

MANAGEMENT

Graduate Programs

The Department of Management offers work leading to the Master of Business Administration and the Doctor of Philosophy in business administration degrees.

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree

(See "Business Administration (<http://catalog.okstate.edu/spears-business/business-administration/#graduateprogramstext>).")

Graduate Certificates

Certificate in Nonprofit Management

A growing number of executives in non-profits are recognizing the need to incorporate contemporary management skills into their organizations. This certificate is designed to highlight management practices used in traditional businesses that can also be applied in the nonprofit context and explore the important interface between for-profit businesses and nonprofit organizations.

This certificate is aimed at working professionals who typically join organizations at entry to mid-level management positions without prior business management education. The certificate offers a range of courses that will examine how to apply business practices in nonprofit organizations. Those seeking the graduate certificate will complete 6 hours of required coursework and select another 6 hours of coursework that best fits their situation.

Certificate in Sustainable Business

A sustainable enterprise is built around the triple bottom line imperative of protecting and enhancing the current and long-term future of the organization, the quality of life of the people impacted by the organization, and the health of the planet. A combination of factors has made a focus on sustainability no longer an option for organizations—whether public, private, or governmental. First, from a cost perspective, managers must recognize that their actions (whether proactive or inactive) that negatively impact people (e.g., its shareholders, employees, customers, communities) can lead to lawsuits. Similarly, by reducing the waste that harms the planet, organizations can minimize costs. Second, from a revenue perspective, the development of green products can provide a competitive advantage in the marketplace. Third, from an ethical perspective, it is simply the right thing to do to protect the planet as well as present and future generations of people from the negative externalities of an organization's actions. We are building these ideas into both our undergraduate and graduate management programs.

This certificate is aimed at working professionals and offers a range of courses that will examine how to apply business practices to sustainability practices in business. Those seeking the graduate certificate will complete 6 hours of required coursework and select another 6 hours of coursework that best fits their situation.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree

The PhD in business administration program administered through the Department of Management prepares students for a career in university research and teaching.

The program is flexible and individually structured to meet the needs and objectives of the candidate. Emphasis is placed on understanding the psychological, social and economic foundations of business administration and developing the analytical skills to publish research in the management specialties of organizational behavior, human resources and strategic management.

PhD students in management concentrate in either organizational behavior or strategic management and pursue two minors. At least one of the minor areas must be taken in the Spears School of Business. As support for the major and minor fields of study, each student is required to attain graduate-level competence in quantitative research methods.

As prerequisites to the program, all candidates must have completed appropriate basic courses in calculus and statistics. In addition, candidates are expected to have a basic competence in the major functional areas of business—accounting, finance, management, management information systems, management science and marketing. Competence in the functional areas is usually demonstrated through the completion of appropriate graduate courses in each area through a program accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International).

Competence in planning and executing research must be demonstrated in a dissertation. In addition, each candidate must pass a series of comprehensive qualifying examinations, both written and oral, and a separate, final oral examination of the dissertation itself. To enhance teaching skills, all PhD students in residence are required to teach on a quarter-time or half-time basis for at least one semester while earning the degree.

Outstanding students with master's degrees in any field of study are encouraged to apply. The application for admission to the program is evaluated on the basis of the following:

1. undergraduate and graduate grade-point averages,
2. the score on the Graduate Management Admissions Test,
3. a two- or three-page statement describing research interests,
4. three letters of recommendation,
5. evidence of research potential, and
6. a personal interview when feasible.

It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that all material related to the above criteria is received by the department.