

College of Business

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MISSION STATEMENT

The vision of the College of Business (COB) is to be a premier business institution that empowers students to realize their dreams through an excellent education. The mission of the COB is to provide a diverse student body with a business education that produces readily employable professionals who are productive, ethical, entrepreneurial, and prepared to succeed in a global economy.

The College is committed to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research and service. We will achieve these through an outstanding faculty and alliances with stakeholders. While undergraduate education remains our primary focus, the COB aspires to expand its graduate programs. The student experience will be distinguished by personal attention, teamwork, leadership training, and an understanding of the link between business and society.

INSTRUCTIONAL ORGANIZATION

The College of Business offers a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree and a Master of Science in Accounting (MSA). The MBA degree requires the successful completion of a minimum of 36 semester credit hours and the MSA degree requires the successful completion of a minimum of 30 semester credit hours. There is no thesis option in either program. An online MBA option is available. All programs are fully accredited by AACSB International.

ONLINE MBA

The MBA degree program is available on line. The curriculum and program learning goals are identical to those of the courses delivered in the classroom. Some scheduling adjustments have been made to accommodate the online environment. Contact the Director of the Graduate Programs in Business if you are interested.

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ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A student desiring admission to the MBA or MSA degree program must meet the general admission requirements outlined in the Graduate School section of this catalog. Admission to the graduate school does not constitute admission to the MBA or MSA degree program in the College of Business. The admission decision is based on a combination of factors including, but not limited to, GMAT scores, undergraduate cumulative GPA, grades in previous graduate courses in business, an essay, an interview and professional work experience.

Mathematics and Computer Proficiency Requirements

Normally, prior to enrolling in the MBA or MSA degree program, the student must have successfully accomplished at least six hours of college-level mathematics. In addition, the new graduate student must have successfully completed MISY 1013 or the equivalent course in computer literacy with a grade of “C” or better.

Degree-status Admission

An applicant may be admitted to the MBA or MSA degree program as a degree-status graduate student if he or she:

1. Has an undergraduate degree in business from an accredited university.
2. Has a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 or better on a 4.0 scale or has a GPA of 2.75 or better for the last 60 earned hours of undergraduate credit.
3. Takes the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) prior to enrollment.
4. Submits an essay describing why he or she wants a graduate degree in business. The essay will not exceed 1,000 words.

Provisional Admission

Provisional admission to the MBA or MSA degree program may be granted to applicants who do not satisfy the above admission requirements. A student with provisional status may be required to complete additional coursework, retake the GMAT, and/or maintain a specific grade point average. General restrictions on the provisional status student are:

1. The student must enroll in courses recommended by the Director.
2. If the student’s GPA is below 2.45 on a 4.0 scale, he or she may be asked to supply additional information to support his or her application.
3. The student may enroll for a maximum of 12 semester credit hours of graduate courses. In order to continue in the program, the student must be admitted to degree status.
4. For the provisional student in the MBA degree program that does not have an undergraduate degree in business the first 12 semester credit hours must include at least two of the following courses: MGMT 5113, ACCT 5003, or FINA 5003. For a provisional student who has an undergraduate degree in business, the first 12 semester credit hours must include ACCT 5103 and FINA 5103.
5. For the provisional student in the MSA degree program the first 12 semester credit hours must include at least two of the core courses if the student has an undergraduate major in accounting. For a provisional student who does not hold an undergraduate degree with a major in accounting, all of the first 12 semester credit hours must include prerequisite courses. The student may be exempted from selected courses if their undergraduate program contained subject matter equivalent to that required by the prerequisite courses.

6. Submission of an essay describing why the student wants a graduate degree in business. The essay will not exceed 1,000 words.
7. The maximum length of a provisional period is four academic semesters, counted from the time of the first enrollment.

A student with conditional admission may attain degree status if he or she:

1. Maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater during the first 12 semester credit hours.
2. Has no more than one grade of "C."
3. Has no grade lower than "C."
4. Takes the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) prior to completing 12 semester credit hours.
5. Is recommended for degree status by the Director and the Dean of the College of Business.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

In order to show academic progress, a graduate business student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. A student with a cumulative GPA below 3.0 will be placed on probationary status, academic suspension or academic dismissal. A graduate business student is considered to be in good standing if he or she has:

1. Graduate degree status.
2. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. No more than two grades of "C" in core courses.
4. No grade lower than "C" in core courses counted toward their graduate business degree.
5. An approved degree plan.

Probationary Status

A student is placed on probation when his or her cumulative GPA falls below 3.0. A student can stay in the probationary status for a maximum of 12 semester credit hours or two consecutive semesters.

Academic Suspension

A student who is on academic probation for more than two consecutive semesters, will be suspended from the program. A student under suspension cannot enroll in any course for one semester. A suspended student may request to return to the program by submitting a written petition to the Director of Graduate Programs in Business. In the petition the student must identify the problem(s) with their academic performance and steps intended to improve their academic performance. If the petition is approved, the student may return to the program in a probationary status.

Academic Dismissal

After the second academic suspension, a student will be dismissed from the graduate business program. A dismissed student may request readmission to the program by submitting a written petition to the Director. The petition must identify the problem(s) with the student's past academic performance and steps planned to improve future academic performance. Readmission to the program may be possible, but no specific time for a decision is established.

The Two-C Rule

A maximum of two "C" grades in core courses (or six SCH) will be accepted toward the graduate degree.

Repeating a Course ("C" or lower grade)

A student may petition to retake a course to improve a grade. Courses with a grade of "C" or lower may be repeated only once. The most recent grade is used in calculating the cumulative GPA.

TRANSFER CREDIT

A new student may transfer a maximum of two courses (6 SCH) from an accredited institution by:

1. Submitting an *Approval for Transfer of Credits* form to the Director during the first semester at PVAMU.
2. Submitting a (official catalog) description of the course to the Director.
3. Obtaining written approval for the courses from the Director who will include the transferred hours in the *Graduate Degree Plan*.

A current student in good academic standing may transfer a maximum of six graduate credit hours from an accredited institution by:

1. Attaining degree status and having a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
2. Submitting the official catalog description of the transfer courses to the Director at least four weeks prior to enrollment. A course syllabus may be required.
3. Submission of written approval for the course by the Director prior to enrollment.
4. Earning "B" or better in the course.

The student must request the university where the course was taken to send the official transcript (showing the final grade) to the Director.

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY AND DEGREE PLAN

Admission to the graduate business program does not constitute admission to candidacy. Admission to candidacy will be granted to a degree status student who has completed at least 12 semester hours of graduate credit with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or more. The student must submit an *Application for Admission to Candidacy* form and a *Graduate Degree Plan* to the Director of Graduate Programs in Business.

The *Application for Admission to Candidacy* and the *Graduate Degree Plan* must be approved by the Director and the Dean. The approval of the *Graduate Degree Plan* and the *Application for Admission to Candidacy* is granted by the Dean upon approval from the Office of Graduate Programs. Failure to fulfill this requirement may prevent the student from enrolling in the next semester.

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

The student should inform the Director of their intention to graduate within two semesters of completing their degree. The Director will review the academic record and provide advice regarding graduation procedures. After receiving the approval of the Director, the graduating student must submit the *Application for Graduation* to the Registrar's office.

The *Application for Graduation* cannot be filed unless the applicant has:

1. Been admitted to graduate degree candidacy at least one semester prior to applying for graduation.
2. Earned a 3.0 or greater cumulative GPA.
3. Earned no more than two grades of "C" in graduate courses.
4. Completed or is in the process of completing all the course requirements.

SIX-YEAR TIME LIMIT

The student must complete all program requirements within six consecutive years of starting the program or lose credit for work completed prior to the most recent six years. Graduate credit earned expires at the end of six years from completion. Expired credit cannot be used to fulfill the MBA requirement. The student may submit a petition to the Director to revalidate the expired credits.

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

DEGREE PROGRAM

The MBA program provides students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed as managers, entrepreneurs, and business leaders. The program integrates various business disciplines to provide the high-quality educational experience needed for managing a business. In addition to emphasizing tools and techniques, the program strives to impart educational qualities that are conducive to a professional life of learning, growth, and ethical conduct. The goal of the program is to produce graduates who are capable of solving managerial problems in a dynamic national and global environment.

PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS

Mastery of Content: Graduates will demonstrate an ability to think critically and to solve business problems.

Teamwork: Graduates will demonstrate an ability to work well in a team environment.

Ethics: Graduates will have an ethical perspective.

Global Perspective: Graduates will be knowledgeable in global business issues.

Communications: Graduates will be effective communicators.

MBA DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The MBA degree program requires a total of 36 semester credit hours including 30 SCH of core courses and 6 SCH of electives assuming all prerequisites for the core courses have been satisfied. A student whose undergraduate program includes some subject content equivalent to the prerequisite courses may be exempted from selected courses. A student may also receive an exemption from specific prerequisite courses through examination or transfer. Specific course requirements will be determined during the admission process which includes a complete review of undergraduate transcripts and work experience.

Core Courses	30 SCH
ACCT 5103	Managerial Accounting
BCOM 5203	Managerial Communications
MISY 5103	Management Information Systems
ECON 5103	Managerial Economics
FINA 5103	Theory of Financial Management
MGMT 5103	Organizational Behavior
MGMT 5123	Quantitative Analysis
MGMT 5323	Strategy and Policy
MGMT 5433	Production and Operations Management
MRKT 5303	Marketing Management

Elective Courses (select two)	6 SCH
ECON 5313	International Trade and Business
FINA 5313	Investment Analysis and Management
FINA 5333	International Finance
FINA 5383	Financial Markets & Institutions
MGMT 5343	Human Resource Management
MGMT 5353	Entrepreneurship and Innovation
MGMT 5613	Special Topics
MISY 5323	Data Communication and Networking
MISY 5413	Applied Database Management
MISY 5423	Information System Analysis & Design
MISY 5533	Special Topics in MIS
MRKT 5313	International Marketing

Total Degree Requirements: **36 SCH**

MBA TRACKS (MINORS)

MIS Track (minor)

The *MIS* track requires a total of 15 SCH of courses of which 3 SCH is required as part of the MBA program. MBA students who want to pursue this track need 12 SCH of additional courses. The required courses for the *MIS* track are:

1. MISY 5103 Management Information Systems
2. MISY 5413 Applied Database Management
3. MISY 5423 Information System Analysis & Design
4. MISY 5323 Data Communication and Networking
5. MISY 5533 Special Topics in MIS

For students who want the *MIS* track in the MBA program, a minimum of 42 SCH of courses would be required when 6 SCH of elective courses, which are required in the MBA program, are selected from the above list except MISY 5103 which is a required course in the MBA program as well as in the *MIS* track.

Finance Track (minor)

The *Finance* track requires a total of 12 SCH of courses of which 3 SCH is required as part of the MBA program. MBA students who want to pursue this track need 9 SCH of additional courses. The required courses for the *Finance* track are:

1. FINA 5103 Financial Management
2. FINA 5313 Investment Analysis & Management
3. FINA 5383 Financial Markets & Institutions
4. FINA Elective or FINA 5513 International Finance

For students who want the *Finance* track in the MBA program, a minimum of 39 SCH of courses would be required when 6 SCH of elective courses, which are required in the MBA program, are selected from the above list except FINA 5103 which is a required course in the MBA program as well as in the *Finance* track.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING (MSA)

DEGREE PROGRAM

The Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) degree is designed to provide advanced accounting preparation for careers in public, private and governmental accounting. The MSA will also prepare students to meet the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy prerequisites to the Uniform CPA Examination.

PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS

Mastery of Content: Graduates will demonstrate an ability to solve problems in taxation, auditing, accounting information systems, and general accounting.

Teamwork: Graduates will demonstrate an ability to work well in a team environment.

Ethics: Graduates will have an understanding of ethical issues in accounting.

Communications: Graduates will be effective communicators.

MSA DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The MSA degree program requires a total of 30 semester credit hours (SCH) including 21 SCH of core courses and 9 SCH of electives. A student with a non-accounting undergraduate degree must complete the prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or greater before he or she can be formally admitted to the MSA degree program. These courses cannot be used to fulfill the requirements of the MSA degree program. A student whose non-accounting undergraduate program contained subject matter equivalent to that required by the prerequisite courses may be exempted from selected courses. A student may also be exempted through examination or transfer. Specific program requirements will be determined during the admission process which includes a complete review of undergraduate transcripts and work experience.

Core Courses	21 SCH
ACCT 5113	Advanced Auditing
ACCT 5123	Accounting Information Systems & Controls
ACCT 5133	Accounting for Managerial Decision-Making
ACCT 5143	Accounting Theory
ACCT 5153	Seminar on Tax Consulting, Planning & Research
ACCT 5163	Law & Ethics for Accountants
BCOM 5203	Managerial Communications

Elective Courses 9 SCH

Select three from:

- ACCT 5243 International Accounting
- MISY 5103 Management Information Systems
- ECON 5103 Managerial Economics
- ECON 5313 International Trade and Business
- FINA 5103 Theory of Financial Management
- FINA 5313 Investment analysis and Management
- FINA 5333 International Finance
- FINA 5383 Financial Markets and Institutions
- MGMT 5103 Organizational Behavior
- MGMT 5123 Quantitative Analysis
- MGMT 5343 Human Resource Management
- MGMT 5353 Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- MGMT 5433 Production and Operations Management
- MGMT 5613 Special Topics
- MISY 5323 Data Communication and Networking
- MISY 5413 Applied Database Management
- MISY 5423 Information System Analysis & Design
- MISY 5533 Special Topics in MIS
- MRKT 5303 Marketing Management
- MRKT 5313 International Marketing

Total Degree Requirements 30 SCH