

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) – Program Policies (2010/2011)

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Business Administration (UD MBA) program is accredited by the AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Students may pursue either a full- time or part-time course of study in the UD MBA program. In some cases, UD MBA students with an undergraduate degree in business administration may waive some of the core classes, and thereby complete the program with less than the 48 credits required of students with no prior academic background in business administration. The Executive MBA (EMBA) is a lock-step program and EMBA students are not eligible for course waivers.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Admission to the UD MBA program is highly selective and is based upon a combination of professional work experience, prior academic grades, Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) scores, letters of recommendation, and an interview. Please refer to the Graduate Admissions chapter in this catalog. Applicants are required to provide a copy of their recent resume along with a completed application. Two letters of recommendation should be sent to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. For the Executive MBA program, one of these letters must be from the applicant's direct manager. The GMAT is not required for the Executive MBA; however, Executive MBA applicants must have a minimum of 5 years of professional work experience.

Students in the UD MBA program are admitted for initial enrollment in either the fall (August), spring (February), or summer (June) semesters. Admissions decisions are made on a rolling basis throughout the year. To expedite consideration for admission, applications should be submitted by February 1 for full-time applicants seeking financial aid, May 1 for applicants seeking fall admission (including Executive MBA applicants), and November 1 for applicants seeking spring admission. Admission decisions may be made after these dates if space is still available; however, students are strongly encouraged to apply early. An admission deposit is required upon notification of admission (\$300 MBA, \$500 Executive MBA).

Candidates for admission need not have majored in any specific undergraduate field; however, students entering the UD MBA program are assumed to possess basic skills in written and oral communication, mathematics (normally one year at the college level) and computer usage (word processing, spreadsheets, e-mail, internet, and research based on electronic scholarly resources). Students deficient in any of these areas are encouraged to enroll in appropriate credit and non-credit courses.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

Candidates for the UD MBA degree must complete 48 credit hours, divided into Business Core courses (24 hours), EDGE Core courses (12 hours), and elective courses (12 hours). The EMBA Committee specifies specialized courses beyond the core and required curriculum. The UD MBA committee specifies specialized courses beyond the core and required curriculum for the on-site UD MBA programs.

Full-time UD MBA students can normally complete the program in 21 months. Part-time students normally take from three to four years to earn their degrees. Students may accelerate their program by taking courses in the winter and summer. The accelerated full-time program may be completed in as few as 16 months and the part-time program may be completed in less than 30 months. Executive MBA students earn their degrees in 19 months.

Business Core Courses (24 hours):

ECON 503: Economic Analysis for Business Policy

ACCT 800: Financial Reporting and Analysis

ACCT 801: Management Control Systems and Information Technology
BUAD 831: Operations Management and Management Science
FINC 850: Financial Management
BUAD 870: Leadership and Organization Behavior
BUAD 880: Marketing Management
BUAD890: Corporate Strategy

Students in the MBA programs (part-time and full-time) may waive up to 12 of the 18 above core credit hours if they have completed two applicable courses in that subject area at the undergraduate level at an AACSB-accredited institution, during the last five years, with grades of B or better in each course and one of those two undergraduate courses is at the intermediate level. The students entering the MBA program with a BSBA or equivalent degree from an AACSB-accredited school may substitute additional elective coursework for the remaining 6 required hours. Thus, the students on this faster track will need to take a minimum of 36 credit hours instead of 48 hours. Course waivers are not allowed in the EMBA program.

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EDGE Core Courses (12 hours):
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1. **Experiential Learning requirement** may be met by taking at least one of the following classes:

- * MBA Case Competition/Marketing Strategy Simulation, BUAD892
- * Business Consulting Practicum, BUAD899
- * A Study Abroad class - Special Topics in Global Business, BUAD843
- * High Technology Entrepreneurship, ENTR860

2. **Data-based Learning requirement** may be met by taking at least one of the following classes:

- * Statistical Data Analysis for Business, BUAD820 (**REQUIRED** if the student has not taken statistics)
- * Marketing Research, BUAD881
- * Data Analysis and Management in Economics, ECON828

3. **Global Perspective requirement** may be met by taking at least one of the following classes:

- * International Accounting, ACCT883
- * Leadership in International Business Cultures, BUAD878
- * International Marketing Management, BUAD882
- * International Economics for Managers, ECON540

* International Finance, FINC853

4. **Ethical Leadership requirement** may be met by taking at least one of the following classes:

* Ethical Issues in Business Environment, BUAD840 (**REQUIRED** if the student has not taken ethics)

* Ethical Leadership Development: Theory & Practice, BUAD860 (**new**)

These requirements may also be met by prior approval of a class not listed here if it has an appropriate focus.

Elective Courses (12 hours):

Twelve hours of additional graduate level coursework must be chosen in Business Administration, Finance, Economics, Accounting, Museum Studies, or other areas appropriate to the student's concentration, specialization, and/or academic or professional interests.

Concentrations and Specializations:

Although not required, it is possible for students to obtain one or more of the following concentrations by choosing nine hours of elective course work in a highly structured course of study: Finance, Healthcare Policy, Information Technology, International Business, Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Museum Leadership, and Management. Please see the UD MBA programs web page at www.mba.udel.edu for more details.

As an alternative to a highly structured concentration, a student has the option to build a course of study in consultation with their faculty advisor for a specialization by choosing 9 hours of electives coursework in line with their professional interest under the option of Self-Directed Specialization. The Self-Directed Specialization option allows MBA students more flexibility in designing a specialization with a variety of MBA program electives or in conjunction with other degree programs in the University. Examples of self-directed specialization include Operations Management, Accounting, Chemical Engineering, Sport Management, and Public Policy.

The remaining three hours of electives ought to be outside the area of concentration or specialization.

Students interested in a general-interest UD MBA need not pursue a concentration or specialization and may select electives from a wide variety of academic interests.

COURSE WAIVERS and TRANSFERS

A total of up to 12 credits may be waived and/or transferred. Course waivers should be assessed upon application to the MBA program. It is possible to finish UD MBA degree at an accelerated pace in one year and minimum 36 credits with enough course waivers/transfers. The students entering the UD MBA program with a BSBA or equivalent degree from an AACSB-accredited school may substitute additional elective coursework for up to six credits from the EDGE core requirement. Thus, the students on this faster track will need to take a minimum of 36 credit hours instead of 48 hours. Course waivers are not allowed in the EMBA program.

Course Waivers

Students in the MBA programs (part-time and full-time) may waive up to 12 credits of the 24 credits in Business core if they have completed two applicable courses in that subject area at the undergraduate level at an AACSB-accredited institution, during the last five years, with grades of B or better in each course and one of those two undergraduate courses is at the intermediate level.

Coursework from related graduate degrees may also qualify as the basis of a course waiver, but only in a related academic field. For instance, a student who already holds an MS in accounting from an AACSB-accredited institution may request a course waiver for ACCT 800; similarly, a holder of an MA in economics may request a course waiver for ECON 503.

Course Transfers

It is possible to transfer graduate-level coursework to the UD MBA from other AACSB-accredited schools. A maximum of nine credits MAY be transferred. Graduate courses are eligible for transfer only if earned at a school fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International. Course transfers are not official until you have completed at least nine credit hours as a matriculated MBA student at the University of Delaware.

DUAL DEGREES

There are many dual degrees options with the MBA, including:

- MBA/MA: Economics
- MBA/MS: Information Systems & Technology Management
- MBA/MS: Organizational Effectiveness Development & Change
- MBA/MS: Mechanical Engineering
- MBA/MS: Electrical and Computer Engineering
- MBA/MAS: Civil Engineering
- MBA/Master of Civil Engineering
- MBA/Master of Chemical Engineering
- MBA/ME: Mechanical
- MBA/Master of Materials Science & Engineering
- PhD Biological Sciences/MBA
- MBA/Master of International Business
- MD/MBA (in collaboration with Thomas Jefferson University – Jefferson Medical College)

Most dual degrees generally require at least 60 graduate credits and follow a very structured curriculum. A dual degree requires 30 credits in the MBA curriculum. The 30 credits for MBA will consist of 24 credits of the Business core requirements plus six credits of the EDGE core requirements. The remaining six credits of the EDGE core may be met by the courses taken for the other degree being pursued along with MBA. Students interested in pursuing a dual degree should contact the MBA Program Manager to discuss the specific courses required to complete the degrees.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENT

All MBA students are provided with electronic addresses and e-mailboxes and are expected to utilize e-mail, the Internet, and electronic scholarly resources on a regular basis. The MBA program provides basic instruction in electronic communications for new students. Other instruction is available in short, non-credit classes that are offered by the University, Information Technologies staff, and the business reference librarian at Morris Library. Students wishing to use their private e-mail MUST forward their University e-mail accounts to this address. Electronic mail is the primary method of administrative information dissemination and students are responsible for monitoring their University e-mail account.