

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MBA

Objective

The objective of the Manderson MBA program at The University of Alabama is to prepare high-achieving, high-potential students for successful business careers in a globally competitive environment. The MBA program has a commitment to providing a high value-added experience within a diverse and collaborative learning environment. The curriculum emphasizes fundamental business concepts, knowledge, and skills through an interdisciplinary perspective. Case studies, projects, teamwork, and technology contribute to a dynamic applied learning environment.

MBA Program Formats

The Manderson MBA Program is offered in a variety of formats. The Traditional MBA is a full-time, two-year program that requires a concentration. The STEM Path to the MBA is also a full-time, two-year program integrated with University of Alabama undergraduate STEM majors that requires a specialization. The Executive MBA is a weekend program for mid- to upper-level managers offered in two formats, one in Tuscaloosa and one in Huntsville.

Traditional MBA

Students take a prescribed program of courses and cross-discipline work that blends the analytical tools of management and the functional areas of business into a general management perspective. Topics include accounting, economics, finance, management, marketing, operations, strategy, communications, information systems, and statistics. In addition, each student pursues elective courses leading to a mandatory area of concentration. All course selections for the area of concentration must be made with the advice of a designated graduate faculty member. Teaching methods combine cases, lecture-discussion, and projects. The small size of the program allows faculty members to use a variety of techniques for enhancing learning.

See specific Traditional MBA Admissions Requirements.

STEM Path to the MBA

The STEM Path to the MBA is a five-year program designed for entering University of Alabama freshmen majoring in a STEM area (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics). This program integrates STEM business honors courses with the undergraduate STEM program and culminates in the MBA program.

During each semester of their four years of undergraduate study, students enroll in a 1.5 credit-hour STEM Business Honors course. These honors courses focus on communication and leadership skills. Students work in teams on community projects to develop both an appreciation for and a basic understanding of the importance of management skills in science and technology careers and to create an opportunity to interact with other STEM students, as well as with executives from technology companies and MBA faculty members.

The STEM Business Honors courses are taught by a faculty member who is assigned to the cohort in the freshman year, and works with them through their senior year. This provides continuity of contact and allows the faculty mentor to track the students through the program.

During the sophomore, junior, and senior years, STEM discipline students can expect to be off campus and involved in internships, cooperative-learning experiences, and other online learning activities. The STEM Business Honors courses include extensive use of digital technology:

streaming video of presentations from guest speakers, teleconferencing for student presentations and class meetings using Skype and similar technologies, and the use of course-management software that allows off-campus students to remain engaged and participate in coursework.

See additional information on the STEM Path to the MBA Program.

CREATE Path to the MBA

The CREATE Path to the MBA is a five-year program that targets students majoring in one of the various creative disciplines, including, but not limited to: art, music, fine arts, literature, fashion retailing, advertising, apparel and textiles, interior design, modern languages and classics, theater, and dance. This program integrates business honors courses with the undergraduate creative degree program and culminates in the MBA program.

The program is centered around innovative solutions to real-world problems and runs parallel to its sister program, the STEM Path to the MBA. Using nontraditional classroom methods and experiential learning opportunities, students on the CREATE Path to the MBA have the opportunity to grow both academically deep into their chosen major and functionally broad across different areas like communication, leadership, and professionalism. An added benefit from running parallel to the STEM Path to the MBA is that CREATE-MBA students will gain exposure to the technical backgrounds of their peers, further diversifying their frame of reference for problem-solving.

See additional information on the CREATE Path to the MBA Program.

Dual Degrees

JD/MBA Joint Degree Program in Law and Business

The University of Alabama School of Law and the Manderson Graduate School of Business offer students who are interested in combined business and legal career opportunities a law and MBA curriculum culminating in the awarding of the juris doctor (JD) and MBA degrees within four years. Admission is required into both programs. Further information about the joint JD/MBA Program may be obtained by contacting the director of the MBA Program and/or the Law School admissions office as well as by visiting the respective websites.

MBA Dual Degrees in Engineering

The Manderson Graduate School of Business and the College of Engineering offer students from an engineering background an opportunity to receive both their MBA and Master of Science in engineering (Civil or Mechanical) within two calendar years. Prospective students must be admitted to both programs before being allowed to pursue the dual curriculum. Further information about the dual MBA/ENG programs may be obtained by contacting the director of the MBA Program and/or the Engineering admissions office as well as by visiting the respective websites.

MBA/MFA Dual Degree

The Manderson Graduate School of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences offer students an opportunity to receive both their MBA and their Master of Fine Arts (Theater Management) within four years. Prospective students must be admitted to both programs before being allowed to pursue the dual curriculum. Further information about the dual MBA/MFA program may be obtained by contacting the director of the MBA Program and/or the Theater Management office as well as by visiting the respective websites.

See the Admissions Requirements section of the catalog for more information.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the MBA program requires a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Applicants also must show evidence of career interest in management. Relevant employment experience may be considered in the admissions decision but is not a prerequisite. GMAT or GRE scores are required. Candidates who have already completed a post-baccalaureate degree or who have seven years or more of appropriate full-time post-baccalaureate work experience may request a GMAT/GRE waiver. Strong quantitative and verbal skills are required. Students are encouraged to provide evidence of those skills, especially if they are not evident in other application materials. Students whose native language is not English are required to complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Following an initial review of completed application materials, qualified applicants are asked to arrange campus interviews. When campus interviews are not feasible, video interviews may be substituted. Admission recommendations are made by a faculty admissions committee after reviewing a candidate's application materials and are based on an assessment of the candidate's suitability for the Manderson MBA program; the Graduate School makes the final determination on each applicant's recommendation by the faculty admissions committee. A strong academic record is a necessary but not a sufficient criterion for admission. Applications should be submitted by April 15 prior to the fall of the year of intended enrollment. Applications received prior to February 15 will receive priority for financial assistance. Students must begin the program in the fall semester and must be enrolled for four consecutive semesters plus the summer of the intervening year. During the summer, students are expected to be involved in meaningful internships to further enhance their professional experiences.

A student entering the MBA program is expected to have a good working knowledge of word-processing and spreadsheet software.

See specific Traditional MBA Admissions Requirements.

See our STEM Path to the MBA Program website.

See our EMBA Program website.

Degree Requirements

The MBA program has 36 hours of Core Requirements and seven Focus Areas of Study: Business Analytics, Real Estate, Finance, Management Information Systems, Finance-Risk, Supply Chain & Operations Management, and Strategic Management & Marketing.

The Core Courses are listed first followed by the seven Focus Areas of Study. Each program has a total of 57 hours.

MBA Core Requirements		Hours
AC 506	Concepts Financial Managrl Acc	3
EC 500	Managerial Economics	3
GBA 525	Business Policy	3
IBA 550	Global Business	3
FI 504	Financial Management	3
MGT 517	Leadership & Ethics	3
MGT 542	Management Communication	3
MIS 511	Management Information Systems	3
MKT 518	Mkting Mgmt & Decision Making	3

OM 506	Business Spreadsheet Analytics	3
OM 516	Operations Management	3
ST 509	Stat For Business Appl	3

Total Hours 36

Business Analytics		Hours
ST 521	Statistical Data Management	3
ST 522	Adv Statistical Data Mgt	3
ST 531	Data Mining I	3
ST 532	Advanced Data Mining	3

Students completing ST 521, ST 522, ST 531, and ST 532 will receive the UA SAS Data Mining CertificateCourses

Business Analytics Electives 6

Approved electives for the Business Analytics focused area of study include any graduate-level course with an analytics component approved by the Director of MBA Student Services and by the BA advisor. Suggested courses include those in Economics, Finance, and Operations Management.

MBA Elective 3

Total Hours 21

Real Estate		Hours
FI 534	Seminar In Real Estate	3
FI 535	Real Estate Invest & Developmnt	3
Select 3 Real Estate Electives		9

FI 522	Bank Administration
FI 531	International Finance
FI 597	Special Topics: Finance (RE Financing, RE Appraisal, or RE Property Management)
LGS 407	Real & Personal Property
LAW 694	Land Use Planning

MBA Electives 6

Total Hours 21

Finance		Hours
Finance Course Options		15

FI 505	Corporate Valuation
FI 506	Mergers & Acquisitions
FI 510	Financial Management
FI 512	Money And Capital Mkts
FI 514	Investments
FI 515	Quantitative Investment Analys
FI 522	Bank Administration
FI 534	Seminar In Real Estate
FI 535	Real Estate Invest & Developmnt
FI 597	Special Topics: Finance

MBA Electives 6

Total Hours 21

Management Information Systems		Hours
MIS 563	Behavioral Cyber Security	3
MIS 540	Dbase Design/Construction/Oper	3
MIS 561	Applied Cyber Security	3
MIS 564	Org. Security Management	3
MIS 520	Systems Analysis And Design	3

MIS 541	Business Analytic Support Sys	3
MIS 525	Informatn Systems Project Mgt	3
Total Hours		21
Finance-Risk		Hours
FI 419	Financial Derivatives	3
FI 515	Quantitative Investment Analys	3
FI 519	Financial Engineering	3
FI 520	Financial Risk Management	3
Finance-Risk Electives		3
FI 505	Corporate Valuation	
FI 506	Mergers & Acquisitions	
FI 512	Money And Capital Mkts	
FI 522	Bank Administration	
FI 531	International Finance	
FI 534	Seminar In Real Estate	
MBA Electives		6
Total Hours		21
Supply Chain & Operations Management		Hours
OM 517	Supply Chain Modeling & Analys	3
OM 523	Inventory Management	3
OM 527	Purchasing and Sourcing	3
MKT 530	Advanced Marketing Analysis	3
Supply Chain & Operations Management Electives		9
MKT 510	Prod Design Marketing Strategy	
OM 522	Production Scheduling Problems	
OM 525	Effective Quality Management	
OM 540	Systems Simulation	
ST 532	Advanced Data Mining	
ST 561	Applied Design Expermnts	
Total Hours		21
Strategic Management & Marketing		Hours
Strategic Management & Marketing Electives		15
MGT 520	Change Management	
MGT 531	Employee Recruitment, Selection, and Placement	
MGT 537	Strategic Human Resources Management	
MGT 552	Project Mgmt Communication	
MGT 582	New Venture Development	
MKT 510	Prod Design Marketing Strategy	
MKT 511	Supply Chain Management	
MKT 522	Advanced Supply Chain Strategy	
MKT 530	Advanced Marketing Analysis	
MKT 531	Services Marketing	
MKT 537	Personal Selling	
MKT 540	Intro to Digital/Social Media	
MKT 542	Digital/Social Media Analytics	
MKT 543	Adv Digital and Social Media	
IBA 560	Adv. Import/Export Strategy	
MBA Electives		6
Total Hours		21