



Concurrent Program

B.S. Animal Science/MBA



Master of Business Administration (MBA)

The MBA Program at Iowa State University is designed to create an opportunity for students to pursue careers in many fields. Specifically, this opportunity will allow a student with an Animal Science degree to explore more career options in accounting, finance, marketing, supply chain management, technology and innovation.

Why get a MBA as an Animal Science Major?



Opportunities, opportunities, opportunities!

The MBA program opens up a countless number of doors! If you have a desire to work in the agriculture industry, but would rather focus on business aspects, a MBA is a great option for you. Job availability is plentiful and you will become highly qualified for the working environment.



Career Satisfaction

Have your career interests changed or maybe your interest of working in the business field has grown? You might have the passion for animals and agriculture but just haven't found the right career you've been looking for. Obtaining a MBA provides you a broad range of career options to choose from thus creating a greater opportunity for job satisfaction.



More Bang for your Buck

Pursuing an MBA usually takes a couple years and coming back to school later might be difficult. The concurrent program will only take 1 more year! It is a great long term investment and with an MBA, you may advance faster in your career and potentially earn higher salaries.



"Deciding to pursue an MBA was the perfect opportunity to complement the practical knowledge that I had gained in the animal science classes with business principles. After completing both degrees, I feel more confident in my ability to solve problems that I will face in my career."

Matthew Kerns

2016 Animal Science/MBA Graduate
Alpha Gamma Rho Agricultural Fraternity



Key Features of the MBA Program



TEAMS

During your time in the program, you will be assigned to a team. You will work with this team for the entire core portion of the program, covering three semesters



SERVICES

Customized and comprehensive academic and career support services are available to you



ENVIRONMENT

The learning environment is multicultural and participatory. The classroom will give you a better feel for the workplace full of students with diverse backgrounds



FACULTY

Professors are nationally-recognized in their research and are committed to teaching excellence. They are approachable and care about each student's academic success



SKILLS

Employers value well-developed professional skills. In the MBA program, you will have opportunities to improve your collaborative, communications, problem-solving and leadership skills



EXPERIENCE

Experimental learning opportunities are plentiful including, international and domestic study tours, MBA case competitions, and service learning projects



Resources and Career Tools

Resume Book

Submitting your resume to the Resume Book is a great way for you to get your resume in front of several employers. This becomes useful when you are seeking full-time or internship employment.

Mock Interviews

Career Services will set up mock interview dates near each career fair to allow you to practice interviewing with actual employers. Mock interview days are set up for your benefit to help you get constructive feedback or to simply get rid of your nerves before your real interviews.

<http://www.business.iastate.edu/careers/students/preparing-to-job-seek/>

Networking Events

As an MBA student, you will be invited to participate in several networking opportunities. These events give you a chance to speak with recruiters from various companies allowing you to build connections and get noticed! This is extremely beneficial to attend before a Career Fair because recruiters will already know you.

GradLeaders

GradLeaders software platforms match high-performing MBA talent with high-quality employment opportunities by connecting top MBA programs, job-seeking MBA students and alumni and the worlds leading employers.

12Twenty

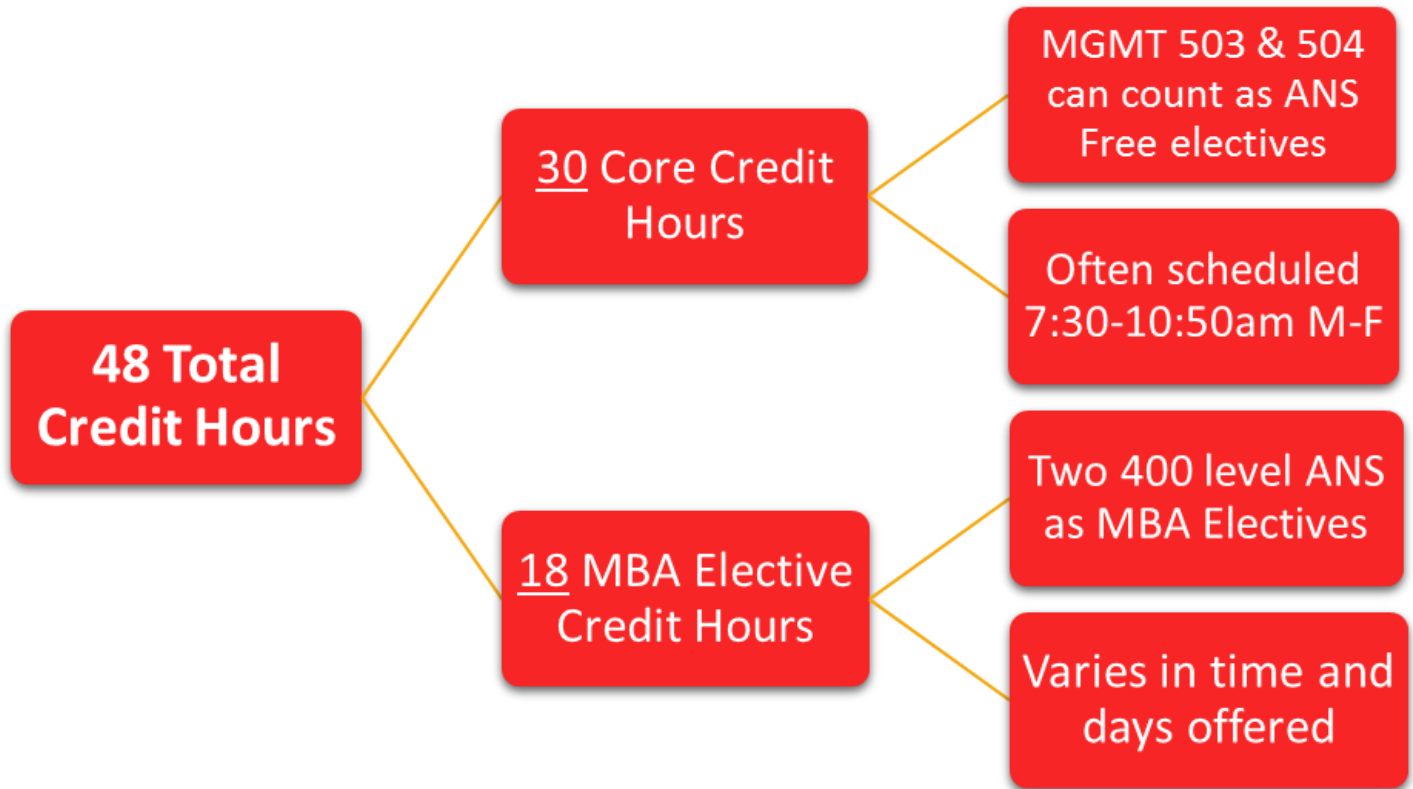
12Twenty is a career services management system that allows students to access outcomes data including salary history and national trends. 12Twenty allows career advisers to be more effective with managing the employment process. It allows students a better understanding of the recruiting cycle and helps students find jobs.

<https://www.12twenty.com/>

Career Services

There are many other services and tools available to you as an MBA student. Above are just a few examples of commonly used resources and tools, but career services has a partnership with hiring managers and employment recruiters to facilitate recruitment and hiring of students.

Program Overview



Other Specifics...

- The concurrent, full-time MBA program consists of 48 credit hours.
- The MBA core classes are scheduled in 6 week blocks, therefore, not all classes scheduled for the semester will be taken at the same time.
- At the start of your fall semester, there will be one week of orientation to allow for more preparation and team introductions.
- 400 level Animal Science courses can dual count up to 6 credits of MBA electives. You **MUST** be enrolled in the MBA program first before these dual credits can be taken.
- Management 503 and 504 are shared as 6 total free electives for the undergraduate degree.
- Any extra undergraduate classes that work in your schedule can be taken during the program to complete the undergraduate degree.
- If you choose to specialize in a specific discipline during the program, it will require up to 9 credit hours of specific MBA course work.

The Core Curriculum

1st Year Fall Semester

Weeks 1-6

Management 502

Organizational Behavior:

Understanding behavior in organizations from a managerial perspective

Business Administration 502

Quantitative Business Analysis and Decision Making:

Covers the sources and statistical analysis of data along with optimization models for use in decision making

Weeks 7-12

Accounting 501

Financial Accounting:

An introduction to financial accounting information partly by use of spreadsheets to assess and analyze data

Economics 532

Managerial Economics for the Global Organization:

Applications of microeconomic theory and decision analysis for firms

Weeks 1-7 (Varies)

Business Administration 592

MBA Professional Skills Development:

This course is designed to help the first-year MBA students with the tools needed to develop and implement a successful internship and career search strategy. It will also help develop professional skills for success in the business environment.

1st Year Spring Semester

Weeks 1-6

Finance 501

Financial Decisions:

Shareholder wealth maximization as the goal of the firm with specific contexts

Management Information Systems 501

Management Information Systems:

Understanding the role and application of information systems within a globally competitive context.

Weeks 7-12

Marketing 501

Marketing:

An analytical approach to the study of marketing issues and challenges of business firms and non-profit organizations

Supply Chain Management 501

Supply Chain Management:

Introduction to SCM including aspects of operations, logistics and global supply chain strategy development

Weeks 1-12

Business Administration 594

MBA Professional Skills Development:

A second course designed to improve the professional skills of first-year MBA Students. Emphasis on building effective communication and networking skills.

2nd Year Fall Semester

Weeks 1-6

Management 503

Professional Responsibility in Business & Society:

This class considers the ethical and social responsibilities of top managers in corporations.

Weeks 7-12

Management 504

Strategic Management:

Critical analysis of case studies in strategic management with an emphasis on integrative decision making.



Wondering what you have to do in the classroom?

Here are some examples...

Presentations



Similar to undergraduate classes, you will be giving presentations. However, unlike undergraduate presentations, you will most likely be working with a diverse group of individuals. Not every student, or most likely no students, in your team will be studying Animal Science. This means you will be facing new challenges and experience various obstacles when working with a team.

Participation



Participation and engagement are everything. You must challenge yourself to stay engaged and provide input to discussions. Your grade and team depend on it. Asking questions to understand topics will help you learn and grow in new areas of study.

Homework



Homework is not busy work. Homework is designed to help you with concepts you will see on quizzes, exams, or even projects. Often, you will see it assigned in the form of group projects. You could also be assigned readings of articles, books, or case studies. It is all achievable and is beneficial to the overall course.

Examinations



Exams come in many variations. It is advised to not expect bubble sheets and multiple choice questions. Most of these problems will be more practical and require critical thinking. Essay type exams can also be given. Do not fear! The professors do an excellent job of preparing you for the content and being very clear on what you can expect to be tested on.

Projects



In any job environment, you will most likely be working with groups of people. Many classes in the program will assign one or more projects for you to complete with your team. An example of the projects would be to evaluate a company's financials and their competitors, then conclude with a stock recommendation for the company. You will then present these findings to the class. Another example of a project could be to evaluate variables that effect the enrollment of students at a university through regression analysis and present these findings to the class.

Case Competition



In conclusion to your core classes, you will be assigned to participate in the Iowa State's MBA Case Competition. The competition lasts two days. The first day, teams are given a business scenario to analyze and formulate solutions. The team then works to create a professional presentation to present their findings. The second day consists of teams delivering presentations to a panel of judges.

Other Expectations



While in the program, you are expected to present yourself professionally inside and outside of the classroom. Most students in the program will wear business casual attire every day for class. On presentation days, teams presenting will dress business formal. This is a great way to become accustomed to professional expectations.



Frequently Asked Questions

When do I apply?

Full-time admission is granted for the fall term. Deadlines for the program are July 1st for domestic students and March 1st for international students. Students often choose to apply to the program as a Junior in your undergraduate studies, but don't wait too long! Some students who are ahead on their timeline choose to apply even earlier. Meet with your advisor to see what your academic timeline looks like.

How long will it take me to complete the program?

The program is a two-year concurrent program that often begins in your fourth year of undergraduate studies. This allows you to continue earning credits in your undergraduate program while working towards your MBA. To help with the course work load, it is wise to have fewer undergraduate courses remaining when beginning the program and work hard to stay ahead of your undergraduate schedule. An example of a 5 year program is posted online as well as a guide.

<http://www.business.iastate.edu/masters/mba/prospective-students/full-time-mba/collaborative-mba-programs/stem-mba/science/>

What is the GMAT/GRE and how do I take it?

The GMAT stands for the Graduate Management Admissions Test which helps predict how you will perform as an MBA student. You can go to the official GMAT website (<http://www.mba.com/us>) to create an account, discover more about the examination, and set up a date and location to take the test.

The GRE stands for Graduate Records Examinations. It is an assessment of critical thinking, analytical writing, verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning skills. This too is a standardized examination which you can sign up for online at the GRE website (<https://www.ets.org/gre/>).

You may take the GRE or the GMAT for admissions to the program.

What is looked for when evaluating candidates for admission?

The goal is to bring in students representing a rich blend of academic disciplines and work histories, industries and occupations, genders and ethnicities who share a common goal – to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Each student is expected to contribute, grow, and excel in this challenging and rewarding learning environment. We carefully assess each candidate's academic and career accomplishments, professional skills, goals and expectations, and desire to earn an Iowa State MBA degree.

Am I required to have an internship in order to apply?

An internship related to your major is strongly encouraged for all animal science students. However, the program will also consider any other experience you may have as well. Related work experience is extremely critical to help you be qualified for the acceptance into the Concurrent Program.

Is financial assistance available for full-time MBA students?

Financial assistance is available to students primarily in the form of graduate assistantship appointments. Typically, an MBA student on an assistantship is assessed resident tuition, is awarded a tuition scholarship equivalent to one-quarter of the cost of resident tuition, and earns a monthly stipend. In exchange, graduate assistants work 10 hours per week for the faculty, academic and career services units, or affiliated centers. Scholarship is also offered on a competitive basis.

Do I need to take business course prerequisites before I start the program?

No. The program is designed in a way where students will not be required to take any prerequisites before being admitted to the program. Each student entering the program will start the MBA core regardless of their backgrounds.

Information to Help You Apply:

Materials Needed

- Online Application
 - Apply to the full-time program
- GMAT or GRE
- TOEFL or IELTS (International Students)
- Transcripts
- Resume
- Two letters of Recommendation
- Personal Essay Form
- Interview (Invitation Only)



Contact Information

Contact: Ron Ackerman

Phone: 515-294-8118

Email Address: rjacker@iastate.edu

For questions, you can email Ron Ackerman or visit the Graduate Programs Office in
1360 Gerdin Hall



"Going into the MBA program, I anticipated having to work harder than students from other majors to keep up with the classes. However, after my first year, I have seen that the diverse skills I developed as an Animal Science undergrad have allowed me to lead my team to success."

The concurrent MBA program has expanded the opportunities available to me, both within Animal Science and Business. "

Danielle Tucker

2018 Animal Science/MBA Student



This information is current as of March, 2017. For any potential changes or updates refer to the Iowa State University MBA website- <http://www.business.iastate.edu/masters/mba/>

Published by: Danielle Tucker