations management disciplines.
- Quantitative management decision-making models put to use in the context of current management principles.

Business concepts are integrated by a course in strategy formulation and implementation in the final semester of study. There is no thesis requirement; however, students interested in undertaking an individual research project may earn elective credit by enrolling in a supervised independent study course.
**Emphasis Areas**

MBA students may obtain an emphasis in Accounting, Business Analytics, Cybersecurity, Finance, Information Systems and Technology, International Business, Management, or Marketing, Supply Chain Management, . Depending on the student’s undergraduate background, courses waived, and emphasis area chosen students might require additional coursework.

**Graduate Certificate Programs in Business Studies**

The College of Business Administration offers seventeen graduate certificates. To be admitted to a graduate certificate program, students must meet the same requirements as those needed for a graduate degree program in business (see Admission Requirements in the Graduate Studies in Business Administration section of this Bulletin).

Certificate programs allow qualified graduate students to pursue an intensive course of study in a specialized business topic without requiring completion of a full graduate business degree program. Certificate programs provide students with the opportunity to obtain the advanced knowledge available through a graduate course of study in a relatively brief period.

In order to successfully complete a certificate program, students must earn a 3.0 cumulative GPA in certificate classes. Unless otherwise specified, the coursework must be completed within six years. Students must also comply with all requirements related to matters such as prerequisites, academic probation, and other graduate business program policies.

**Courses**

**BUS AD 1000 Introduction to Business: 3 semester hours**

Overview of the functional business disciplines, including, but not limited to principles of Accounting, Finance, Information Systems, Law, Logistics and Operations Management, Management, and Marketing.

**BUS AD 1107 Quantitative Methods for Business: 3 semester hours**

Prerequisites: MATH 1030 or MATH 1040 or MATH 1045 or a satisfactory score on the UMSL Math Placement Examination, obtained at most one year prior to enrollment in this course. This course covers a broad range of quantitative methods across various business applications. Topics include but are not limited to data collection, cleaning, description, visualization, and communication. The goal is to build fundamental skills and confidence in mathematical reasoning for data-driven decision-making. It will prepare students to be successful in subsequent analytical-oriented classes.

**BUS AD 1900 Introduction to Personal Law: 3 semester hours**

This course introduces students to the American legal system and the basic issues every individual must deal with in our society. The course will be of interest to anyone seeking a job, leasing an apartment, buying a car or house, borrowing money, buying insurance, getting married or divorced, entering contracts, filing a law suit, writing a will, or accumulating wealth. May not be used for credit in any undergraduate business program.

**BUS AD 2000 Topics in Business Administration: 1-3 semester hours**

Prerequisites: Vary with topic; contact the College of Business Administration. Study of selected special problems in business and administration. May be repeated for credit with different topics.

**BUS AD 2900 Legal Environment of Business: 3 semester hours**

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. This course is an introduction to the nature and meaning of law, sources of law, legal process and institutions. The legal environment of business is defined as the relationship of government toward business, the historical development of this relationship. This course emphasizes understanding and being able to apply basic legal principles in an ethical context, understanding the sources of the law (e.g. Constitution, statutes, regulations, and court decisions) and their interaction and contribution to the development of the law, and understanding and being able to apply legal concepts and principles to the business environment (torts, contracts, agency, business organizations, intellectual property, property, securities regulation and other forms of governmental regulation of business).

**BUS AD 3090 Internship in Business Administration: 1-3 semester hours**

Prerequisites: Minimum campus GPA of 2.0; one must have completed and/or be currently enrolled in at least 6 hours of Business Administration electives, have consent of supervising instructor and Associate Dean, and a College of Business GPA of at least 2.5. Students are employed in the field of Business Administration where they apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. Professional development and obtaining specialized work experience are the primary goals. A Business Administration faculty member will monitor the student’s program with the student providing a formal written report at the end of the project. BUS AD 3090 may not be counted toward the minimum credit hours for any emphasis area.

**BUS AD 3099 Independent Study in Business Administration: 1-3 semester hours**

Prerequisites: Minimum campus GPA of 2.0 and approval by the supervising professor and the Associate Dean. Special individual study in business under the supervision of a full-time faculty member.

**BUS AD 3990 Internship in Business Law: 1-3 semester hours**

Prerequisites: BUS AD 2900, 3 credit hours of Business Law electives, and a Business College 2.5 GPA. Must have completed and/or be currently enrolled in at least 3 credit hour of Business Law electives and have consent of supervising instructor and Area Coordinator. Students are employed in the field of Business Law where the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom are applied. Professional development and obtaining specialized work experience are primary goals. A Business Law faculty member will monitor the student's program with the student providing a formal written report at the end of the project.

**BUS AD 4001 Accelerate Capstone: 3 semester hours**

Same as ENT 4001. Prerequisites: ENT 1100, and either EDUC 2002 or ENT 3140, or consent of instructor. This course provides students with a capstone experience taking an idea from planning to "launch." This should be the last course taken in the certificate sequence and may involve elements of an instructional seminar and a practicum. May be taken in conjunction with other courses within the certificate, but it is highly suggested as the final course in the sequence.

**BUS AD 4198 Business Administration Senior Seminar: 1-10 semester hours**

Prerequisites: To be determined each time the course is offered and to include minimum 2.0 campus GPA. An intensive study of a specific area of business administration, of some specific business or economic phenomenon, or a specific problem or theory. Several different courses may be offered under this course number. May be repeated for credit as long as the topic differs.
BUS AD 4325 Environmental Sustainability in Business Operations: 3 semester hours
Same as SCMA 4325. Prerequisites: SCMA 3301 or consent of instructor. This course studies the environmental impacts of business operations, and it focuses especially on the principles and methods of “lean and green” operations, i.e., ways in which organizations can reduce their costs and increase profits, while reducing their environmental impacts. Specific topics include energy efficiency, resource reduction, waste reduction, design for the environment, externalities and internal pricing mechanisms, environmental technologies, life-cycle assessment, recycling, re-use, and re-manufacturing, as well as national and global environmental issues.

BUS AD 5000 Economics for Managers: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: Graduate standing. The concepts and tools of economic analysis are applied to the production and distribution functions of organizations. The last portion is devoted to the macroeconomic influence of capital markets, the influence of interest rates, inflation, and the business cycle.

BUS AD 5001 Managerial Economic Analysis: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: BUS AD 5000 or ECON 1001 and ECON 1002. Microeconomic analysis of consumers, firms, and government. The concepts and mathematical tools of economic analysis are applied to the production and distribution functions of organizations.

BUS AD 5002 Analysis of National Economic Environment: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: BUS AD 5000 or ECON 1001 and ECON 1002. The character and functioning of the national economic system; analyzing and forecasting fluctuations in national income and product, employment, and prices; the influence of monetary and fiscal policies. Emphasis is on the acquisition of knowledge concerning forces affecting all business firms.

BUS AD 5100 Managerial Communication: 3 semester hours
An analysis of business writing and speaking, and the communication conventions common in organizations. Emphasis is placed on developing skills critical to career advancement and necessary for effective organizational functioning. A second goal is to prepare students for assignments in other business courses. This course must be taken within the first 12 credit hours of study, preferably in the student's first semester.

BUS AD 5198 Seminar in Business Administration: 3 semester hours
An intensive study of a specific area of business administration of some specific business or economic phenomenon, or a specific problem or theory. Several different courses may be offered under this course number.

BUS AD 5299 Individual Research: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and graduate director. Special individual research topics under the guidance of a specific professor.

BUS AD 5325 Environmental Analysis and Sustainability in Business Operations: 3 semester hours
Same as SCMA 5325. Prerequisites: SCMA 5310 or consent of instructor. This course analyzes the environmental impacts of business operations, and it focuses especially on the principles and methods of "lean and green" operations, i.e., ways in which organizations can reduce their costs and increase profit, while reducing their environmental impacts. Specific topics include energy efficiency, resource reduction, waste reduction, design for the environment, externalities and internal pricing mechanisms, environmental technologies, life-cycle assessment, recycling, re-use, and re-manufacturing, as well as national and global environmental issues.

BUS AD 5450 Governmental Budgeting and Financial Control: 3 semester hours
Prerequisite: ACCTNG 5400. A study of municipal and federal financial control and budgeting procedures with emphasis on public policy. The impact of financial control on top management decisions and the effect of budget strategies on the allocations of public funds.

BUS AD 5900 Law, Ethics and Business: 3 semester hours
Analysis of the relationship between law and business with emphasis on the ability of, and extent to which, governments regulate business activities. Topics covered include the employer-employee relationship, protection of consumers, antitrust regulation, and securities law. Also discussed are ethical issues confronting management of the modern business enterprises.

BUS AD 6990 Strategy Formulation and Implementation: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: FINANCE 6500, MGMT 5600, MKTG 5700, SCMA 5320 and special consent. Graduate program capstone course examining concepts and methods that integrate functional areas of business. The perspective is that of general management charged with directing the total enterprise. Interactions between the environment, organization, strategy, policies and the implementation of plans are explored. Special emphasis is given to globalization of business and ethical perspectives. This course should be taken during the semester prior to graduation. In no case may it be taken sooner than two semesters prior to graduation.

BUS AD 6991 Graduate Business Assessment Testing: 0 semester hours
Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in BUS AD 6990 (or INTL BUS 5289 or MGMT 4614 if taken in lieu of BUS AD 6990). A one-time lab during which a major field exam in business is administered. Course graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Satisfactory grade required for graduation.

BUS AD 7001 Doctoral Research: 1-12 semester hours
Prerequisite: Must have PhD Program Director or Area Coordinator approval. Investigation of an advanced nature culminating in preparation for comprehensive examinations and/or development of dissertation proposal. The course may be repeated for credit.

BUS AD 7002 Dissertation Research: 1-12 semester hours
Prerequisites: Must have Ph.D. Program Director or Area Coordinator approval. Investigation of an advanced nature culminating preparation of a doctoral dissertation. The course may be repeated.

BUS AD 7100 Scientific Inquiry in Business: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director and graduate standing. This course provides an overview of research methods for studying business problems including extraction of information from secondary sources, and primary data collection with surveys, interviews, participant observation, action research, field experiments, controlled experiments, case studies, design sciences and simulations. The course covers foundations of business research (substantive theories, formal theories, and frameworks). Students will learn the types of variables used to test theories and develop the skills required for reviewing the literature and conceptualizing research questions that are important for practice. Ethical issues related to conducting and publishing research will be discussed. Students will become nationally certified in protecting human research participants and in responsible research conduct.
BUS AD 7101 Quantitative Research Methods I in Business Administration: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director. This course provides an understanding of the application of quantitative analytical techniques to problems in the planning and management of business enterprises and service operations. The course provides experience in structuring analytical models and drawing inferences from their results. Topics include techniques for descriptive, predictive and diagnostic analytics, and may cover general linear statistical models, logistical regression, techniques for extrapolating time series, and statistical methods for testing conceptual models.

BUS AD 7102 Qualitative Research Methods I in Business Administration: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director and graduate standing. Working in groups, students will design and execute a qualitative research project using interviews or direct observations. During the course, students will prepare a qualitative research proposal that includes well-formed research questions, clearly positions the research as a contribution to knowledge, critically reviews the academic literature relevant to the student’s topic, develops qualitative research instruments (such as an interview guide), executes the research, analyzes the data and writes up the report. Students will learn how to abstract their findings into lessons for scholars and/or practitioners. One important output of this seminar is a completed research paper suitable for publication in a respected practitioner or academic outlet.

BUS AD 7103 Quantitative Research Methods II in Business Administration: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director and graduate standing. This course provides an advanced understanding of quantitative research with special attention to prescriptive analytics. Emulating work in prior published studies, students identify and frame research questions, determine appropriate metrics, develop hypotheses, build and test quantitative models, and discuss the advantages and shortcomings of alternative quantitative approaches. One important output of this course is a completed research paper.

BUS AD 7104 Qualitative Research Methods II in Business Administration: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director and graduate standing. Working in groups, students design and execute a qualitative research study using a case study method or action research. Students prepare a qualitative research proposal that includes well-formed research questions, clearly positions the research as a contribution to knowledge, and critically reviews the academic literature relevant to the topic. Students develop qualitative research instruments (or design an experimental intervention), execute the research, analyze the data and produce a report that presents lessons for scholars and/or practitioners. An important product of this seminar is a completed research paper suitable for publication in a respected practitioner or academic outlet.

BUS AD 7107 Capstone Project Research in Business Administration: 6 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director. Students develop a formal proposal for their capstone research projects that includes a draft of all parts of the project that precede the data collection. This proposal includes research questions or hypotheses based on prior research, and the methodology to be employed for addressing the research questions or corroborating the hypotheses. This course will be coordinated by the Academic Director of the DBA Program, and attended by interested faculty, especially those serving as Chairs. By the conclusion of this course, each capstone project proposal is approved by a capstone project committee (consisting of the Chair of the capstone project committee and two other members).

BUS AD 7109 Doctoral Foundations Seminar: 1-4 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director. This course will cover the foundation necessary to succeed in the DBA Program. This seminar will also provide the doctoral students with an understanding of the culture of research.

BUS AD 7300 Management of Supply Chains: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director. This course provides a comprehensive overview of supply chain management, including procurement, sourcing, operations, production and logistics, with special attention to international issues. Topics include designing and operating multinational logistics systems; managerial issues and strategies for sourcing, transportation, and inventory management; legal and financial issues in import and export; risk identification and management; and the relationship of supply chain management to other activities. The course also provides students with an understanding of quantitative techniques used in the design and management of global supply chains.

BUS AD 7301 Statistical Modeling: 1-3 semester hours
Prerequisites: SCMA 5300; consent of DBA program director. Study of multivariate analytical techniques and their application to the analysis of business systems. Topics include the construction and adaptation of statistical models and extrapolative techniques to accommodate interactions, nonlinearities, and periodic effects. Methodologies include multiple regression, ANOVA, and general linear model, MANOVA, structural equation modeling, and time series modeling.

BUS AD 7700 Contemporary Marketing Intelligence and Decision Making: 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: Consent of DBA program director. This course examines how firms generate valuable marketing intelligence for critical decisions in pursuit of marketing objectives. Marketing strategies and consumer behavior are studied through literature reviews and examination of case studies. Students challenge assumptions, frameworks, and findings and they discuss how marketing strategy is adapted in practice for various products and services. They also learn how data mining techniques are used in the development and execution of marketing strategies.