Business Administration, Master of (M.B.A.)

Program accreditation
Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (http://www.aacsb.edu)

Program goal
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.

An M.B.A. from VCU benefits students at various points in their careers. Individuals who have recently received their baccalaureate degrees may choose to refine their business skills while their undergraduate training is fresh. Individuals with work experience often find that an M.B.A. is the key to rapid promotion or a career change. Finally, an M.B.A. from VCU meets the needs of students who recognize that the best preparation for an uncertain future is continuous learning.

Student learning outcomes
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.

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 at business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/current-graduate-students.

Apply online at graduate.admissions.vcu.edu (http://wwwgraduate.admissions.vcu.edu).
Admission requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree:</th>
<th>Semester(s) of entry:</th>
<th>Deadline dates:</th>
<th>Test requirements:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.B.A.</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Jul 1</td>
<td>GMAT or GRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Mar 1</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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 master's program in business administration 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 in the M.B.A. program must complete a minimum of 45 graduate credit hours. In addition, a prerequisite course in precalculus is required. This prerequisite may be waived for students who present satisfactory equivalent preparation. Applicants who have not met this prerequisite may take the course after admission.

Students are expected to enter the program with basic computing proficiency. Specific expectations will be provided by the Graduate Studies in Business Office. Specific means of evaluating and correcting any deficiency also will be identified.

Curriculum requirements

The curriculum for the M.B.A. program is flexible and is designed for students with diverse undergraduate backgrounds. Students may elect an M.B.A. without a concentration or may choose an M.B.A. with a single or double concentration.

Most classes are held in the evening to accommodate working students’ schedules. Classes typically meet one evening a week from 7 to 9:40 p.m. or twice a week in the early evening from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. For additional information about the program, visit vcu.edu/mba (http://www.vcu.edu/mba).

<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>ACCT 608</td>
<td>Managerial Accounting Concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 610</td>
<td>Managerial Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 520</td>
<td>Financial Concepts of Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 623</td>
<td>Financial Management</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 641</td>
<td>Leading People and Organizations</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 524</td>
<td>Statistical Fundamentals for Business Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 675</td>
<td>Operations Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>Select three of the following:</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 607</td>
<td>Advanced Macroeconomic Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Title

- ECON 609 Advanced International Economics
- ECON 612 Econometrics
- ECON 616 Advanced Public Finance
- ECON 617 Financial Markets
- ECON 620 The Economics of Industry
- ECON 631 Labor Market Theory and Analysis
- ECON 641 Econometric Time-series Analysis
- ECON 642 Panel and Nonlinear Methods in Econometrics
- ECON 697 Guided Study in Economics
- ENGR 691 Special Topics in Engineering
- ENVS 691 Topics in Environmental Studies
- FIRE 621 Cases in Financial Management
- FIRE 622 Financial Management of Financial Institutions
- FIRE 625 Group Insurance and Pension Planning
- FIRE 626 Risk Management
- FIRE 627 Real Estate Development
- FIRE 629 Real Estate Investment Analysis
- FIRE 635 Investments and Security Analysis
- FIRE 638 Real Property Investment Law
- FIRE 639 International Finance
- FIRE 650 Derivatives
- FIRE 654 Short-term Financial Management
- FIRE 657 Current Issues in Investments and Markets
- FIRE 658 Real Estate Finance and Investments
- INFO 610 Analysis and Design of Database Systems
- INFO 611 Data Re-engineering
- INFO 614 Data Mining
- INFO 632 Business Process Engineering
- INFO 641 Strategic Information Systems Planning
- INFO/CISS 644 Principles of Computer and Information Systems Security
- INFO 691 Topics in Information Systems
- INFO 697 Guided Study in Information Systems
- MGMT 637 Advanced Human Resource Management
- MGMT 644 International Business Management
- MGMT 649 Compensation Policy and Administration
- MGMT 655 Entrepreneurship
- MGMT 656 Best Practices in Leadership
- MGMT 680 Health, Safety and Security Administration
- MGMT 682 Human Resource Staffing
- MGMT 684 Issues in International Human Resource Management
- MGMT 691 Topics in Management
- MGMT 697 Guided Study in Management
- MKTG 655 International Marketing
- MKTG 657 International Market Planning Project
For students pursuing the M.B.A. combined with the Master of Product Innovation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INNO 501</td>
<td>Arts Principles for Product Innovation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNO 590</td>
<td>da Vinci Project</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNO 600</td>
<td>Integrative Design Studio</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFO 661</td>
<td>Information Systems for Managers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For students pursuing the M.B.A. combined with the Master of Science in Business with a concentration in finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 621</td>
<td>Cases in Financial Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 622</td>
<td>Financial Management of Financial Institutions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 623</td>
<td>Financial Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 625</td>
<td>Group Insurance and Pension Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For students pursuing the M.B.A. combined with the Master of Science in Business with a concentration in real estate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 623</td>
<td>Financial Management (fulfills elective requirement in the M.S.)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 627</td>
<td>Real Estate Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 629</td>
<td>Real Estate Investment Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE 638</td>
<td>Real Property Investment Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For students pursuing the M.B.A. combined with the Master of Supply Chain Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 602</td>
<td>Global Supply Chain Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 603</td>
<td>SAP ERP and Supply Chain Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 606</td>
<td>Supply Chain Innovation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 675</td>
<td>Operations Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. For students pursuing the combined programs mentioned above, these courses fulfill the nine credits of electives for the M.B.A. program.

Electives and concentrations

Project courses (693), topics courses (691) and guided studies (697) may be available for use toward concentration electives. These courses must be preapproved by the director of graduate studies.

Courses at the 500- or 600-level taken outside of the School of Business may be used with the permission of the director of graduate studies in business. Students must satisfy the necessary prerequisites for all electives.
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Austen Gouldman
Director, graduate programs
Email: gouldmana@vcu.edu
Phone: (804) 828-4622

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

Program website: business.vcu.edu/graduate/mba.html (http://business.vcu.edu/graduate/mba.html)