

# College of Business and Economics

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## Degrees Offered

- Master of Arts in Economics
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Accountancy
- Master of Science in Business Data Analytics
- Master of Science in Business Cybersecurity Management
- Master of Science in Finance
- Master of Science in Forensic and Fraud Examination
- Master of Science in Industrial Relations
- Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration
- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

## Certificate

- Certificate in Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination

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.

## Overview of Programs

All graduate programs at the College of Business and Economics require that the candidate achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 in all work counting toward the graduate degree.

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 doctor of philosophy degree in business administration has four areas of specialization: accounting, finance, management and marketing. Students develop deep content knowledge in their specialty along with a strong foundation in research methodology. The programs are focused on preparing graduates for research and academic careers.

The master of business administration (M.B.A.) program exposes students to graduate-level coursework in all the functional areas of business. 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 in an online with four mandatory residencies on campus.

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 accountancy (MAcc) 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.

The master of science in business data analytics (M.S. BUDA) can be completed in a one-year or two-year plan of study. The online hybrid program offers students flexibility while encouraging them to simultaneously learn valuable business analysis skills, apply concepts in a real-world setting, and experience improved results in an accelerated learning cycle. The MS program is taught by faculty across various disciplines with both industry and academic experience from around the globe.

The master of science in business cybersecurity (M.S. Bus Cybr) is a 12-month online program. The program encourages students to demonstrate managerial expertise in understanding and investigating complex cybersecurity ideas, evaluate data security of businesses from a data and systems

security perspective, use appropriate tools to mitigate cybersecurity threats and communicate the analysis and findings of a comprehensive security audit initiative to enhance the protection and security of an organization.

The master of science in forensic and fraud examination (M.S. FFE) is a 12-month online hybrid program geared toward early career professionals in accounting or investigative sciences looking to enhance their career opportunities through a specialized educational experience incorporating case studies and experiential learning in the field of Forensic and Fraud Examination. Students in this program will receive the required preparation for the Certified Fraud Examiners test.

Specific information about graduate programs in the College of Business and Economics may be obtained from Office of Graduate Programs, 326 Business and Economics Building, P.O. Box 6027, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506-6027, Telephone (304) 293-5505.

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## ADMINISTRATION

### DEAN

- Javier Reyes - Ph.D. (Texas A&M University)  
Milan Puskar Dean

### ASSOCIATE DEANS

- Mark Gavin - Ph.D. (Purdue University)  
Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Research Impact
- A. Graham Peace - Ph.D. (University of Pittsburgh)  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

### ASSISTANT DEANS

- John Deskins - Ph.D. (University of Tennessee)  
Assistant Dean for Outreach and Engagement
- Luke O'Connell - M.B.A. (Boston University)  
Assistant Dean and Director of Development
- Linda Rudy - M.B.A. (West Virginia University)  
Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration
- Rebel Smith - Ed.D. (University of Arkansas)  
Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs
- Elizabeth Vitullo - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)  
Assistant Dean of Graduate Programs

## Specialized Accreditation

The following programs within the College of Business and Economics have specialized accreditation through the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB).

Business Administration  
Economics  
Finance  
Industrial Relations

The Department of Accounting is also separately accredited by the AACSB.

AACSB provides internationally recognized, specialized accreditation for business and accounting programs at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral level. The AACSB Accreditation Standards challenge post-secondary educators to pursue excellence and continuous improvement throughout their business programs. AACSB Accreditation is known, worldwide, as the longest standing, most recognized form of specialized/professional accreditation an institution and its business programs can earn.

<http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation>

## Special Requirements

Admission to all College of Business and Economics graduate programs requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. Visit the program webpages for admission's requirements.

<https://business.wvu.edu/graduate-degrees>

## **Degree Designation Learning Outcomes**

Each degree has designated learning goals. Please refer to program webpages for specific program learning goals.