

Pre-Business

vanderbilt.edu/undergraduatebusinessminor

The liberal arts tradition at Vanderbilt prepares students to think critically, to communicate effectively, to reason logically, and to understand issues from various perspectives. This is a fundamentally different mission than those of professional schools that prepare a student for a specific career. Yet, many graduates are interested in professional careers, including management or finance. They often pursue those career interests through completion of a master of business administration (MBA) or other professional degree subsequent to their undergraduate degree.

MBA programs expect students to have had several years of significant work experience after the baccalaureate, and majoring in a pre-professional major is not a requisite for admission to these programs. Vanderbilt students interested in business may complete any major and may choose to take business courses and/or complete an undergraduate business minor. The University offers fundamental undergraduate business courses taught by Owen Graduate School of Management faculty as well as elective courses in the liberal arts tradition to help students understand management functions, corporate strategy, and financial decisions. Any undergraduate student may enroll in these courses.

Coursework in Business may direct students in their search for career interests and appropriate work experience after graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to work with advisors in the Undergraduate Business Minor program regarding curriculum choices and the Career Center to further develop their professional skills and career aspirations. Additionally, there are many student organizations – such as the Vanderbilt Finance Club, Vanderbilt Investment Club, and the Vanderbilt Innovation and Entrepreneurship Society – that offer students unique opportunities to gain professional experience.

First-year students entering fall 2016 and later may complete the undergraduate business minor.

Fundamental Courses offered in Business

Essentials of Financial Reporting
Managing Operations
Organizational Behavior
Principles of Finance
Principles of Marketing

Business Electives Pathways

Entrepreneurship
Ethics
Finance and Accounting
Marketing and Advertising
Operations
Organizational Behavior
Strategy

The fundamental and elective courses are designed to prepare students to:

- Develop a perspective on the objectives of firms
- Examine the role of firms in society
- Examine the role of individuals in corporations
- Assess the coordination of divisions of firms
- Focus on the internal decisions of a corporation
- Understand the management function

For more information about available courses, see the program website:

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Contact

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