For M.B.A. graduates
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The purpose of the Master of Business Administration program at VCU
is to prepare individuals for the responsibilities of management. As
students at VCU, individuals will learn the functions and techniques of
effective management. The student also will come to understand the
environmental and economic factors that affect decision-making in
organizations. In short, the student will know what to do as future events
unfold that affect his/her firm or organization.

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The Master of Science in Information Systems program is designed to
prepare students for specialized roles using information systems to
support organizations. The program is intended to provide a graduate-
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design and development of information systems to solve real-world
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and implementing systems using state-of-the-art technologies within
organizations.

Student learning outcomes

For M.B.A. graduates
1. Students should be able to demonstrate the capacity to apply
business knowledge in new and unfamiliar circumstances.
2. Students should be able to demonstrate the ability to work in teams
and other groups.
3. Students should understand and be able to develop the ethical and
social responsibilities of organizations.
4. Students should be able to describe the factors involved in key
operation decisions and to apply appropriately techniques that
provide insight and structure for management decision-making.
5. Students should be able to identify and understand major issues
faced by organizations with evolving information technology and
investigate issues and challenges faced by managers with changes in
information technology.
6. Students should be able to describe the factors involved in key
operation decisions and to apply appropriately techniques that
provide insight and structure for management decision-making.
7. Graduates of the program should be able to critically evaluate and
use accounting and other information for managerial decision-
making.
8. Graduates should be able to evaluate marketing programs.
9. Students should be able to think critically and systematically about
financial issues in businesses to develop techniques to analyze these
issues numerically.
10. Graduates of the program should be able to develop an analytical
framework for identifying the objectives of the firm and to provide
some tools for evaluating the firm’s performance.

For M.S. in Information Sciences graduates
1. Graduates should be capable of communicating and networking
effectively within their profession and within their organizations,
serving the profession by applying this knowledge broadly and
maintaining key technical expertise in order to sustain required levels
of competitiveness.
2. Graduates must have an understanding of information technology as
it applies to business contexts and the skill to apply this technology
effectively in specific circumstances.
3. Graduates must be able to develop efficient and effective IS
solutions using appropriate technologies that can deliver competitive
advantages to organizations.
4. Graduates must be able to develop and incorporate changes in the
planning and management of IS resources based on an increased
understanding of the dynamic changes in the organization, IS and
global environments.

VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School
and general academic policies and regulations
for all graduate students in all graduate
programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and
academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all
graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the
graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to
the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus,
to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate
School website and academic regulations in individual school and
department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases,
the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as
published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites,
take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on
academic regulations for graduate students.

Degree candidacy requirements

A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a
final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for
continuing master’s or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy
requirements of the student’s graduate program. Admission to degree
candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student’s
faculty regarding the student’s academic achievements and the student’s readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements.

Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements.

Other information

School of Business policies and procedures for graduate master’s degree students are available on the school’s website.

Apply online at graduate.admissions.vcu.edu (http://www.graduate.admissions.vcu.edu).

Admission requirements

Degree: Semester(s) of entry: Deadline dates: Test requirements:

| M.S. and M.B.A. | Fall | Jul 1 | GMAT or GRE |
| M.B.A. | Spring | Nov 1 |

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements), applicants to the dual degree Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Information Systems program must submit an up-to-date resume.

Degree requirements

In addition to the VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info), students can earn both M.B.A. and M.S. in Information Systems degrees by having 12 credit hours counted toward both degrees.

Students in the dual degree program will follow the same schedule as regular M.B.A. students, including the two lockstep semesters. To get both degrees, students will take all foundation courses required for the M.B.A. (unless waived), all nine core courses required for the M.B.A. and nine additional courses in the M.S. in Information Systems program, including INFO 610, INFO 620 and INFO 630. Students whose undergraduate degrees are not in information systems may also be required to take additional undergraduate prerequisite courses before taking the graduate information systems courses, as determined by the program adviser. The INFO 661 course taken for the M.B.A. will substitute for INFO 640, normally required for the M.S. in Information Systems degree, and three of the additional information systems courses also will count toward the normally required three elective courses in the M.B.A. program.

One of the information systems courses must have substantial global, entrepreneurial and/or experiential components. The six information systems courses to be taken in addition to INFO 661, INFO 664, INFO 610, INFO 620 and INFO 630 must be approved by the program adviser, and would normally be selected to satisfy one of the M.S. in Information Systems concentrations.

Curriculum requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 507</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 500</td>
<td>Concepts in Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 520</td>
<td>Financial Concepts of Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 540</td>
<td>Management Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKTG 570</td>
<td>Concepts and Issues in Marketing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 524</td>
<td>Statistical Fundamentals for Business Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 530</td>
<td>Fundamentals of the Legal Environment of Business</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 21

M.B.A. course work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 610</td>
<td>Managerial Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 641</td>
<td>Leading People and Organizations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 623</td>
<td>Financial Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester two

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 608</td>
<td>Managerial Accounting Concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 661</td>
<td>Information Systems for Managers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 664</td>
<td>Information Systems for Business Intelligence</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 642</td>
<td>Business Policy and Strategy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKTG 671</td>
<td>Marketing Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 675</td>
<td>Operations Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 27

M.S. in Information Systems course work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFO 610</td>
<td>Analysis and Design of Database Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 620</td>
<td>Data Communications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 630</td>
<td>Systems Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives
Select six of the following: 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFO 611</td>
<td>Data Re-engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 614</td>
<td>Data Mining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO/CISS 616</td>
<td>Data Warehousing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 622</td>
<td>Internet Security Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 632</td>
<td>Business Process Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 641</td>
<td>Strategic Information Systems Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 642</td>
<td>Decision Support and Intelligent Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 643</td>
<td>Information Technology Project Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO/CISS 644</td>
<td>Principles of Computer and Information Systems Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 646</td>
<td>Security Policy Formulation and Implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 654</td>
<td>Systems Interface Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 658</td>
<td>Securing the Internet of Things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 691</td>
<td>Topics in Information Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 693</td>
<td>Field Project in Information Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 697</td>
<td>Guided Study in Information Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 27

**Total graduate credit hours required (minimum) 54**

Students in the combined program who wish to have an M.B.A. concentration other than information resources management would need to complete an additional three courses for the concentration area.

**Graduate program director**
Austen Gouldman
Director, graduate programs
Email: gouldmana@vcu.edu
Phone: (804) 828-4622

**Additional contact**
Graduate Studies in Business
Email: gsib@vcu.edu
Phone: (804) 828-4622

**Program website:** business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/combined-mbams-in-information-systems (http://business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/combined-mbams-in-information-systems)