



ADVISING GUIDE

for Students Considering a Business Degree

Welcome to William & Mary! As you begin your journey here at the College, the Mason School of Business has provided this advising guide for those students interested in pursuing a business major or minor. We hope that this helps answer your questions as you consider what program of study is right for you.

Business Education at William & Mary

Several characteristics distinguish our undergraduate business program from other universities:

Individual Program of Study

Other business schools tell you what you must do; we ask you to imagine what you can do. At William & Mary, we challenge each business student to design an **Individual Program of Study (IPS)** that uniquely addresses their particular talents and goals. Our approach emphasizes intellectual development and a global perspective while strengthening leadership and professional skills. Majors choose a course of study in Accounting, Finance, Marketing or Process Management & Consulting and may add a concentration in order to study an additional field of business. The IPS challenge goes well beyond the classroom as it also incorporates extracurricular opportunities within the Mason School of Business, as well as interdisciplinary opportunities across campus (such as obtaining a double major or minor in the Arts and Sciences).

Miller Hall: Technology, Community, and Sustainability

Newly constructed Miller Hall is the home for the Mason School of Business. Miller Hall's state-of-the-art technology and plentiful gathering spaces create a premier environment for collaborative learning and innovative research while fostering interconnectivity and community. The recent award of the LEED Gold certification demonstrates the Mason School of Business' commitment to sustainability.

Study Abroad: Internationalize your Business Degree

A valuable element students can add to their IPS is the **study abroad experience**. We encourage students to study abroad during sophomore year. However, the curriculum is designed so students may also go abroad in the spring of junior year without missing any required coursework for their major or minor. Additionally, the Mason School of Business offers a summer program in Budapest and a Global Immersion Program with a study trip to Southeast Asia over winter break. While some advance planning is necessary, we hope every student will take advantage of the opportunity to live and study in a foreign country.

Our **International Emphasis** option allows business majors to internationalize their degree. Requiring 12 credits transferred from abroad and focused study in international business and culture, students can graduate with an International Emphasis in any business discipline.

Integrated Foundation Semester: Business Exposure, Ethics, Communications, Teamwork

All newly admitted undergraduate business majors participate in the **Integrated Foundation Semester** (typically in the fall of their junior year). Students take courses in Marketing, Finance, and Information Systems while participating in two integrative courses in business ethics and computer skills. Students work in the same teams across their business classes, developing the skills of teamwork, leadership, and communication. Case studies and simulations engage students in experiential problem-solving and guest speakers offer exposure to the business environment. Across the foundation semester classes, faculty integrates ethics, global issues, and opportunities to develop presentation skills.

To learn more about our Undergraduate Business Program, please visit our website, mason.wm.edu/undergraduate or visit us in Miller Hall 2051, (757) 221-2910.

Admissions Information for Majors

Applications for entry into the Undergraduate Business Program in the fall semester are due February 1st. Applications for entry in the spring semester are due October 1st. Applications are available online in the Admissions section of the Undergraduate Business website beginning two weeks prior to the application deadline. Transfer students who wish to be considered for admission to the Undergraduate Business Program should contact the program office.

Our competitive admission is based upon cumulative GPA (grade point average), junior standing (obtained 54 credit hours) and completion of the five prerequisite courses. Majors are required to have at least a 2.0 GPA, however, as admission is a competitive process, this does not guarantee acceptance into the business program.

The Mason School of Business admits a total of 225 students to the majors program each year; 180 in the Fall semester, and 45 in the Spring semester. Students admitted to the business majors program will finalize their choice of major discipline (Accounting, Finance, Marketing, or Process Management & Consulting) during the Integrated Foundation Semester which is taken during the first semester as a business student.

Prerequisites for Business Majors: Choose one course from each of the following categories:

Accounting

BUAD 203* Principles of Accounting

Calculus

MATH 108 Brief Calculus with Applications
MATH 111 Calculus I
MATH 112 Calculus II
MATH 131 Calculus I for Life Sciences
MATH 132 Calculus II for Life Sciences

Note: Students who received transfer credit for MATH 1XX or 2XX should consult with an advisor in the Undergraduate Business Program Office.

Microeconomics

ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics
ECON 151 Freshman Seminar: Microeconomic Topics

Macroeconomics

ECON 102 Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 152 Freshman Seminar: Macroeconomic Topics

Statistics

BUAD 231* Business Statistics
ECON 307 Principles & Methods of Statistics
KINE 394 Statistics & Evaluation
MATH 106 Elementary Probability & Statistics
MATH 351 Applied Statistics
PSYC 301 Elementary Statistics
SOCL 353 Social Statistics

Note: Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate credit transferred to William and Mary is accepted.

* Registration preferences for BUAD 203 Principles of Accounting and BUAD 231 Business Statistics will be given to those students who are preparing to enter into the Business School the following semester.

Early Admission Decisions for Students Studying Abroad

Students studying abroad during their second semester of sophomore year have the opportunity to apply for an early decision of admission to the majors program. If you gain early admission you are guaranteed a place in the class that will enter the Business Program the semester following your semester abroad. When applying, students must meet the following qualifications of total credit hours and GPA by the end of the semester in which they apply.

- Complete 42 credit hours
- Minimum overall GPA of 3.00
- Prerequisite Coursework**

** The program's prerequisite coursework may be completed while abroad, however, must be completed prior to entry into the business program.

Admissions Information for Minors

Admission into a minors program is a competitive process, based on cumulative GPA. Minors are required to have at least a 2.75 GPA. However, as admission is a competitive process, this does not guarantee acceptance into the minors program. Minors select a specific discipline of business to study and each discipline has differing prerequisites. Prerequisites must be completed prior to entry into the program. Prerequisite information for each discipline can be found on the minor's webpage in the Academics section of our website: mason.wm.edu/UGacademics.