College of Business and Economics

Degrees Offered

- Master of Arts in Economics
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science in Finance
- Master of Professional Accountancy
- Master of Science in Industrial Relations
- Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

The College of Business and Economics was founded in November of 1951 and graduated its first class in the spring of 1953. Since that time, the College of Business and Economics has become one of the largest colleges at West Virginia University. In 1954, the college became fully accredited by the AACSB International (http://www.aacsb.edu), the highest level of business accreditation.

In 1990, the new College of Business and Economics building was completed on the site of Old Mountaineer Stadium on the downtown campus adjacent to historic Woodburn Hall. The four-story facility houses modern classrooms, two auditoriums, state-of-the-art computer laboratories, and space for the college's research and service centers.

Overview of Programs

The doctor of philosophy and master of arts degrees in economics prepare students for careers in business, government, and higher education. Students receive in-depth education in the concepts and methods of economic analysis and econometrics and specialize in two fields of study from financial, international, monetary, public, regional, urban economics, and resource economics. These programs are well-suited to students with undergraduate degrees in economics, finance, mathematics, statistics, public policy, history, and other humanities majors.

The master of business administration (M.B.A.) program is especially attractive for the student with a non-business undergraduate major since no previous business courses are required for admission. Coursework includes an even exposure to all of the functional areas of business and provides a broad general management orientation. The M.B.A. program is offered during the day for full-time students in Morgantown. The M.B.A. program is also offered for working professionals online and in the evenings at various locations throughout West Virginia and is referred to as the executive M.B.A.

The master of science in industrial relations (M.S.I.R.) provides an interdisciplinary education for the student desiring a career in human resources management and industrial relations. All undergraduate majors are acceptable. Elective areas of study may include the functional areas of business, counseling, law, safety, and others.

The master of professional accountancy (M.P.A.) program is available to students with undergraduate degrees in accounting. Students without accounting undergraduate degrees can fulfill specific accounting prerequisites and be admitted to the program. The program follows the AICPA’s recommendations for a five-year accounting education and meets the requirements of most states with 150-hour requirements for C.P.A. certification. The division of accounting also offers a graduate certificate in forensic accounting and fraud.

The master of finance (M.S. Fin.) program is available to students with a strong background in finance or accounting (either through undergraduate degree in finance or accounting or with five years of experience in a finance-related field). The program offers a series of courses which provides graduates with a thorough understanding of material in the C.F.A. (Chartered Financial Analyst) Candidate Body of Knowledge.

Specific information about graduate programs in the College of Business and Economics may be obtained from Office of Graduate Programs, 340 Business and Economics Building, P.O. Box 6027, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506-6027, Telephone (304) 293-6579.

ADMINISTRATION

DEAN

- Jose V. Sartarelli - Ph.D. (Michigan State University)
  Milan Puskar Dean

ASSOCIATE DEANS

- Karen France - Ph.D. (University of Pittsburgh)
  Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- Gary S. Insch - Ph.D. (Indiana University)
  Associate Dean for Graduate Programs
- Jess Mancini - M.P.A. (West Virginia University)
Special Requirements

Admissions to the M.B.A., M.P.A., M.S. in finance, M.S. in industrial relations, the Ph.D. in business administration, and the M.A. and Ph.D. in economics programs require a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. The Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) is preferred for all of the business graduate programs. For the M.S.I.R. Program, the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) may be substituted for the GMAT. The economics programs require the GRE. A resume is a requirement of the admission process for all programs. Under certain circumstances, the GRE may substitute for the GMAT for the M.B.A and M.P.A. Programs.