

Business Administration, PhD

Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy program in business administration requires a minimum of 72 s.h., including approved transfer credit. The program is flexible, permitting students to choose a specialization area according to their interests. Coursework and related experience enable students to achieve competence in economic theory, statistical methods, and behavioral science as well as expertise in a major and minor study area. Students also have opportunities to develop research and teaching skills.

PhD coursework consists of prerequisites (as necessary), the PhD core, major and minor study areas, and dissertation research, described in brief below. For more detailed information about PhD requirements, contact the individual Tippie College of Business departments or visit their websites.

Core Courses

Core courses develop research competence and provide background for specialized study. Doctoral students consult with their advisors to develop a study plan that reflects the individual student's background and interests and satisfies core requirements.

Major Study Area

At least 12 s.h. of approved doctoral-level courses must be completed in one of the following areas: accounting, finance, human resource management, management information systems, marketing, operations management, organizational behavior, or quantitative methods.

Minor Study Area

Students must complete a minimum of 9 s.h. of doctoral-level courses beyond the PhD core course requirements in one of the major study areas listed above or in a concentration outside the Tippie College of Business.

Comprehensive Examinations

Students must satisfactorily complete a comprehensive examination, consisting of written or oral parts or both, at the discretion of their major department.

Dissertation

Students must present a dissertation proposal at a forum attended by dissertation committee members and open to interested faculty members and graduate students, as established by the student's major department. Researching and writing the dissertation typically require two years of full-time effort.

Final Examination

PhD candidates defend the dissertation in an oral examination attended by dissertation committee members and open to interested faculty members and graduate students.