

Business BA Catalog, 2025-26

MAJORS/MINORS

- **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR:** Pablo Hernandez (chair)
- **VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR:** Felicitas Adu-Acheampong
- **ADJUNCT LECTURERS:** Roman Bohdan, Rose Hagen, Brian Roberts, Ann Runyon, Jeffrey D. Strom

The business major seeks to educate students, within the context of liberal arts, in the analytical skills necessary for the understanding of the global economy, the impact of economic policies on individuals and enterprises, and the interactions between economics, politics, societies, and the private sector. To enhance student skills, courses have substantial writing, quantitative, and oral-presentation components. The business major has significant requirements and electives in business-related areas, drawing strengths from economics, communication, and computer science. Students may follow a General Business concentration or choose from two optional concentrations: Finance or Marketing. The faculty actively pursues scholarly and professional work and offers a sequence of rigorous courses that prepares students for career paths and graduate school. The faculty mentor students and provide a challenging and competitive course environment. Students who transfer to Hollins and major in business must earn at least half of the credits for the major from Hollins courses.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN BUSINESS:

11 courses (44 credits) and one 4-credit internship

REQUIRED COURSES:

- BUS 100: Introduction to Business (4)
- BUS 125: Principles of Financial Accounting (4)
- BUS 226: Principles of Managerial Accounting (4)
- BUS 349: Corporate Finance (4)
- BUS 474: Senior Seminar in Strategic Management (4)
- ECON 157: Principles of Microeconomics (4) OR AP (score 4 or higher) OR IB Microeconomics OR Advanced Cambridge A-Level in Microeconomics
- ECON 158: Principles of Macroeconomics (4) OR AP (score 4 or higher) OR IB Macroeconomics OR Advanced Cambridge A-Level in Macroeconomics

- ECON 211: Research Methods in Economics and Business (4)
- INTERNSHIP: One 4-credit business-related internship completed during any term. The department must certify that the internship is business related. The course instructor in BUS 399, who serves as faculty sponsor for this internship, must be a full-time faculty member of the department (see BUS 399).

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CONCENTRATIONS:

FINANCE

- BUS 203: Investments (4)
- BUS 327: Cost Accounting (4)
- One of the following (4):
 - BUS 265: International Trade and Finance (4)
 - ECON 261: Public Finance (4)
 - ECON 272: Money, Credit, and Banking (4)

GENERAL BUSINESS

Any three of the following, one of which must be at the 300 level (12):

- BUS 203: Investments (4)
- BUS 252: Organizational Behavior (4)
- BUS 263: International Business (4)
- BUS 353: Decision Making and Human Resource Development (4)
- ECON 265: International Trade and Finance (4)
- ECON 321: Macroeconomic Theory and Policy (4)
- ECON 386: Managerial Economics (4)

MARKETING

- BUS 228: Marketing (4)
- ECON 386: Managerial Economics (4)
- One of the following (4):
 - BUS 327: Cost Accounting (4)
 - COMM 244: Social Marketing and Campaigns (4)
 - COMM 248: Social Media and Social Activism (4)
 - CMPS 160: Applied Computing with Python (4)

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN BUSINESS:

6 courses (24 credits) and one 4-credit internship

- BUS 100: Introduction to Business (4)
- BUS 125: Principles of Financial Accounting (4)
- ECON 157: Principles of Microeconomics (4)
- Two courses from the following:
 - BUS 203: Investments (4)
 - BUS 228: Marketing (4)
 - BUS 252: Organizational Behavior (4)
- One BUS or ECON course at the 300 level or above (4)
- One business-related internship (4) (normally completed during Short Term)

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS:

6 courses (24 credits) and one 4-credit internship

- BUS 100: Introduction to Business (4)
- BUS 125: Principles of Financial Accounting (4)
- BUS 263: International Business (4)
- BUS 265: International Trade and Finance (4)
- ECON 158: Principles of Macroeconomics (4)
- One BUS or ECON course at the 300 level or above (4)
- One business-related internship (4) (normally completed during Short Term)

COURSES IN BUSINESS:

BUS 100: INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS (4)

This is a broad survey of fundamental business concepts, such as management, marketing, human resources, entrepreneurship, and financial management and policy. General principles of business ethics and business law are also discussed. This course introduces students to the business and commercial worlds, while providing the foundation for meaningful participation in more advanced classes. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered both terms. (r, MOD, INQ)

BUS 104: PERSONAL FINANCE (4)

This introductory class in investments is geared primarily for non-majors. It combines basic investment theory with practical detail about financial markets and institutions. Particular attention is paid to the time value of money (compounding, discounting, and annuities), personal financial statements, equity and debt markets, mutual funds, real estate, and income tax. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite.

BUS 125: PRINCIPLES OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING (4)

A first-level course to develop a broad understanding of the ways the collection and handling of financial data serve a business enterprise. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered both terms.

BUS 203: INVESTMENTS (4)

Financial theory applied to the management of financial and other assets. This course studies debt and equity securities, derivatives, investment companies, and real estate. The theoretical focus is on pricing of assets in efficient markets. This course makes considerable use of computer software, including spreadsheets. Prerequisites: q and BUS 100, 104, or 125. Offered Term 2. (Q)

BUS 226: PRINCIPLES OF MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING (4)

Application of basic accounting principles to cost analysis, topics in financial planning, and managerial decision making. Problems in price-level adjustment and other current issues are considered in some depth. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: BUS 125. Offered Term 2.

BUS 228: MARKETING (4)

Basic principles of marketing will be examined that include the evolution of the principles of price, promotion, product, and distribution, as well as segmentation and marketing strategies, customer lifetime value, ROI, and customer equity. Students will have opportunities to learn best practices of digital marketing, social media, PR, SEO, and pricing through applied learning in and out of the classroom. It is taught through a mix of hands-on learning, lectures, and guest speakers. Prerequisites: BUS 100 and ECON 157, or permission. Offered Term 1. (o)

BUS 252: ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR (4)

This course examines the dynamics of individuals and groups in organizations and how organizations impact behavior and performance. Topics include attitudes and social perception, teamwork, communication, leadership, organizational structure, and design. Prerequisite: BUS 100. (MOD)

BUS 263: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS (4)

This course surveys managerial techniques used by multinational corporations. Issues related to foreign direct investment, especially financial and accounting implications, are also presented, as is the particular impact of globalization on smaller firms. Case

discussions are important components of this course. Prerequisites: BUS 100 and ECON 158. Offered Term 2 . (w, x, GLO)

BUS 265: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE (4)

This course addresses critical issues such as the pure theory of trade, protectionism, resource mobility, the foreign exchange market, and balance of payments disequilibria, as well as the roles played by major multilateral organizations, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization, in crafting policies aimed at promoting unrestrained trade in goods and international financial flows. These policies, however, produced mixed results in improving national welfare, and students are exposed to views challenging these policies. Also listed and described as ECON 265. Prerequisite: ECON 157. (o, r, GLO, MOD)

BUS 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 OR 4)

An independent study below the advanced level that may count toward the business major or minor only if the student receives approval, prior to registering the course, from the course instructor and the department chair. The course instructor must be a full-time faculty member of the department. Offered any term.

BUS 327: COST ACCOUNTING (4)

The course examines concepts, procedures, and techniques underlying a cost accounting system that managers use in their decision-making processes, controlling, and performance reporting. Topics include cost measurement and cost control, as well as management control systems, inventory costing, activity-based and job costing. Students master CVP (cost-volume-profit) analysis, planning and control methods, budgeting and responsibility accounting, flexible budgeting, and variance analysis. Prerequisites: BUS 100, BUS 125, and BUS 226. Offered Term 1.

BUS 349: CORPORATE FINANCE (4)

Students examine fundamentals of business finance, including financial analysis, forecasting financial statements, working capital management, capital budgeting, security valuation, and the cost of capital. This course makes considerable use of computer spreadsheets. Prerequisites: q and BUS 100, BUS 125, and BUS 226. Offered Term 1. (o, Q)

BUS 353: DECISION MAKING AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (4)

This course is divided into three sections: decision-making, human resource development, and organizational development. Topics covered under decision making include labor's role in market-related decisions. Human resource development focuses on human capital

in economic development. Organizational development covers elements of organizational changes and the role of change agents. Also listed and described as ECON 353.

Prerequisite: BUS 100 and ECON 157.

BUS 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 OR 4)

An advanced level independent study that may count toward the business major or minor only if the student receives approval, prior to registering the course, from the course instructor and the department chair. The course instructor must be a full-time faculty member of the department. Offered any term.

BUS 399: INTERNSHIP (2 OR 4)

Application must be made with course instructor prior to registration. The department must certify that the internship is business related. The course instructor, who serves as the faculty sponsor for the internship, must be a full-time faculty member of the department. The course instructor will also specify the academic component to the internship. May be proposed in any term.

BUS 474: SENIOR SEMINAR IN STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT (4)

This seminar seeks to familiarize the participants with the strategic decisions that confront the modern corporation. Particularly important are questions relating to mergers and acquisitions, business-plan writing, and country risk analysis. Discussion of articles in top management journals and analysis of cases on current issues form the core of this course.

Prerequisites: senior standing and permission. Offered Term 2. (o)