

Business Administration, PhD

Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes for PhD in business administration subprograms are included in each department's Doctor of Philosophy section of the catalog.

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 the following sections. 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 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 requires 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.

Graduate Education

Graduate education prepares students with advanced knowledge and skills in specialized fields. At the University of Iowa, the Graduate College advocates for student-centered graduate education and supports equitable application of rules and policies across graduate programs.

Academics

University of Iowa graduate credentials are regulated by policies and requirements found in the Graduate College Manual of Rules and Regulations. This includes minimum grade-point average (GPA) requirements for academic standing and degree conferral. The Graduate College sets the minimum requirement. Individual graduate programs may establish higher GPA requirements.

Admissions

Graduate student applicants must meet admission requirements for both the Graduate College and the program to which they have applied. University of Iowa graduate admission requirements are published by the Graduate College and on the Graduate Admissions website.

Financial Support

Graduate students might be eligible for financial support. Several contingencies apply, including degree program and award type, satisfactory progress toward degree, satisfactory completion of all duties related to an appointment, and availability of funding. Graduate students should inquire directly with their program for more information about funding availability. The Graduate Student Employment Standards govern the employment relationship between the University of Iowa and all graduate teaching and research assistants in all matters except wages, which are covered by an existing collective bargaining agreement or the conditions of an applicable federal grant.

Admission

Applicants to the PhD program in business administration must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Applicants must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) and have their scores sent to the university in order to be considered for admission. The departments of Business Analytics, Finance, Management and Entrepreneurship, and Marketing accept test scores for either the GRE or GMAT. The Department of Accounting only accepts GMAT scores. Required scores on these tests and their weight in admission decisions vary by department.

Admission is for fall entry. Completed applications should be submitted as early as possible and no later than the following deadlines.

- Accounting: Dec. 15
- Business Analytics: Jan. 15

- Finance: Jan. 15
- Management and Entrepreneurship: Dec. 15
- Marketing: Jan. 1

Visit PhD Programs on the Tippie College of Business website to learn more.

Career Advancement

The Doctor of Philosophy program prepares students for research positions in business and government or for research and teaching positions at academic institutions.

Academic Plans

Sample Plans of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Business Administration, PhD

- Accounting Subprogram
- Business Analytics Subprogram
- Finance Subprogram
- Management Subprogram
- Marketing Subprogram

Accounting Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Any Semester		
Teaching Orientation		
Serve as Faculty Teaching Assistant		
Hours		0
Fall		
ACCT:7850	Seminar in Accounting Research	1
ACCT:7900	Seminar in Selected Accounting Topics	3
ECON:5115	Fundamentals of Microeconomics	3
ECON:5805	Statistics for Economics	3
Hours		10
Spring		
ACCT:7850	Seminar in Accounting Research	1
ACCT:7900	Seminar in Selected Accounting Topics	3
ECON:5800	Econometrics	3
FIN:7110	Finance Theory I	3
Research Design Fundamentals (Experimental Specialization) course ^b		3
Hours		13

Second Year

Any Semester

Serve as Faculty Teaching Assistant

Hours 0

Fall

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 1

ACCT:7900 Seminar in Selected Accounting Topics 3

ECON:5810 Applied Econometrics 3

FIN:7120 Seminar in Corporate Finance 3

Hours 10

Spring

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 3

ACCT:7900 Seminar in Selected Accounting Topics 3

Research Design Fundamentals (Archival Specialization) course ^c 3

Hours 9

Summer

Second Year Research Paper Manuscript and Presentation to Faculty ^d

Hours 0

Third Year

Any Semester

Teach Standalone Course ^e

Hours 0

Fall

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 3

ACCT:7975 Thesis: Accounting 6

Hours 9

Spring

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 3

ACCT:7975 Thesis: Accounting 6

Hours 9

Winter

Comprehensive Exam ^f

Hours 0

Fourth Year

Fall

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 1

ACCT:7975 Thesis: Accounting 3

Hours 4

Spring

Dissertation Proposal

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 1

ACCT:7975 Thesis: Accounting 3

Hours 4

Fifth Year

Fall

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 1

ACCT:7975 Thesis: Accounting 1

Hours 2

Spring

ACCT:7850 Seminar in Accounting Research 1

ACCT:7975 Thesis: Accounting 1

Final Exam ^g	
Hours	2
Total Hours	72

- a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- b Choose from BIOS:5730, STAT:5201, STAT:6513, STAT:6514, STAT:6516, or work with faculty advisor to select an appropriate course.
- c Choose from BIOS:5730, FIN:7140, STAT:5201, STAT:6513, STAT:6514, STAT:6516, or work with faculty advisor to select an appropriate course.
- d May also complete during third year fall semester.
- e May also complete during fourth or fifth year.
- f May also complete during third year summer session.
- g Dissertation defense.

Business Analytics Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0

First Year

Fall

STAT:4100	Statistical Inference I	3 - 4
or STAT:3100	or Introduction to Mathematical Statistics I	
Departmental core course ^b		3
Major area course ^c		3
Hours		9-10

Spring

Major area course ^c		3
Major area course ^c		3
Research methodology course ^d		3
Hours		9

Second Year

Fall

Qualifying Exam		
Departmental core course ^b		3
Major area course ^c		3
Research methodology course ^e		3
Hours		9

Spring

Minor area course ^f		3
Minor area course ^f		3
Minor area course ^f		3
Hours		9

Summer

Comprehensive Exam ^g		
Hours		0

Third Year

Fall

BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
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BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
Interdepartmental core course ^h		3
Hours		9

Spring

BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
Hours		9

Fourth Year

Fall

Dissertation Proposal		
BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	6
Hours		6

Spring

BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	6
Hours		6

Fifth Year

Fall

BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
Hours		3

Spring

BAIS:7975	Thesis in Business Analytics ^e	3
Final Exam ⁱ		
Hours		3
Total Hours		72-73

- a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- b Choose an Information Systems course (BAIS:6480 or CS:4440) or an Operations Systems Management/Quantitative Methods course (BAIS:6600 or BAIS:7900); other specialization area courses may be substituted with departmental approval.
- c May not include a course taken as part of the departmental core or research methodology requirements; work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework in one of the three tracks (Information Systems, Operations Management, Quantitative Methods). Other courses may be added or substituted with departmental approval.
- d Work with faculty advisor to select a course from approved list of research methodology courses.
- e Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework and sequence.
- f Courses outside of the department or the Tippie College of Business are often acceptable; work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework and sequence.
- g Comprehensive Exam requires current session enrollment.
- h Choose from ECON:5115, ECON:5800, FIN:7120, or MKTG:7850; other courses in these areas may be substituted with departmental approval.
- i Dissertation defense.

Finance Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Any Semester		
First Year Paper ^b		
Minor Qualifying Exams ^b		
Hours		0
Fall		
ECON:5115	Fundamentals of Microeconomics	3
ECON:5805	Statistics for Economics	3
FIN:7850	Seminar in Finance	1
STAT:4100	Statistical Inference I	3
Hours		10
Spring		
ECON:5800	Econometrics	3
FIN:7110	Finance Theory I	3
FIN:7850	Seminar in Finance	1
STAT:4101	Statistical Inference II	3
Hours		10
Summer		
Writing Workshop		
Hours		0
Second Year		
Any Semester		
Second Year Paper ^c		
Hours		0
Fall		
ECON:5810	Applied Econometrics	3
FIN:7120	Seminar in Corporate Finance	3
FIN:7130	Finance Theory II	3
FIN:7850	Seminar in Finance	1
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		13
Spring		
FIN:7140	Advanced Empirical Finance	3
FIN:7850	Seminar in Finance	1
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		10
Summer		
Comprehensive Exam ^e		
Writing Workshop		
Hours		0
Third Year		
Any Semester		
Third Year Research Paper ^f		
Hours		0
Fall		
FIN:7120	Seminar in Corporate Finance ^g	3

FIN:7130	Finance Theory II ^g	3
FIN:7975	Thesis in Finance	1
Elective course		3
Hours		10
Spring		
FIN:7140	Advanced Empirical Finance ^g	3
FIN:7975	Thesis in Finance	3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		9
Summer		
Writing Workshop		
Hours		0
Fourth Year		
Fall		
FIN:7975	Thesis in Finance	6
Hours		6
Spring		
Dissertation Proposal ^h		
FIN:7975	Thesis in Finance	2
Hours		2
Summer		
Writing Workshop		
Hours		0
Fifth Year		
Fall		
FIN:7975	Thesis in Finance	1
Hours		1
Spring		
FIN:7975	Thesis in Finance	1
Final Exam ⁱ		1
Hours		1
Total Hours		72

a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.

b Completion required by end of first year.

c Completion required by end of second year.

d Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate elective coursework and sequence.

e Comprehensive Exam requires current session enrollment.

f Completion required by end of third year.

g Students are encouraged to retake or sit in on FIN:7120 Seminar in Corporate Finance, FIN:7130 Finance Theory II, and FIN:7140 Advanced Empirical Finance, as the content of these three courses is refreshed each year.

h May also complete during fifth year fall semester.

i Dissertation defense.

Management Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0

First Year**Any Semester**

Mentored Research Presentation to Faculty

Hours **0****Fall**MGMT:7350 Foundations of Organizational Behavior^b 3or
MGMT:7360 or Motivation and Attitudes (PhD)

MGMT:7700 Mentored Research 3

MGMT:7900 Contemporary Topics in Management & Entrepreneurship 3

Statistics or elective course^c 3**Hours** **12****Spring**MGMT:7160 Advanced Regression Methods^d 3or
MGMT:7140 or Meta-AnalysisMGMT:7800 Foundations of Human Resource Management^d 3or
MGMT:7340 or Group Processes (PhD)

MGMT:7700 Mentored Research 3

Statistics or elective course^c 3**Hours** **12****Second Year****Any Semester**

Second Year Qualifying Paper

Hours **0****Fall**MGMT:7350 Foundations of Organizational Behavior^b 3or
MGMT:7360 or Motivation and Attitudes (PhD)

MGMT:7700 Mentored Research 2

Statistics or elective course^c 3**Hours** **8****Spring**MGMT:7160 Advanced Regression Methods^d 3or
MGMT:7140 or Meta-AnalysisMGMT:7800 Foundations of Human Resource Management^d 3or
MGMT:7340 or Group Processes (PhD)

MGMT:7700 Mentored Research 1

Statistics or elective course^c 3**Hours** **10****Summer**Exam: Doctoral Comprehensive Exam^e**Hours** **0****Third Year****Fall**

MGMT:7975 Thesis in Management 3

Statistics or elective course (if desired)^c 3Statistics or elective course (if desired)^c 3

Second Year Paper Presentation

Hours **9****Spring**

MGMT:7975 Thesis in Management 3

Statistics or elective course (if desired)^c 3Statistics or elective course (if desired)^c 3**Hours** **9****Fourth Year****Any Semester**Dissertation Proposal Defense^f**Hours** **0****Fall**

MGMT:7975 Thesis in Management 8

Hours **8****Spring**

MGMT:7975 Thesis in Management 2

Hours **2****Fifth Year****Fall**

MGMT:7975 Thesis in Management 1

Hours **1****Spring**

MGMT:7975 Thesis in Management 1

Exam: Doctoral Final Exam^g**Hours** **1****Total Hours** **72**

a Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.

b Courses are typically offered once every two years.

c Refer to department handbook for list of approved courses; work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework and sequence.

d Courses are typically offered on rotating basis.

e Comprehensive Exam requires current session enrollment.

f Complete in fall or spring of fourth year.

g Dissertation defense.

Marketing Subprogram

Course	Title	Hours
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Academic Career**Any Semester**

72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website.^{a, b}

Hours **0****First Year****Fall**

MKTG:7800 Seminar in Consumer Behavior - 3

or MKTG:7825 PhD^c
or Problems and Solutions in Behavioral Research

Academic track course 3

Academic track course 3

Hours **9****Spring**

MKTG:7850 Seminar in Marketing Models - PhD 3

Academic track course 3

Academic track course 3

Academic track course 3

Hours **12**

Summer

Qualifying Exam

Hours **0****Second Year****Fall**

Present First Year Paper

MKTG:7825	Problems and Solutions in Behavioral Research ^c or Seminar in Consumer Behavior - PhD	3
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Academic track course 3

Elective course^d 3Elective course^d 3**Hours** **12****Spring**

Present Second Year Paper

MKTG:7850 Seminar in Marketing Models - PhD 3

Elective course^d 3Elective course^d 3**Hours** **9****Summer**Comprehensive Exam^e**Hours** **0****Third Year****Fall**

MKTG:7975 Thesis in Marketing 3

Elective course^d 3**Hours** **6****Spring**

MKTG:7975 Thesis in Marketing 3

Elective course^d 3**Hours** **6****Fourth Year****Fall**

MKTG:7975 Thesis in Marketing 6

Hours **6****Spring**

Dissertation Proposal Defense

MKTG:7975 Thesis in Marketing 6

Hours **6****Summer**

Summer Fellowship

Hours **0****Fifth Year****Fall**

MKTG:7975 Thesis in Marketing 3

Hours **3****Spring**

MKTG:7975 Thesis in Marketing 3

Final Exam^f**Hours** **3****Total Hours** **72**

doctoral seminars and econometrics sequence. Beyond that, the program allows a fair amount of freedom based on research interests. Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate coursework and sequence.

b Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.

c MKTG:7800 is typically offered in fall semesters of odd years only; MKTG:7825 is typically offered in fall semesters of even years only.

d Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate elective coursework and sequence.

e Comprehensive Exam requires current session enrollment.

f Dissertation defense.

a Curriculum will vary based on which academic track students choose: Quantitative Modeling (QM), Consumer Behavior (CB), or Marketing Strategy (MS). All students must meet the 72 semester hour requirement and complete the