Business Administration

The mission of the School of Business Administration is to develop professionally competent and intellectually curious graduates who exemplify the humanistic, ethical, and moral values of the Jesuit tradition. We provide a challenging and supportive learning environment, with quality students and faculty. As part of a global community, we promote relationships with regional, national, and international business and scholarly communities.

THE PROGRAM
Gonzaga’s School of Business Administration prepares students to apply fundamental business theories and practices to any organization, make value-based decisions, and 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, a distinction shared only by 180 accounting programs nationally. The business curriculum offers flexibility and room for innovation. Each business student is surrounded by an educational culture that is committed to the common good, rewards hard work, and appreciates the global reach of society. Opportunities to use classroom learning in real-world settings include: internships, business planning, consulting, and entrepreneurship opportunities.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
The Accounting major, one of the most rigorous and highly ranked programs at Gonzaga (#30 in 2018 by U.S. News & World Report), 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.

In order to sit for 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.

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 the following areas:

- analytical finance
- digital marketing
- entrepreneurship and innovation
- general business
- management information systems
- promotion
- sustainable business
GRADUATE PROGRAMS
The School of Business Administration offers several high-quality, AACSB-accredited graduate programs. These programs include:

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

For more information about Graduate programs, please contact Haley Topliff, Marketing and Recruiting Specialist, at topliff@gonzaga.edu.

REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE
The School of Business Administration has established multiple partnerships with businesses, government, and service organizations to provide students with practical business experience. Here are some examples:

The Multidisciplinary Actions Projects class 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.

A Portfolio Management class 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.

The New Venture Lab, a student-run consulting business on campus, 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.

The Business Internship Program is designed to provide benefits to both students and business partners. Interns may receive pay and/or earn academic credit. They often gain significant and diverse business experiences. Internships 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.

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, Bulldog Investment Group, Zags Against Poverty, etc.), please visit: gonzaga.edu/ztivities.

Honor society memberships are also available to business students.

- Beta Gamma Sigma, the international business honor society, encourages scholarship and academic achievement, promotes continuing education in business, and supports integrity in the conduct of business operations.
- Beta Alpha Psi, the honor society for accounting, finance, and information systems students, holds regular professional meetings for its members, which bring speakers from public accounting and finance industry to campus each semester. Members are also required to perform significant community service as a condition of membership.
- Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international honor society for economics students, recognizes students for their achievement in economics.

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. Several of Gonzaga’s business clubs (listed previously) also organize community service opportunities for their members.

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 freshman year and, if admitted, begin coursework in the fall semester of sophomore year. The minor (18 credits for business students and 24 credits for non-business students) 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. Students are also required to complete an internship that is entrepreneurial in nature.

Entrance into the program is competitive and requires a separate application and interview. Approximately 25 students are admitted each year. For more information about the program, call 509-313-3405, or visit gonzaga.edu/hogan.
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; nearly all are fully equipped with multimedia technology. Faculty and administrative offices dominate the second floor while an advising center is located in the basement. 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 Centoli 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.

NATIONAL RANKINGS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Pass Rates
- Recent data show our first-time CPA pass rate to be approximately 71% (33rd in the country among large programs and highest in the northwest).

Placement
- According to data collected on the class of 2017 by Gonzaga’s Career & Professional Development Center, business and accounting graduates had a success rate over 94%. Our MACC and MTAX programs had a placement rate of 100% within three months of graduation.

Rankings
- We were ranked as one of the top 10 schools to study undergraduate business in 2015-16 by USA Today.
- Our undergraduate program is currently ranked #30 and our graduate programs are currently ranked #13.
- Our MBA program has been ranked in the top 100 in the country since 2010 (U.S. News & World Report).

OUTCOMES

Gonzaga's business students are encouraged to participate in the Gonzaga Alumni Mentor Program (GAMP), a partnership with over 2,600 alumni volunteers. Students are matched with an alumnus or alumna in their area of concentration who provides 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, and New York. These trips allow students to visit major corporations and network with alumni who work in these cities and surrounding areas.

Additionally, over 300 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.

RECENT JOB PLACEMENTS
- Accenture
- Adidas
- Alaska Airlines
- American Red Cross
- AT&T
- Avista
- Bank of Hawaii
- Bechtel National, Inc.
- Bernstein 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

RECENT GRADUATE PROGRAMS ATTENDED INCLUDE:
- 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
- Washington Trust Bank
- Wells Fargo
- Weyerhaeuser
- Wolfgang Puck Worldwide
- Yahoo!

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