Business Administration, Doctor of (DBA)

Admission Requirements

Candidates must be committed to a rigorous program of study requiring periodic residence at the University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Business Administration as well as substantial reading and academic inquiry throughout the program. Applicants are expected to hold an MBA or other relevant advanced degree from an acceptable academic institution and to have ten years of significant professional and/or senior level management experience with high levels of responsibility. In exceptional cases, individuals without an advanced degree but other forms of advanced education and substantial managerial experience may be considered; other experience or qualifications may also compensate for less than 10 years of professional or managerial experience. Applicants must submit

- Most recent transcript(s). Scanned transcripts will be sufficient for the preliminary application. Official Transcripts in sealed envelopes will be required for final acceptance.
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)
- Names and contact information of two people who can provide insights into the applicant's academic potential and ability to think critically.
- Two essays (Statement of Commitment & Statement of Research Interest)

For more information and application deadlines, please go to http://dba.umsl.edu.

Degree Requirements

The DBA in the College of Business Administration requires completion of 60 credit hours. To ensure sufficient background for doctoral-level courses, students must demonstrate appropriate competence in quantitative reasoning, which is evidenced through completion of BUS AD 7301 and BUS AD 7109 or their equivalent to be determined by the DBA Director.

First Year					
FALL	HOURS	SPRING	HOURS	SUMMER	HOURS
BUS AD 7301	2	BUS AD 7100	3	BUS AD 7101	3
BUS AD 7109	4	BUS AD 7102	3	BUS AD 7600	3
	6		6		6
Second Year					
FALL	HOURS	SPRING	HOURS	SUMMER	HOURS
BUS AD 7103	3	BUS AD 7104	3	Selected Topic I ¹	3
BUS AD 7400	3	BUS AD 7106	3	Selected Topic II ¹	3
	6		6		6
Third Year					
FALL	HOURS	SPRING	HOURS	SUMMER	HOURS
BUS AD 7107	6	BUS AD 71082	6	BUS AD 7108 ²	6
Development and Defense of Proposal for Dissertation	f				
	6		6		6
Fourth Year					
FALL	HOURS				
BUS AD 7108²	6				
Final Dissertation Defense					
	6				
Total Hours: 60)				

Total Hours: 60

- Selected Topics courses are BUS AD 7700, BUS AD 7500, BUS AD 7300, BUS AD 7800, and BUS AD 7105. Two of these courses will fulfill the Selected Topics option.
- Students who need additional time to complete the dissertation are required to enroll in an additional credit hour per semester they are working on the project. A minimum of 18 hours is required.

Other Requirements

Students are required to take:				
BUS AD 7301	Statistical Modeling	1-3		
BUS AD 7100	Scientific Inquiry in Business	1-3		
BUS AD 7101	Quantitative Research Methods I in Business Administration	3		
BUS AD 7102	Qualitative Research Methods I in Business Administration	3		
BUS AD 7103	Quantitative Research Methods II in Business Administration	3		
BUS AD 7104	Qualitative Research Methods II in Business Administration	3		
BUS AD 7109	Doctoral Foundations Seminar	1-3		
BUS AD 7300	Management of Supply Chains	2		
BUS AD 7400	The Role of Accounting Information in Firms and Markets	2		
BUS AD 7500	Finance Theory and Applications Seminar	2		
BUS AD 7600	Managing Talent for Strategic Advantage	2		

BUS AD 7700	Contemporary Marketing Intelligence and Decision Making	2
BUS AD 7800	Management of Sustaining and Disruptive Information Technologies	2
BUS AD 7105	Special Topics in Business Administration (two semesters)	4
BUS AD 7106	Strategic Business Analysis	2
BUS AD 7107	Capstone Project Research in Business Administration	6
BUS AD 7108	Research Practicum in Business Administration (three semesters)	18
Total Hours		57-63

Students will be evaluated annually for satisfactory progress. Students deemed not to be making adequate progress are subject to the policies of the Graduate School and the College of Business Administration regarding probation and dismissal from the program.

Rationale

The proposed changes have been driven through input from a variety of sources, including applicant feedback, student feedback, benchmarking against other AACSB DBA programs, and faculty comments. Foremost, the DBA students, working full time, frequently mention that taking three courses each term including summers has created an unmanageable workload for many students. This not only impacts current students, but also the recruitment of prospective students. Recently, we have lost three applicants to other DBA programs and they have specifically cited our "three courses a term" as their reason for choosing another program. Some faculty have also commented that the 2 credit hour courses leave insufficient time to provide a quality learning experience of a doctoral-level course. As the competition among AACSB DBA programs intensifies, requiring three courses a semester has started to negatively impact recruitment. Top EDBAC member AACSB programs offer two courses per term (i.e., Fall, Spring, and Summer), and we are losing applicants to competitor programs that offer a two-course per term curriculum structure.