BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MASTER OF (M.B.A.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN INVESTMENTS

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

M.B.A. core outcomes

1. Leadership and teamwork: Students will develop abilities to influence others and collaborate in teams.
2. Communication: Students will recognize the importance of and effectively demonstrate strong communication skills.
3. Analytical thinking: Students will demonstrate the ability to organize and interpret qualitative and quantitative information to make effective decisions.
4. Strategic thinking: Students will demonstrate the ability to apply appropriate conceptual frameworks to lead the organization in setting and meeting its goals and objectives.

Investments concentration-specific outcome

1. Investment analysis: Students will develop the ability to analyze an investment problem and develop solutions that leverage appropriate analytical and qualitative tools to optimize investment choices and financial decision-making.

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 students** are available on the school's website.

Apply online today. (https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/)

Admission requirements

Degree:	Semester(s) of entry:	Deadline dates:	Test requirements:
M.B.A.	Fall	Jul 1	
	Spring	Nov 1	
	Summer	Mar 1	

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (https://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.

International applicants may be required to submit an approved English proficiency score and/or course-by-course international transcript evaluation.

All applicants may opt to submit a GMAT or GRE score for consideration. Additional information can be found on the Graduate Studies in Business webpage (https://business.vcu.edu/prospective-students/graduate/admissions/#sob-content-1801062).

Degree requirements

In addition to the VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/), students in the M.B.A. program must complete a minimum of 42 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. A double concentration will require six additional credit hours to be completed.

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 the School of Business website (http://www.vcu.edu/mba/).

Course	Title	Hours
Required courses		
ACCT 507	Fundamentals of Accounting	3
ACCT 608	Managerial Accounting Concepts	3
ECON 610	Managerial Economics	3
FIRE 520	Financial Concepts of Management	3
INFO 661	Information Systems for Managers	3
MGMT 641	Leading People and Organizations	3
MGMT 642	Business Policy and Strategy	3
MKTG 671	Marketing Management	3
SCMA 524	Statistical Fundamentals for Business Management	3
SCMA 675	Operations Management	3
Concentration electives		
Select three of the following:		9
FIRE 540	Financial Analytics	
FIRE 610	Financial Modeling and Analysis	
FIRE 622	Financial Intermediation and Analysis of Fixed-income Securities	
FIRE 626	Risk Management	
FIRE 635	Investments and Security Analysis	
FIRE 650	Derivatives	
Electives		
Select an additional concentration elective from the list above or one of the following:		3
ACCT 525	Sustainability and ESG Reporting	
ACCT 620	Accounting Research	
ACCT 621	Accounting Analytics	
ACCT 697	Guided Study in Accounting	
ECON 612	Econometrics	
ECON 641	Econometric Time-series Analysis	
ECON 642	Panel and Nonlinear Methods in Econometrics	
ECON 691	Topics in Economics	
ECON 697	Guided Study in Economics	
FIRE 615	Foundations in Real Estate	
FIRE 621	Cases in Financial Management	
FIRE 623	Financial Management	
FIRE 627	Real Estate Development	
FIRE 629	Cases in Real Estate	
FIRE 630	Real Estate Valuation	
FIRE 641	Advanced Financial Analytics	
FIRE 654	Short-term Financial Management	
FIRE 658	Real Estate Finance and Investments	
FIRE 691	Topics in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	
FIRE 697	Guided Study in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	
INFO 511	Practical and Structural Data Improvements with AI	
INFO 520	Data Communications	
INFO 532	Practical Process Rethinking with AI	
INFO 535	Ethical, Social and Legal Issues in Computer and Information Systems Security	
INFO 544	Principles of Computer and Information Systems Security	
INFO 601	Database Management	
INFO 609	Data-centric Analysis/Planning	
INFO 636	Securing Cloud Infrastructure	
INFO 641	Strategic Information Systems Planning	
INFO 642	Artificial Intelligence for Business Applications	
INFO 645	Prescriptive Analytics	
INFO 648	Business Data Analytics	
INFO 658	Securing the Internet of Things	
INFO 664	Information Systems for Business Intelligence	
INFO 691	Topics in Information Systems	
INFO 697	Guided Study in Information Systems	
MGMT 654	Negotiations	
MGMT 655	Entrepreneurship	
MGMT 657	Corporate Entrepreneurship	
MGMT 691	Topics in Management	
MGMT 697	Guided Study in Management	
MKTG 622	Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics	
MKTG 656	International Marketing	
MKTG 657	Market Planning Project	

MKTG 672	Influencing Consumer Behavior
MKTG 673	Marketing Research
MKTG 674	Service Quality Management
MKTG 675	Digital Marketing
MKTG 676	Social Media Research
MKTG 678	Marketing Analytics
MKTG 679	Brand Strategy
MKTG 691	Topics in Marketing
MKTG 697	Guided Study in Marketing
SCMA 602	Global Supply Chain Management
SCMA 603	SAP ERP and Supply Chain Management
SCMA 606	Supply Chain Innovation
SCMA 615	Strategic Logistics Management
SCMA 632	Statistical Analysis and Modeling
SCMA 642	Decision and Risk Analytics
SCMA 669	Developing and Implementing Forecasting Methods for Business
SCMA 677	Quality Management and Six Sigma
SCMA 691	Topics in Supply Chain Management and Analytics
SCMA 697	Guided Study in Supply Chain Management
Total Hours	**42**

The minimum number of graduate credit hours required for this degree is 42.

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.

Contact

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Additional contact

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Program website: business.vcu.edu/academics/mba-options (https://business.vcu.edu/academics/mba-options/)