

# BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MBA (ONE-YEAR)

## Program Description

La Salle University's One-Year MBA program (OYMBA) is designed for recent graduates and those with working experience who are in various stages of their careers. The program offers majors in accounting, business systems and analytics, and finance.

La Salle's internationally recognized program is accredited by the Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), which less than 5 percent of business schools worldwide attain. La Salle's OYMBA students gain the professional and personal skills to be leaders in their fields.

The program is ideal for students who are preparing to meet the 150-hour CPA requirement. Students majoring in finance take the managerial track.

La Salle's highly innovative curriculum uses one-and-a-half-credit to three-credit modules to provide a flexible, dynamic program. The modules focus on both traditional topics and current emerging topics. They are updated or replaced as trends evolve, ensuring that the curriculum keeps pace with the rapidly changing business environment.

Reasons to Choose Lasallian Business:

- Earn your MBA with a specialization in accounting, business systems and analytics, or finance in one year.
- Join a program with a high rate of return on investment: exceptional placement rates.
- Participate in workshops, career fairs and networking events to enhance your international business etiquette skills and your job seeking skills.
- Enjoy small classes with your classmates and professors and learn in the Lasallian tradition that blends academic theory with practice.
- Prepare for the CPA or Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) exam.

## Mission

Experiential and engaged learning is at the heart of everything we do. We provide excellence in business education through the integration of current business concepts with diverse experiential learning opportunities. As a Catholic Lasallian university, we are committed to the principle that all knowledge is practical and empowering, filled with the capacity to transform lives. Anchored by a foundation which affirms the value of both liberal arts and professional studies, our students are prepared to lead engaged and fulfilling lives marked by a commitment to the common good.

## Program Specific Information

Business education has been part of the La Salle curriculum since its founding in 1863. The School of Business, one of three schools in the University, was established in 1955, and its MBA program began in 1976. As a business school in a Catholic, Lasallian University, students are taught fundamental business knowledge and skills within an ethical framework which emphasizes the primacy and value of human dignity.

## Accreditation

The Business School is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International) which establishes

standards designed to ensure excellence. Less than 5 percent of the world's business schools are accredited by AACSB. As an AACSB-accredited business school, the Dean's office and faculty use continuous quality-improvement processes to ensure that the many offerings of the School of Business are of the highest quality.

## Program Structure

Students who minored in business administration or have an undergraduate business degree are able to complete the program in 12 months. Applicants without a business degree enroll in pre-MBA Foundation courses at an additional cost. Pre-MBA courses are offered at La Salle University online: MBA 601 Financial Accounting, MBA 602 Financial Markets and MBA 603 Business Economics for Managers. Students may feel free to take equivalent courses at other institutions and transfer the credits to La Salle. These courses must be completed prior to starting the One-Year MBA Program. The One-Year MBA Program begins each year in the Fall Semester.

## Degree or Certificate Earned

M.B.A.

## Required for Program Completion

- Courses
  - Accounting Track: 14
  - Business Systems and Analytics Track: 13-17
  - Finance Track: 13-17 (not including 3 foundation courses that may be required)
- Credits
  - Accounting Track: 35.5
  - Business Systems and Analytics Track: 35-44
  - Finance Track: 35-44
- GPA
  - 3.0

## Admission Deadlines

There are no set deadlines. However, we recommend that all application documents be received by August 15, December 15, and April 15 for the fall, spring, and summer terms, respectively. International Students should aim to have all required documentation submitted at least 2 months prior to their anticipated start.

## Admission Requirements

The Admission Committee of the MBA Program evaluates each applicant's interest, aptitude, professional experience and prior academic success to assess his/her potential for achievement in graduate business studies. *Note that an undergraduate business degree is not necessary for admission to the MBA Program.* The structure of the La Salle MBA program lends itself to those students with or without an undergraduate degree in business.

Before an applicant will be evaluated, he/she must submit the following information:

- Application (Online)
- Transcript Evaluation (International Students only) - see more information below
- English Language Proficiency Exam (International Students only) - see more information below

- Official transcripts from the college/university from which a bachelor's degree was earned, and, if applicable, Master's degree. Applicants will be notified if additional transcripts must be submitted for advising purposes.
- Test scores from the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), or, with permission of the Director, the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
- Professional resume (However, work experience is not required for admission consideration)

## English Language Proficiency Exam

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) are the most commonly utilized English Language Proficiency Exams. The minimum score for the TOEFL is an 88 and the minimum score for the IELTS is 6.5. This is not required of applicants whose native language is English, or for applicants who have undergraduate or graduate degree(s) from a college or university in the United States.

## Transcript Evaluation

Students who completed their degree in another country, must have their transcript evaluated for admission consideration to La Salle's MBA program. Students can find a list of acceptable evaluation agencies on our website here:

***Based on prior academic and/or professional success, the admission requirement to take the GMAT/GRE may be waived or deferred. Please see the section below "Waiver of GMAT or GRE".***

All documents should be sent to the following:

Office of Graduate Enrollment  
La Salle University- Box 826  
1900 W. Olney Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19141  
215.951.1100/ Fax 215.951.1462  
grad@lasalle.edu

Because each applicant's background and profile is unique, the Admission Committee does not establish specific quantitative minimum requirements for admission; the admission committee's decisions are based on evaluating many factors to determine a student's potential for success in the MBA program.

Please refer to the University's Nondiscrimination Policy in the General Reference section of this catalog. Admission is based solely upon an applicant's qualifications.

## Waiver of GMAT or GRE Requirement

Applicants that have earned a master's degree or higher from a program accredited in its discipline will be waived from the GMAT or GRE exam requirement. Additionally, applicants with an undergraduate business degree from an AACSB-accredited program who have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.2 or above are not required to complete the GMAT or GRE exam for admission into the program.

The GMAT (or GRE) may be waived for additional applicants at the discretion of the Admission Committee upon reviewing an applicant's overall profile.

The GMAT/GRE may be deferred and eventually waived if an applicant has graduated with a 3.0 GPA in any undergraduate discipline and has at least 2 years of business experience. These students are eligible to take

up to 12 credits in the program. If the student achieves a B- or better in each course and an overall GPA of 3.3, the GMAT/GRE will be waived.

## Conditional Admission

Students that are currently enrolled in their final semester will be considered for a conditional admission until their degree is conferred. Conditionally accepted students are required to successfully complete their degree and submit an updated transcript illustrating their degree conferral prior to the start of the MBA program. Conditionally accepted students are not eligible for financial aid loans until they are fully (regularly) accepted to the program. International students may be admitted under conditional admission; however, all their conditions must be met before an I-20 can be issued.

## Program Goals

The MBA program's goals are to deepen our student's business knowledge, develop their organizational and leadership skills, and sharpen their decision making.

- Strategic thinking through integrating discipline-specific business knowledge
- Leadership skills
- Business-related oral and written communication skills
- Awareness of how the business environment influences decision-making
- Knowledge and skill concerning financial analysis, reporting, and markets

## Student Learning Outcomes

The MBA program's learning goals are structured to advance our students skills and knowledge in the following areas:

### Strategic thinking through integrating discipline-specific business knowledge

- Demonstrate the ability to integrate business disciplines to achieve strategic objectives.
- Demonstrate the ability to identify and evaluate the usefulness of various competitive strategies (e.g., adaptive, market entry, positioning) that firms use within domestic and global markets.

### Leadership Skills

- Demonstrates the ability to identify and analyze current leadership style and the ability to develop and enhance leadership skills.
- Demonstrate the ability to work effectively and collaboratively in a team.

### Business-related oral and written communication skills

- Demonstrate the ability to prepare and deliver a professional presentation on a business issue.
- Demonstrate the ability to write a clear, concise, and well-organized professional presentation of a business issue.

### Awareness of how the business environment influences decision-making

- Demonstrate the ability to identify and analyze ethical and legal business dilemmas and the ability to recommend and defend appropriate solutions and strategies.

- Demonstrate an understanding of how cultural, economic, and political factors shape the management of global business.

### **Knowledge and skill concerning financial analysis, reporting, and markets**

- Demonstrate the ability to evaluate the financial position of for-profit organizations through the examination of financial information contained in balance sheets, income statements, cash flow statements, and footnotes, as well as information gathered from other sources (such as public filings, business news publications, and websites) in order to enable stakeholders (management, shareholders, creditors, etc.) to understand a firm's progress in maximizing its value to stakeholders.

## **MBA Academic Standing and Graduation Requirements**

All students in La Salle University's MBA programs are required to maintain a cumulative scholastic average of 3.0, which translates to an overall G.P.A. equivalent to a B (a B- average is not sufficient). Students whose academic performance falls below this standard are subject to academic review by the Director of the respective MBA program, and may be required to withdraw from the program, revise their course of study or repeat specific classes.

Students with a cumulative grade point average below 3.0 are automatically in academic jeopardy whether or not they receive written notification of this status, and regardless of the number of credits earned. Students with a G.P.A. below 3.0 should consult with their respective MBA Director and/or academic advisor to ascertain any potential actions to improve academic success within the program.

To graduate from the MBA Program at La Salle, students must:

- Have a minimum of a 3.0 G.P.A. overall within the MBA program,
- Maintain a "C" or better in all the required courses, and
- Receive no more than two grades of "below" a B- in the MBA program.

Should students:

- Fail a course; they may retake the course by paying the current pertinent tuition. No more than two course retakes are allowed in the MBA program.
- Complete all required courses, but fall below a 3.0 cumulative G.P.A. requirement, they will not be eligible to graduate. In this case, the students may retake up to two courses to improve their G.P.A. to a 3.0 or higher, as long as the total number of course retakes in the program does not exceed two courses.

In extraordinary circumstances, a student may be permitted to earn one additional "C" or retake one additional course at the program Director's discretion, as long as all other graduation requirements are met.

### **STEM Designation**

The MBA program with Business Systems and Analytics (BSA) specialization meets the requirements of what the Department of Homeland Security considers to be a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) field of study. International students who graduate from these programs may be eligible to apply for a 24-month OPT extension.

## **Transfer Credit**

An applicant may request the transfer of graduate credit(s) earned at another AACSB-accredited institution prior to being admitted to the La Salle MBA program. Each request will be evaluated on its own merits, but the student must have received a grade of "B" or better for the course to be considered for transfer. No more than a total six hours of graduate credit can be transferred; courses in the Core, Specialization (General Track), Foundation and Executive Perspectives will be considered for transfer.

Transferred specialization courses will only count towards fulfilling the General Business Administration Specialization requirements, as specializations (Accounting, Finance, Marketing, Business Systems and Analytics, Management and Strategic Communication) are only granted for courses completed at La Salle University.

## **Tuition and Fees**

Students may receive partial scholarships awarded on merit. Students may find the tuition and fee schedule on the Financial Aid website. (<http://www.lasalle.edu/financialaid/undergraduate-tuition-and-fees/>)

## **Tuition Assistance**

There are loan programs available for online graduate students. Information about financial aid and the application forms may be obtained from Student Financial Services (<https://www.lasalle.edu/financialaid/>), La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA 19141 or by calling 215.951.1070.

## **Academic Requirements**

### **Accounting Track**

Students who elect the accounting track must have an undergraduate degree in accounting. Students that do not have an accounting undergraduate degree can apply for the full-time MBA program with a specialization in accounting.

Accounting is often considered the "language of business," because it is the core of any business organization. Accountants are responsible for communicating and interpreting financial information as a basis for strategic decision-making.

Our professors are teachers, mentors, and scholars. They are connected with businesses around the globe, they are savvy about the challenges and innovations in play in the marketplace. Our graduates leave La Salle ready to perform.

Students interested in becoming a CPA meet the 150-credit requirement. See "Course Sequence" for specific requirements.

### **Business Systems and Analytics Track**

The business leaders of tomorrow face an exciting challenge. To innovate and prosper they need to solve problems and make informed decisions. Just as important, they need to manage technology and data.

La Salle's Business Systems and Analytics option prepares students to do both. It prepares them for careers as business intelligence analysts, business applications consultants, data warehousing specialists, and sports analytics managers, to name a few. See "Course Sequence" for specific requirements.

## Investment Analysis Track (CFA) and the Managerial Finance Track

The Investment Analysis Track (CFA) is designed around developing the skill set necessary to become a Chartered Financial Analyst. Our Managerial Finance Track is designed to provide students with the financial and leadership skills necessary to succeed as finance professionals. Following this track, undergraduate accounting majors can also complete their 150-hour CPA requirements. See "Course Sequence" for specific requirements.

## Course Sequence

Upon acceptance to the program, students will receive a Model Roster with the course requirements and a recommended course sequence to complete their degree.

New students can enroll at the start of the Fall (August), Spring (January) or Summer (May) semesters.

Following is what can be expected to complete each track in the one-year program.

### Accounting Track

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Semester</b>		
MBA 692	Financial Performance: Control and Measurement	3
MBA 693	Business Analytics for Informed and Effective Decision Making	3
MBA 811	Leadership: Theories and Skill Development	3
ACC 770	Advanced Accounting Topics and Governmental Accounting	3
ACC 780	Applied Research in Accounting	1.5
MKT 771	Services Marketing	1.5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
MBA 592	Written Communication Skills for Business	1
MBA 830	Financial Statement Analysis	3
MBA 840	Frameworks for Socially Responsible Decision Making	3
ACC 782	AIS, ERP, and Accounting Analytics	3
ACC 784	Adv Auditing/ Fin Forensics	1.5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>11.5</b>
<b>Third Semester</b>		
MBA 820	Information Technology for Decision-Making	3
MBA 902	Competitive Strategy	3
ACC 764	Federal Taxation and Regulation	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>35.5</b>

### Business Systems and Analytics Track

If students do not have a business background, the 6 credit foundation requirements may be needed.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Semester</b>		
MBA 590	Professional Development Seminar	1
MBA 691	Managerial Accounting for Decision Making, Planning, and Control	3
MBA 692	Financial Performance: Control and Measurement	3
MBA 693	Business Analytics for Informed and Effective Decision Making	3
MBA 811	Leadership: Theories and Skill Development	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13</b>

<b>Second Semester</b>		
MBA 592	Written Communication Skills for Business	1
MBA 690	Creating Customers Through Effective Marketing Management	3
MBA 830	Financial Statement Analysis	3
2 (two) BSA specialization courses		6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Third Semester</b>		
MBA 820	Information Technology for Decision-Making	3
MBA 840	Frameworks for Socially Responsible Decision Making	3
MBA 902	Competitive Strategy	3
BSA specialization course		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>38</b>

## Course Descriptions

### Accounting

**ACC 704 Financial Accounting Theory and Current Practices**  
This course emphasizes the perspective of preparers of financial statements covering financial statement preparation with an emphasis on the areas of financial accounting that are problematic, including revenue recognition, expense allocation, inventories, post-employment benefits, leases, and stock options. Prerequisite(s): MBA 691

**ACC 731 Accounting Analytics**  
This course is built from the premise that technology has changed the role of the accountant. A heightened awareness of systems, technology, and data analysis is becoming increasingly required of individuals in the different accounting fields. Data has proliferated in business, and managers and accountants need to understand the implications for decision-making and tap into the data to provide better insights into a firm/client/customer/supplier, etc. This course is intended to provide students with an understanding of data analytic thinking and terminology as well as hands-on experience with data analytics tools and techniques. Students should leave this course with the skills necessary to translate accounting and business problems into actionable proposals that they can competently present to managers and data scientists. While there will be some use of tools in this course, the focus of this class is on concepts, not algorithms or statistical math. Prerequisite(s): MBA 691

**ACC 764 Federal Taxation and Regulation**  
This course develops skills in identifying and researching issues in taxation, and explores advanced topics in federal taxation of individuals, property transactions and business entities including C corporations, partnerships, S corporations, trusts and estates and tax-exempt organizations. Additional topics include coverage of ethics and responsibilities in tax practice and differences between tax and financial accounting. This course entails the hands-on use of the tax research service 'CCH IntelliConnect' and prepares students interested in sitting for the REG section of the CPA exam. Prerequisite(s): Enrollment in the 4-Year BS/MBA Program or the OY MBA Program

**ACC 770 Advanced Accounting Topics and Governmental Accounting**  
This course assesses special topics in accounting including international accounting, estate and trust, bankruptcy and fund accounting, including governmental, not-for-profit, and hospital accounting. This course prepares students interested in sitting for the FAR section of the CPA exam. Prerequisite(s): A grade of "B" or better in MBA 615 or equivalent; A grade of "B" or better in MBA 691 or equivalent"

**ACC 780 Applied Research in Accounting**

This customized course provides students with a unique opportunity to integrate their academic work with a wide range of professional studies including but not limited to independent studies, research projects, or internships. Prerequisite(s): MBA 691 and Approval of supervising professor and program director

**ACC 782 AIS, ERP, and Accounting Analytics**

This course offers an enhanced understanding of accounting information systems (AIS) through hands-on exercises and internal control analyses. This course provides experience in a comprehensive enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, namely SAP. Using traditional business transactions, students will experience the complexities of an ERP system, become familiar with the internal control problems specific to ERP systems, and understand the similarities to, and differences from, traditional accounting systems. It includes hands-on experience creating and analyzing transactions in SAP modules; assessing the modules' internal controls; and synthesizing current AIS/ERP issues, such as security and privacy, disaster recovery, block chain, cryptocurrencies, anti-fraud, and audit resources, control and audit systems, and XBRL. It also includes hands-on exercises in Lumira, a data visualization and accounting analytics application. Prerequisite(s): A grade of "B" or better in MBA 615 or equivalent; A grade of "B" or better in MBA 691 or equivalent"

**ACC 784 Adv Auditing/ Fin Forensics**

This is an advanced course that assumes students have a strong background in auditing with either an undergraduate course in auditing or work experience as an auditor. The course utilizes CPA Examination Review materials, quizzes, and testing to prepare students for the CPA Examination while expanding their knowledge in professional ethics, risk assessment, internal control, audit evidence, auditor's reports and forensic services. Financial forensic methodology is examined as an example of other services performed by Certified Public Accountants focusing on the Rules of Evidence, preparing an expert witness report, and ethical considerations.

**ACC 790 Special Topics in Accounting**

This course will explore a topic of contemporary interest related to accounting. Topics will vary and may include Decision-Making Using Management Accounting, Applying Research Skills to Contemporary Accounting Issues; and Fraud and Forensic Accounting. Because the topic of this course will change, it can be repeated for additional credit when taken as a different topic. Prerequisite(s): MBA 691, and other prerequisite(s) may be required depending on the topic

**ACC 791 Decision-Making Mgt Acct**

This course in advanced managerial accounting focuses on commonly used accounting methods and techniques used in making business decisions. Topics covered are measurements of divisional performance, revenue and pricing decisions, production decisions, decisions concerning resource levels, and capital budgeting decisions. Students work with complex problems and cases on both an individual and group basis. Prerequisite: MBA 691

**Business Systems and Analytics****BSA 700 Business Applications Programming**

This course is designed to introduce students to the principles of business application programming for business analytics using selected high-level languages such as R, Python, and Hadoop. Emphasis is placed on identifying the capabilities and limitations of statistical computing languages for big data. Students will learn skills and techniques to solve big data problems through a series of steps that involve identification of problems, design of the solution logic, formal representation of program specifications, and implementation. The focus is on accessing data from multiple sources, manipulating different types of programming objects, performing character manipulation, and generating reports. Students will design and develop several computer programs throughout the term.

Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**BSA 705 Emerging Bus Sys & Analytics**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the critical role that good data and effective information systems play in today's organizational problem solving and decision making. There are two main components of this course: (1) the historical perspective on the strategic role of data and computer systems; and (2) the structures, issues, and trends in contemporary business systems and analytics.

Corequisite: MBA 820 Corequisite: MBA 820

**BSA 710 Systems Analysis and Database Design**

This course is about structured analysis and design methodology for complex business systems. Students become familiar and use Entity Relationship Diagrams, Data Structure Diagrams, Data Flow Diagrams, Data Dictionaries, and Process Specifications to develop Systems Specifications. These specifications are utilized as the blueprint to develop and implement relational databases, and explore the Structured Query Language (SQL) used to manipulate and operate the database.

Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**BSA 720 Data Warehousing and Data Mining**

This course focuses on data warehousing and data mining in organizations. Topics covered in the course include: data warehousing and mediation techniques aimed at integrating distributed, heterogeneous data sources; data mining techniques such as rule-based learning, decision trees, association rule mining, and statistical analysis for discovery of patterns in the integrated data; and evaluation and interpretation of the mined patterns using visualization techniques.

Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**BSA 725 Healthcare Analytics**

Today's healthcare organizations are under intense regulatory and financial pressures to improve quality, efficiency, patient safety, patient satisfaction, and positive outcomes. This course is concerned with the study of how descriptive, diagnostics, predictive, and prescriptive analytics tools and techniques can impact the overall performance of healthcare organizations. Students learn to extract, collect, analyze, visualize, and interpret data from patient health records, insurance claims, financial records, and tell a compelling and actionable story. Class exercises enable students to understand ways to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of healthcare organizations. Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**BSA 730 Optimization and Simulation**

This course introduces students to decision making and problem solving with simulation and optimization tools and techniques. Students learn to formulate and construct a decision model with spreadsheets and use the optimization tools, Monte Carlo simulation, and sensitivity analysis to generate and interpret solutions. The course covers different types of optimization and simulation models, including linear programming, sensitivity analysis, integer linear programming, goal programming, multiple objective optimization, simulation modeling, and queuing theory. Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**BSA 740 Data Visualization**

One of the skills that characterize great business data analysts is the ability to communicate practical implications of quantitative analyses to any kind of audience member. In this course, students will learn how to visualize data, tell a story, and explore data by reviewing the core principles of data visualizing and dashboarding. The course aims to focus on effective and high impact visualizations of common data analyses to help them convey conclusions directly and clearly. Students will be able to get practiced in designing and persuasively presenting business "data stories" that use these visualizations, helping stakeholders make decisions and take action based on their business data capitalizing on design principles. Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**BSA 780 Applied Research in Business Systems and Analytics**

This customized course provides students with a unique opportunity to integrate their academic work with a wide range of professional studies including but not limited to independent studies, research projects, or internships. Prerequisite(s): MBA 693 and Approval of supervising professor and program director

**BSA 790 Special Topics in BSA****Finance****FIN 725 Financing Health Systems**

This course looks at the various financing mechanisms which impact the structure and delivery of health care in the United States with particular emphasis upon governmental financing, managed care, employer sponsored health plans, and emerging insurance models. The course examines the impact of these financing mechanisms upon diverse health delivery systems including acute care, medical practice organizations, long term care, and the pharmaceutical and medical devices sector. Prerequisite(s): MBA 691 and MBA 692

**FIN 732 Financial Analytics**

This course covers a broad overview of finance topics from a data analytics perspective. Students will learn the ins and outs of applied data analysis and a conceptual framework for thinking about data from both a statistical and machine-learning perspective with applications in finance. Students will learn to understand and apply concepts like capturing and analyzing new sources of financial data, building predictive models, and running simulations of market events, using concepts of data analysis and probability in investment science, risk management, valuations, rates of return and profitability analysis. The course aims to provide a theoretical and practical framework in which students will be challenged to solve real-world problems in the finance field and gain familiarity with commonly used stochastic models. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692, MBA 693

**FIN 746 Enterprise Risk Management**

The course examines the risk management process as applied to the whole range of risks to which a corporation is exposed: financial, insurable, operational, and business. It focuses on risk in general and how multiple sources of risk can be addressed with strategies that integrate risk management and capital management. Specific topics include hedging, insurance, post-loss investment, contingent capital, finite risk reinsurance, and insurance-linked securities. Emphasized throughout the course is that managing risk effectively is essential to corporate value, success, and survival. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692

**FIN 748 Financial Instruments and Markets**

This course provides an examination of modern financial markets. Specifically, we discuss the largest financial intermediaries including commercial banks, finance companies, securities firms, investment banks, mutual funds and hedge funds with a focus on balance sheet structures, regulation, and current issues and trends. We also examine various financial instruments, derivatives, and off-balance sheet activities that are useful from a risk-management perspective within the industry. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692

**FIN 754 Derivative Instruments**

This course will introduce students to the world of financial and real derivatives analysis. The focus will be on options. Students will be introduced to option pricing and policy uses. In addition, the controversial issues of executive stock options, real options, and hedge fund policy will be explored. The course will evolve with the ever-changing derivatives market. The latest products and controversies will be examined.

**FIN 756 Enterprise Risk Analysis****FIN 764 Portfolio Management**

The course focuses on current practice and recent theoretical developments. It deals with the characteristics of individual securities and portfolios, criteria and models for alternative portfolio composition, criteria for evaluation and measurement of performance, and the impact of government regulation. The evaluation of current theory, its significance for the financial management decision-making, and the consideration of relevant empirical evidence are covered.

**FIN 765 Global Financial Management**

Current developments in global financial markets and instruments from the perspective of firm management. Topics include an overview of foreign security markets, trends in foreign exchange risk management, and the impact of international debt on multinational firms. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692

**FIN 767 Mergers and Acquisitions**

The course provides an analysis of the acquisition by one firm of all or some of the assets of another firm, and its impact on both the companies involved and on society. Topics include a discussion of the types of combinations, the motivations of the participants, the financial analysis required to carry out merger or acquisition activities, negotiation strategies, and the tax and accounting options that are available to the parties involved.

**FIN 780 Applied Research in Finance**

This customized course provides students with a unique opportunity to integrate their academic work with a wide range of professional studies including but not limited to independent studies, research projects, or internships. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692, and approval of supervising professor and program director

**FIN 783 Financial Analysis Seminar**

This seminar covers the breadth of material included in the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA I) exam. It includes CFA I mock exams and students are encouraged to sit for Level I of the CFA exam at the end of the course. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692, MBA 830, FIN 764 and a minimum graduate GPA of 3.5 or permission of the instructor

**FIN 790 Special Topics in Finance**

These courses will explore topics of contemporary interest. Course titles include, but are not limited to Trends in Employee Benefit Planning, and Speculative Market Analysis, among others. Because the topic of this course will change, it can be repeated for additional credit when taken as a different topic. Prerequisite(s): MBA 692

**Masters of Business Administration****MBA 590 Professional Development Seminar**

This course focuses on career development and building a "Professional Skills Portfolio." The initial orientation toward building a resume and developing strategies to obtain a job provides the basis of continued career planning and professional growth. This course is offered in conjunction with MBA 811.

**MBA 592 Written Communication Skills for Business**

Students will learn to plan, draft, revise, and edit documents (such as letters, memos, e-mails, executive summaries, proposals, and reports) required of them as professionals in a business environment.

**MBA 601 Financial Accounting**

This course is an introductory study of financial accounting. It includes the study of basic accounting language and concepts, recording financial transactions, preparation and interpretation of financial statements, accounting methods, business decisions, inventory valuations, and methods of obtaining capital.

**MBA 602 Financial Markets**

This course serves as an introduction to the financial system and its relationship to the financing of domestic and international business activity. Financial market components and phenomena such as financial instruments, institutions, flow of funds, market efficiency, interest rate determination and term structure, exchange rates, and the balance of payments are analyzed. The governmental impact on financial markets, manifested through monetary and fiscal policy and regulation, is also covered. An introduction is given to the concept of financial asset valuation and the time value of money. The emphasis is on the significance of these elements for conducting the financial affairs of businesses.

**MBA 603 Business Economics for Managers**

This course is designed to teach the principles of both micro and macro economics and to help the students understand the economic events that shape the world, markets and businesses. The course develops students' abilities to interpret how businesses form and operate under various market situations. Topics such as supply and demand, elasticity, relevant cost definition and relationships, profit optimization, market characteristics and long-run profitability implications, resource costing, and global market competitive responses are studied. The course further examines the role and activities of the various economic sectors consisting of households, businesses, and governments, and how those actions impact the state of the economy. The roles of government and the Federal Reserve are evaluated and their impact examined.

Topics such as Gross Domestic Product, economic growth, inflation, unemployment, fiscal policy, monetary policy, banking, international trade, and exchange rates are studied.

**MBA 690 Creating Customers Through Effective Marketing Management**

The course shows how the techniques of marketing management can be used to attract and satisfy customers while building long-term business profitability. Topics include (1) market, consumer, and competitive analysis; (2) segmentation, targeting, and positioning; (3) product development, pricing, promotion, and distribution; and (4) marketing strategy and planning.

**MBA 691 Managerial Accounting for Decision Making, Planning, and Control**

This course focuses on the firm's management accounting system as its primary information system. It examines the problems of cost measurement, planning, coordination, control, and performance evaluation. It explores how accounting systems address business problems and evolve in response to the changing economic environment. The course will relate ethical and global issues to managerial accounting topics. The students will explore and analyze "real world" data and apply their gained knowledge to contemporary managerial accounting problems and cases. Prerequisite(s): MBA 601

**MBA 692 Financial Performance: Control and Measurement**

This is a survey course focusing on how managers can construct a decision-making process focusing on maximizing the value of the firm. Because the majority of financial decisions require an estimate of future events, considerable time will be spent investigating how to achieve the above objectives, subject to the constraints of an uncertain future. Outside readings, case studies, and text material will be used to integrate current financial theory with pragmatic financial decision making. A working knowledge of the basic concepts in finance, accounting, and statistics is assumed. The use of an electronic spreadsheet is needed for homework assignments and case analysis. Prerequisite(s): MBA 601, MBA 602, and Completion of MBA Math (if not waived)

**MBA 693 Business Analytics for Informed and Effective Decision Making**

This course introduces students to the growing field of business analytics. Business analytics is the use of data, information technology, statistical analysis, and quantitative methods and models to support effective organizational problem solving and informed decision making. The course includes methods, tools, and techniques for summarizing and visualizing historical data, which is relevant to descriptive analytics – the use of data to find out what has happened in the past or is currently happening; methods, tools, and techniques for extracting information from existing data in order to determine patterns, which is relevant to predictive analytics – the use of data to find out what will happen in the future; and methods, tools, and techniques for optimization, which is relevant to prescriptive analytics - the use of data to determine the best course of action in the future. Prerequisite(s): Completion of online Math Assessment (if not waived).

**MBA 810 Developing Your Leadership Skills**

This experiential course emphasizes the importance of feedback and self-assessment for leadership development. It includes extensive assessment of each participant's management style and skills based on self-evaluations (using structured questionnaires, decision making exercises, and role plays) and feedback from coworkers, faculty, and other participants. It includes a full day assessment workshop. Leadership development experiences emphasize time and stress management, individual and group problem-solving, communication, power and influence, motivation, conflict management, empowerment, and team leadership. Each participant identifies skills he or she needs to develop and reports on efforts to develop those skills.

**MBA 811 Leadership: Theories and Skill Development**

This course reviews major leadership theories including trait theory, behavioral theories, contingency models, expectancy theory, path goal theory, transformational leadership, and servant leadership. The course also covers a series of in-depth exercises that address leadership skills including individual decision making, team decision making, nominal group technique, problem framing, negotiation, and managing organizational change. Students are expected to complete a written exam and a series of five short analytical papers.

**MBA 820 Information Technology for Decision-Making**

This course is about the manager's responsibilities for problem solving and decision making, and those areas in which information technology can be used to gain the insight needed to support selection of decision alternatives. Students learn about the role of data, information, and knowledge in managerial problem solving and decision making. Transactional processing and database management systems (DBMS) are used to store, manage, and retrieve data in organizations. Decision support system (DSS) tools and technologies (such as natural language programming and influence diagramming) are used to organize data into information for decision analytics. Expert systems (ES) are used to synthesize information into knowledge for knowledge management. Students are required to use DBMS, DSS and ES software packages in a hands-on environment. Prerequisite(s): MBA 693

**MBA 830 Financial Statement Analysis**

This course integrates the areas of finance and accounting and is designed to provide students with the ability to analyze financial statements, understand the incentives of companies to "manage" earnings through their choices of accounting methods, understand the limitations to the usefulness of financial statements, and understand the value of financial statements in decision-making from the perspective of investors, creditors and management. Prerequisite(s): All foundation courses, MBA 691, MBA 692

**MBA 840 Frameworks for Socially Responsible Decision Making**

This course is designed to explore the complex ethical, legal, cultural, political, social, and economic issues confronting individuals, groups, and organizations. We will use various models and theories to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills to address the issues of a diverse set of organizational stakeholders. Prerequisite(s): All required foundation courses

**MBA 902 Competitive Strategy**

This integrative capstone course is designed to expose students to strategies that companies use to build and sustain competitive advantage in the global market. The course provides students with industry, competitor, and business level analytic tools that help students to assess factors that influence strategy formulation and strategy implementation in both domestic and global markets.

## Faculty

Interim Dean: Yusuf Joseph Ugras, Ph.D.

Program Director: Nicole Blair, M.B.A., M.S.

Professors: Ambrose, Barenbaum, Buch, Borkowski, Cooper, Fornaciari, Jiang, Miller, Meisel, Schubert, Smither, Tavana, Wentzel

Associate Professors: Chia, Kennedy, Lafond, Leaby, Pierce, Plump, Reardon, Szabat, Ugras, Walsh

Assistant Professors: Adams, Bruce, Coyle, DiPietro, Dynan, Otto, Radetskiy, Varzгани

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## Program Contact Information

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