

# Master of Business Administration (MBA)

**Director of Business Graduate Programs:** Mary Jo Blahna

**Location:** Business 302B

**Phone:** (435) 797-2274

**FAX:** (435) 797-2399

**E-mail:** maryjo.blahna@usu.edu

**WWW:** <http://www.usu.edu/cob/>

**Degree Offered:** Master of Business Administration (MBA)

**Graduate Specializations:** Accounting, Agribusiness Management, Business Information Systems, Entrepreneurship, Human Resource Management, Manufacturing Management, Personal Financial Planning

## Graduate Program

### Objectives

The MBA program is an interdepartmental program administered by the College of Business. The MBA program is designed to provide students with an understanding and analytical tools necessary for effective and efficient management in today's complex business world. The curriculum prepares students with a working knowledge of the fundamental business functions and a sensitivity to the legal, ethical, social, technological, and international forces in the business environment. The MBA program's focus is the development of the analytical, communication, interpersonal, and leadership skills needed for a successful career in a variety of organizations. The MBA program is accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

### Admission Requirements

For consideration for admission to the MBA program, applicants must submit an application form and fee, all undergraduate transcripts, Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) scores (the GRE is also accepted), and three letters of recommendation from qualified professionals, at least two of whom must be academics. TOEFL scores are required for candidates from abroad, with a minimum of 550 deemed acceptable. International students with a prior degree from an English-speaking university are exempted from the TOEFL exam.

**Application Deadline for Fall Semester.** No applications will be considered until all required information arrives in the School of Graduate Studies at Utah State University. In addition, the student desiring to pursue the MBA degree must have been accepted as a matriculated student before he or she will be permitted to register for 6000-level courses that will be part of the student's advanced program. Full-time business experience is also preferred. Students who wish to be considered for financial aid must submit applications by **February 15** for the coming academic year.

Students with or without an undergraduate degree in business may enter the MBA program. However, before taking advanced core or elective courses, basic competencies in business that have

not been acquired through prior courses or experience must be developed by completing prerequisite courses as outlined in the business core described below under *Degree Requirements*. Applicants not meeting minimum requirements may be allowed to correct deficiencies concurrently with graduate coursework. Before entering the program, each student must meet with an advisor to plan his or her course of study.

### Degree Requirements

**Business Core.** The MBA Business Core curriculum provides skills and knowledge in statistics, written communication, computer literacy, mathematics, information systems, economics, accounting, finance, marketing, management, and organizational behavior. Students who have completed a bachelor's degree must have coursework equivalent to the core subject matter areas of the AACSB for direct entry into the advanced program.

**Accelerated Business Core.** Students who have not completed a bachelor's degree accredited by the AACSB may choose to gain the necessary basic business competencies by attending the 18-credit Accelerated Business Core (ABC), which is offered during the summer semester only. The ABC is a uniquely efficient and effective way of delivering the basic program curriculum. It is a single, team-taught course covering the topics and functions, which form the context and offer perspectives in business. The ABC enables students from nonbusiness backgrounds to prepare quickly and similarly for the Advanced Program Courses.

Alternatively, students may acquire the necessary basic competencies by completing courses satisfying the common body of knowledge requirement: ACCT 2010, 2020; BA 3400, 3500, 3700; BIS 2450; ECON 1500, 2010; MHR 2990, 3110; MATH 1100; and STAT 2300. Students may not be required to take courses which duplicate prior academic or industrial training and are required to meet with the director of the MBA program to plan their course of study.

The advanced required courses, along with electives, consist of 30 credits. Students must complete the advanced course requirements listed below. In addition, students may choose to complete the course of study for an MBA or select among several specializations, which are also described below.

**Advanced Required Courses (21 credits).** Students must complete MHR 6890 to fulfill the integrative component of the MBA. Students must also successfully complete the following courses to fulfill advanced course requirements: ACCT 6350; BA 6420, 6520, 6720; ACCT 6500 or BIS 6700; MHR 6500.

**Course of Study for MBA (9 credits).** Working with the MBA director, students select a minimum of three electives (9 credits). One approved 5000-level course may be used. In addition, students must complete an approved College of Business graduate course (3 credits) which meets the Graduate School's research requirement. Electives taken outside of the College of Business may require the completion of prerequisite courses.

### ***Specializations (12 credits)***

Students may select a specialization in one of several areas listed below. Classes taken as part of the MBA advanced required courses cannot be used as part of a specialization. One course in each specialization will be designated as research intensive to meet the University's research requirement.

**Accounting.** Students admitted to the USU MBA Program may earn an Accounting Specialization by completing the MBA curriculum, 21 credits, and at least 12 approved credits in accounting. To qualify for this specialization, students must complete, or have previously completed, the equivalent of ACCT 3110, 3120, 3310, 3410, 5210 (or 6210), 5220 (or 6220), 5400 (or 6400), and 6510. At least 9 credits must be taken in accounting courses numbered above 6010. The USU Graduate School research requirement may be satisfied by completing ACCT 6410 or 6610.

**Agribusiness Management.** This specialization consists of ECON 6030, 6040, 6300; and either ECON 6500 or 6700. ECON 6330 should be taken to satisfy the quantitative methods requirement.

**Business Information Systems.** This specialization requires students to complete BIS 6700 and three of the following courses: BIS 6200, 6330, 6410, 6500, and 6750.

**Entrepreneurship.** This specialization consists of MHR 6410, 6430, 6470, and an approved elective.

**Human Resource Management.** This specialization requires students to complete MHR 6690 and to select any three of the following courses: MHR 6510, 6550, 6630, 6670, and 6760.

**Manufacturing Management.** This specialization includes BA 5730, 6740; and MHR 6350, 6370.

**Personal Financial Planning.** This specialization consists of PFP 6060, 6070, 6080, and an approved elective. Students must have completed (or complete as part of their graduate work): BA 3460 or 4460, and ACCT 3410. This specialization satisfies requirements to sit for the national Certified Financial Planner (CFP) examination.

### ***Financial Assistance***

Graduate assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships are available to outstanding on-campus students. Graduate assistantships and scholarships generally range between \$1,000 and \$3,000 for nine months. Application for assistantships must be made by **February 15**. A recipient of a graduate appointment is usually eligible for a waiver of the out-of-state portion of his or her tuition.

## ***Master of Business Administration Faculty***

### **Professors**

*Kenneth R. Bartkus*, promotion management

*Caryn L. Beck-Dudley*, business law and social responsibility

*Basudeb Biswas*, international trade and economic development

*Gaylen N. Chandler*, human resources, management, and entrepreneurship

*Drew Dahl*, financial institutions

*Peter M. Ellis*, production and operations research

*Christopher Fawson*, public finance and econometrics

*L. Dwight Israelsen*, comparative systems and economic history

*Paul M. Jakus*, economics

*Richard L. Jensen*, information systems and managerial accounting

*I. Richard Johnson*, financial, managerial, advanced, and agency accounting

*J. Robert Malko*, corporate and energy utility finance

*Glenn M. McEvoy*, organizational behavior, human resources, and management

*C. R. Michael Parent*, marketing research and strategy

*Richard L. Ratliff*, auditing, financial, internal audit, and principles

*Clifford R. Skousen*, international and managerial accounting

*David B. Stephens*, business strategy and labor relations

*Philip R. Swensen*, finance

### **Associate Professors**

*J. Brian Atwater*, "theory of constraints," quality manufacturing, lean manufacturing

*Ronda R. Callister*, organization behavior, management

*Steven H. Hanks*, business strategy, management, and entrepreneurship

*Cathy L. Hartman*, consumer behavior and environmental sustainability

*Jeffrey J. Johnson*, information systems

*Vijay R. Kannan*, supply chain and quality management, cellular manufacturing

*Irvin T. Nelson*, accounting

*David H. Olsen*, database manager

*David J. Paper*, web development

*Edwin R. Stafford*, marketing

*Alan A. Stephens*, corporate finance and investments

### **Assistant Professors**

*Dawn DeTienne*, entrepreneurship

*David L. Dickinson*, labor and employee relations, labor economics

*E. Vance Grange*, accounting

*James Hayton*, human resources

*Haiyan Hu*, retailing and consumer behavior, international retailing, visual merchandising and promotion

*Yong Seog Kim*, e-commerce, information systems strategies

*Seung-Woog Kwag*, finance

*Robert J. Mills*, visual basic

*Troy V. Mumford*, organizational behavior, human resource management, compensation

*Jean A. Pratt*, e-commerce/web design

### **Instructor**

*Stacy B. Hills*, marketing research, strategy, and product management

### **Senior Lecturer**

*Alan P. Warnick*, human resources

## ***MBA Courses***

Descriptions of MBA courses can be found listed alphabetically by prefix in the *Course Descriptions* section of this catalog.