Pre-Business
as.vanderbilt.edu/managerialstudies

The liberal arts curriculum of the College of Arts and Science prepares students to lead the examined life, to communicate effectively, to reason logically, to think critically, and to understand various societies and the roles of their institutions in accomplishing the societies’ goals. This is a fundamentally different mission than those of professional schools that prepare a student for a specific career (e.g., engineering, nursing, business, or teaching.) Yet, many graduates of the College of Arts and Science 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. Thus, the College of Arts and Science offers many courses in the liberal arts tradition to help students understand management functions, corporate strategy and financial economics. These are offered by the Managerial Studies Program, and any undergraduate student may enroll in these courses.

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

Courses offered in Managerial Studies

The courses in Managerial Studies 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

Courses offered by Managerial Studies include:

- Fundamentals of Management
- Corporate Finance
- Financial Management
- Corporate Strategy
- Investment Analysis
- The Entrepreneurial Challenge
- The Business Planning Process
- Principles of Marketing
- Advanced Marketing
- Creative Advertising
- Financial Accounting
- Managerial Accounting

For more information about the Managerial Studies courses, see the program website: as.vanderbilt.edu/managerialstudies

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