Business at Gonzaga

The vision is simple: Gonzaga will be a global leader in Jesuit business education. This is fulfilled by embracing our three values: Commitment to academic excellence, actively engaging in the university and community, and embracing 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. This year, the School of Business Administration celebrates its centennial anniversary. Since 1921, the school has served as an exemplar of Jesuit business education that develops professionals for lives of leadership and service for the common good.

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.

1921 100 YEARS 2021
ACCOUNTING
The accounting major, one of the most rigorous and highly ranked programs at Gonzaga (#27 Nationally, U.S. News & World Report, 2021), prepares students for careers in both public and private accounting. Students study financial reporting, auditing, taxation, account valuation, 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 10th highest CPA exam pass rate in country (large programs: 82.4%).

ECONOMICS
In addition to undergraduate majors in business administration and accounting, the School of Business Administration offers three degrees in economics: the Bachelor of Arts in Economics, the Bachelor of Science in Economics, and the Economics Minor. As stated in our university catalogue, “The mission of the economics program is to give students a broad background and knowledge of domestic and international economic systems that are essential for people in today’s competitive global economy. Graduates can apply economic theory to problems relating to market structures, resource markets, employment, and fiscal and monetary policies. The economics B.S. degree is offered specifically for students who aim to pursue graduate studies in economics, and therefore requires more preparation in mathematics and statistics.”

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. The Gonzaga Alumni Mentor Program (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.

---

---SUCCESS RATE*---

86.6%  
(*Class of 2020)

---RANKED---

TOP

23%

UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS

(U.S. News & World Report, 2021)

---RANKED---

#23

UNDERGRADUATE FINANCE

(U.S. News & World Report, 2021)

---RANKED---

#27

UNDERGRADUATE ACCOUNTING

(U.S. News & World Report, 2021)

---FIRST-TIME---

CPA PASS RATE

#10

IN THE NATION

(among large programs)

---RANKED---

#46

PART-TIME MBA

(Ranked in the top 100 in the country since 2010) (2022 Rankings)

---

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  
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!
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. 27, and undergraduate finance program No. 23 in the 2021 U.S. News & World Report rankings. Additionally, our graduate accounting programs are currently ranked No. 26 (tied), part-time MBA program No. 46, part-time MBA in finance No. 32 (tied), No. 26 (tied) part-time MBA in entrepreneurship, and part-time MBA in project management No. 4 in the 2022 U.S. News & World Report rankings. Additionally, 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.

Faculty Contact
Kenneth Anderson Ph.D.
anderson@gonzaga.edu

Graduate Contact
Haley Topliff
Marketing/Recruiting Specialist
topliff@gonzaga.edu

For more information:
gonzaga.edu/sba