Business at Gonzaga

Our vision is simple: We will be a global leader in Jesuit business education. We fulfill our vision by embracing our three values; we are committed to academic excellence. We actively engage in our university and our community. We embrace the Jesuit legacy of inspired, confident, and innovative action.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Gonzaga’s School of Business Administration prepares students to apply fundamental business theories and practices to any organization, to make value-based decisions, and to appreciate diverse cultures and perspectives. Established in 1921, the school is accredited by AACSB International, a distinction that represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide. In addition, the accounting programs (both undergraduate and graduate) are separately accredited by AACSB International. Dual accreditation is a distinction shared by less than 200 business schools throughout the world.

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Business Administration major prepares students from a multidisciplinary perspective, giving them the educational foundation to meet the challenges of a global marketplace. Business Administration majors choose one or more areas of concentration from the following:

- Economics
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Finance
- Human Resource Management
- International Business
- Law and Public Policy
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing
- Operations and Supply Chain Management

Students may also design an interdisciplinary, individualized concentration with their faculty advisor's approval.

Students pursuing a degree in another area at Gonzaga can choose a minor in:

- Analytical Finance
- Digital Marketing
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- General Business
- Management Information Systems
- Promotion
- Sustainable Business

Business and accounting majors may also pursue the minors in Digital Marketing and Sustainable Business.
ACCOUNTING

The Accounting major, one of the most rigorous and highly ranked programs at Gonzaga (#33 Nationally, U.S. News & World Report, 2020), prepares students for careers in both public and private accounting. Students study financial reporting, auditing, taxation, accounting systems, and the role of accounting and corporate governance in the allocation and use of resources.

To take the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination in the state of Washington, a student must earn 150 semester credit hours of acceptable educational preparation. Gonzaga offers both a Master of Accountancy and a Master of Science in Taxation program tailored for students who desire to fulfill the 150-hour requirement and earn a graduate degree at the same time. Most Gonzaga Accounting majors choose to stay for a fifth year and earn a Master’s degree. Based on the most recent available data, Gonzaga accounting had the seventh highest CPA exam pass rate in country (large programs; 83.2%).

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The School of Business Administration offers several high-quality, AACSB-accredited graduate programs. These programs include:

- Master of Accountancy
- Master of Accountancy with Juris Doctorate
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration American Indian Entrepreneurship
- Master of Business Administration with Juris Doctorate
- Master of Science in Taxation

THE HOGAN ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

For students who have thought about creating a business or non-profit organization, Gonzaga has developed a distinctive and exciting entrepreneurial program. The Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program provides a three-year cross-curricular minor in Entrepreneurial Leadership that immerses students in the fundamentals of creating and managing new ventures. Students apply for the competitive program during the fall semester of their first year and, if admitted, begin coursework in the fall semester of sophomore year. The minor may be combined with any major.

During the first year, coursework provides a foundation in entrepreneurship, as well as an introduction to accounting and economics. In the second year, students take courses in strategic thinking and strategic leadership principles, along with modules on ethics and values-based decision-making. The third (and final) year of coursework involves an incubation project in which students develop a business proposal for a new venture from elevator pitch to business plan to investor presentation. The last year also includes a capstone course focused on entrepreneurial ethics and the development of moral leadership as an entrepreneur. Along with the curriculum, the program features regular lectures by successful entrepreneurs and alumni of the program, mentor relationships, business plan competitions, and service projects.

For more information about the program, visit gonzaga.edu/hogan.

REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE

We have multiple partnerships with businesses, government, and service organizations to provide students with practical business experience. Here are some examples:

Multidisciplinary Actions Projects is a project-based course designed to give students hands-on, real world experience on one or more projects for businesses in our community. Projects could include developing a branding strategy, designing a compensation system, or evaluating a new idea or opportunity. The projects cross all areas of organizational life and require the student teams to bring a variety of skills and knowledge bases to the work. The students work in small teams along with a contact person from the sponsoring organization and a faculty resource person. Together, the scope of the project, expectations, roles, and deliverables are defined.

Portfolio Management is offered to junior and senior finance students. With the support and partnership of a securities firm, the students in the class manage a sizable investment fund.

New Venture Lab is a student-run consulting business on campus and is open to qualified students who are interested in creating new businesses or testing new ideas. Selected students get experience working with real-world entrepreneurs, both individually and in teams. The lab provides the opportunity to participate in the "Idea Incubator," where students put creative, new concepts to work.

Business Internship Program provides benefits to both students and business partners. Interns may receive pay and/or earn academic credit. Gaining significant and diverse business experiences. They also help students increase their marketability for jobs upon graduation. Gonzaga's business partners receive capable and dedicated interns who offer fresh ideas and viewpoints based on current academic research in business. More than 120 business students participate in the program annually. Our business partners include national, regional, and local companies.
Outcomes

Gonzaga’s business students are encouraged to participate in the ZagsConnect program, a partnership with more than 2,600 alumni volunteers. Students are matched with an alumnus or alumna in their area of concentration who provide mentoring regarding several aspects of their career development: their goals, skills, and interests along with work and school experiences. GAMP also sponsors career fairs and career treks in Spokane, Seattle, Portland, Denver, San Francisco/Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York, and London. These trips allow students to visit major corporations and network with alumni who work in these cities and surrounding areas.

Additionally, more than 330 companies visit Gonzaga’s campus each year to interview and hire business graduates. As a result, business students have had great success in finding employment upon graduation.

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SUCCESS RATE*  —  96.7%
(*class of 2019)

RANKED  —  TOP 23% UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS
(U.S. News & World Report, 2020)

RANKED  —  #33 ACCOUNTING PROGRAMS
(U.S. News & World Report, 2020)

RANKED  —  #37 UNDERGRADUATE ENTREPRENEURSHIP
(2020 U.S. News & World Report)

RANKED  —  #49 UNDERGRADUATE FINANCE
(2020 U.S. News & World Report)

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Recent Job Placements

Adidas
Alaska Airlines
American Red Cross
AT&T
Avista
Bank of Hawaii
Bechtel National, Inc.
Bernston Porter
Boeing
Campbell Soup Company
Chase
Chevron
Clark Nuber
Costco
D.A. Davidson & Co.
Deloitte
Eddie Bauer
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Ernst & Young
Expeditors International
Farmers Insurance Group
The FBI
Fuji Film USA
Gonzaga University
Hecla Mining Company
Hewlett Packard
Itron
KPMG, LLP
Liberty Mutual
Marsh
Microsoft
Monaco Enterprises, Inc.
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC
Moss Adams, LLP
Nike
Nordstrom
PACCAR, Inc.
Peterson Sullivan
Pfizer
PricewaterhouseCoopers
(PWC)
Procter & Gamble
Random House, Inc.
REI
SABEY Corporation
Salesforce.com, Inc.
Shell Energy of North America
Spokane Teachers Credit Union
Stanford Medical Center
Starbucks Coffee
The State of Washington
Sterling Bank
Swedish Medical Center
Target
United Airlines
U.S. Bank
Washington Trust Bank
Wells Fargo
Weyerhaeuser
Wolfgang Puck Worldwide
Yahoo!

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FIRST-TIME CPA PASS RATE
#7 IN THE NATION
(among large programs)
OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Business clubs give students the chance to learn more about varied career opportunities and enhance their leadership, organizational, and communication skills. For more information about student business clubs (e.g., the Society for Human Resource Management, Alpha Kappa Psi, Zags Against Poverty), please visit: gonzaga.edu/zagtivities.

Opportunities for service-learning and social justice work, a hallmark of Jesuit education, are active within the School of Business Administration. The Justice for Fraud Victims Project is a joint partnership of state, local, and federal law enforcement officials, local Certified Fraud Examiners (CFEs), and Gonzaga University students and faculty formed to assist victims of fraud in the Inland Northwest. The project seeks to provide justice for the victims and unique real world experience for the accounting students involved. In addition, nearly all accounting students also participate in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, preparing several hundred tax returns each year for low-income taxpayers in Spokane.

RANKINGS

Our undergraduate business program is ranked in the Top 23%, undergraduate accounting program is ranked No. 33, undergraduate entrepreneurship program is ranked No. 37 (tie), and undergraduate finance program No. 49 (tie) in the 2020 U.S. News & World Report rankings. Additionally, our graduate accounting programs are currently ranked No. 25 and our part-time MBA program No. 55 (tie) in the 2021 U.S. News & World Report rankings. Our part-time MBA program has been ranked in the top 100 in the country since 2010 (U.S. News & World Report).

THE PLACE

The Jepson Center has been home to our School of Business Administration since 1987. The 64,000-square-foot building contains 22 classrooms of various sizes; all are equipped with multimedia technology. All services (e.g., faculty and administrative offices) are under one roof. The Jepson Center is also home to a number of distinct facilities. The Hogan Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership includes a New Venture Lab office and meeting rooms, providing students and mentors with an environment to conduct online data analysis, research, and business planning on new product design and entrepreneurial proposals. The Jack H. Hemmingson Finance Lab is a state-of-the-art finance lab with 24 dual-screen workstations, two - 75” touch-overlay displays, one - 75” monitor framed by two large clear boards, a 45’ stock ticker, and access to multiple financial databases. The spacious and comfortable Centioli Student Lounge provides a relaxing area to study, not to mention a Thomas Hammer Coffee Shop and beautiful views of Lake Arthur and the Spokane River. Our Wolff Auditorium provides state-of-the-art digital multimedia capabilities with multiple displays and a large main screen.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

In recent years, Gonzaga graduates have enrolled in graduate programs at the following institutions:

- Gonzaga University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Pepperdine University
- Santa Clara University
- Seattle University
- Stanford University
- Syracuse University
- University of Colorado
- University of Hawaii
- University of Idaho
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Portland
- University of Texas
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- Washington State University

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