BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (BUAD)

The Business Administration Program is designed to produce graduates who possess skills and abilities needed to succeed in the business world of the 21st century. An emphasis is placed on critical thinking skills, communication skills, liberal arts breadth, and the fundamental business concepts essential for successful careers in business. Each of the degree options is organized to develop a thorough understanding of the fundamental concepts of business. In addition to conceptual knowledge, each student develops the ability to apply specific principles in a specialty of the student’s choosing. These principles are taught through a program that has three essential elements.

The Base Curriculum consists of a group of courses mainly outside of the Business area that covers the basic competencies needed to succeed in the upper-division Business requirements. These courses have been selected to ensure basic knowledge in the areas of communication, reasoning, and critical thinking required for upper-division study. The second element is the Business Administration Nucleus, comprised of a core of Business courses focusing on principles in the areas of communication, marketing, management, and law. These courses form the fundamental business concepts required in all emphasis areas and represent the bulk of the requirements for the Standard Program in Business Administration.

The third element consists of a group of courses in the area in which the student wishes to acquire additional technical skills. In the Standard Program, the courses are in an area outside of Business Administration where the student is required to attain at least a minor. In the other emphasis areas offered by the department (management, marketing, entrepreneurship, Latin American business, professional land and resource management, and resort management), the student has additional requirements that develop skills necessary to succeed in the chosen area.

The Management Emphasis provides opportunities to develop the necessary expertise to enter a training program for managerial-level employees in any size business. These courses place emphasis on learning both essential management principles and their application in the highly competitive world of business.

The Marketing Emphasis is designed to prepare students for entry-level positions in strategic marketing, sales, marketing research, and promotion. Students are encouraged to relate their studies in related disciplines, such as Communications and Economics, to the study of marketing.

The Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship (ICE) Emphasis prepares students to think and act as a leader who challenges the status quo. Students experience cutting edge innovation and design-thinking techniques necessary for solving the ever changing commercial, social, and environmental challenges of tomorrow. ICE students master the ability to recognize opportunity, frame problems, think creatively, manage risk, and launch organizations.

The Latin American Business Emphasis prepares students for entry-level positions in international organizations that specialize in Latin America. The program is highly interdisciplinary with a solid business core. In addition to business fundamentals, the student will develop an understanding of the predominant language and culture of Latin America and its history, together with the broad concepts of international economics.

The Energy Management Emphasis is designed to prepare students for entry-level positions as land negotiators. Students learn land and resource management principles through knowledge and perspectives of business administration, economics, geology, and environmental studies. The program is designed to prepare students to work in the business side of energy and mineral exploration.

The Resort Management Emphasis prepares students for entry-level management positions in the hospitality industry. With a solid foundation in business, a student is well prepared to succeed in specific courses in resort management and equipped with employment-ready skills upon graduation. Students are required to complete 400 hours of work experience in the industry prior to graduation to provide practical experience in the field.

Graduate study in business (MS or MBA) is possible regardless of undergraduate major. However, students lacking sufficient quantitative and analytical skills may find it difficult at best. These skills can be acquired by completing the Base Curriculum previously described and by adding a higher level math class than required for the undergraduate degree.

To graduate, all business majors must have a "C-" or better in all courses required in the major.

Program Goals

The vision of the Business Administration major is to develop well-rounded, professionally competent, and socially responsible people who can compete successfully in the global, professional marketplace. The keys to accomplishing our vision are the following:

- Integrated studies of liberal arts and business.
- Theoretically sound and real-world oriented business classes.
- Basic instruction in the various functional business areas of management, marketing, accounting, economics, finance, law and quantitative analysis.
- Experiential learning that emphasizes communication, critical thinking, leadership and team skills.
- Course experiences that involve case study analysis and application of information technology.
- Opportunities for exposure to the skills and knowledge of experienced business people.
- Faculty who are dedicated to excellence in teaching and current in their areas of expertise.

The goal of the BUAD program is to graduate well-rounded students who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and will become successful in their careers. Because Western is a liberal arts college, business students may take fewer business and business-related courses than their peers at other institutions. But they will in turn receive a more rigorous general education that emphasizes written and spoken communication, problem solving, critical thinking and creativity. Our strategy is to leverage and integrate this broader general education with a strong program in business while we as faculty focus on effectively teaching the fundamentals of business.

Programs

Capstone Course Requirement

The following courses in the Business Administration Major fulfill the capstone course requirement: BUAD 491 Strategic Management (Standard Major or Management, Marketing, Latin American Emphas) or BUAD 494 Innovation + Entrepreneurship: Launch (Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship Emphasis) or BUAD 495 Prospect Economics and Evaluation (Energy Management Emphasis).

Business Administration Courses

BUAD 100. Business in Society. (3 Credits)
A study of the role of business in modern society. Topics include the private enterprise system, consumerism, management functions, major functional areas of large business, vital areas of small-business operation, and the environment of business.

BUAD 101. Business of Life. (3 Credits)
This course helps students begin building the foundations of four critical life skills: economic decision making, managing personal finances, personal branding and creating change. Students learn the basics of objective decision making, managing budgets and filing income taxes, creating and projecting a personal image, and using creativity and innovation within organizations and personal lives.

BUAD 150. Introduction to Hospitality. (3 Credits)
An introduction to hospitality management, including historical developmental patterns, current business trends, and future international expectations. Current job market, working environments, personal risks, and rewards are explored.

BUAD 185. Business Communication. (3 Credits)
A study of the fundamentals, principles, and practices of effective written communication, including concepts of appearance, language, and psychology of tone and persuasiveness as applied to the business letter, memorandum, email, spreadsheet, and report. Presentation skills are also discussed and practiced. Prerequisites: ENG 102 with a minimum grade of C-.

BUAD 197. Special Topics. (1-6 Credits)

BUAD 206. Personal Finance. (3 Credits)
Designed to help students plan the handling of their finances in everyday business transactions. Topics include budgeting, credit, savings, insurance, income tax, investments, and estate planning.

BUAD 210. Legal Environment of Business. (3 Credits)
Provides students an ability to sense the occasions when a lawyer should be consulted for guidance in avoiding legal mistakes. A study is made of the ordinary legal aspects of common business transactions, including the topics of social forces, contracts, personal property, and agency.

BUAD 220. Spreadsheets and Analysis. (3 Credits)
Students learn to utilize spreadsheets to organize, manipulate, analyze, and present data and information in business settings.

BUAD 240. Strategic Negotiations. (3 Credits)
Merges theory with practice, offering students a hands-on opportunity to learn negotiation and communication skills. Students study how to develop personal negotiation plans and preparation methods, analyze other parties interests, identify and implement solutions for mutual gain, communicate effectively, and successfully draft agreements. Students practice and refine both their personal and professional negotiation and communication skills using realistic mock scenarios to negotiate, compose, and evaluate agreements. Prerequisite: COM 202 with a minimum grade of C-.
BUAD 270. Principles of Marketing. (3 Credits)
An introduction to the fundamental concepts of marketing, including consumer demand and behavior, segmentation, advertising, marketing research, product development, distribution, pricing, the internet as a marketing agent, and global marketing issues. The student is exposed to the most basic tools, factors, and marketing principles administered by management in establishing policy, planning, and complex problem solving. Prerequisites: ENG 102 with a minimum grade of C- and completion of at least 24 credits; or instructor permission.

BUAD 275. Innovation + Entrepreneurship: Mindset. (3 Credits)
Acting with purpose means directing efforts towards initiatives that are both personally meaningful and impact the world beyond yourself. In this course, students work to identify a mission instead of just a major, recognize and modify limiting mindsets, and learn what drives modern difference makers, including innovators, entrepreneurs, and other change leaders. This course draws upon the latest in personal development research and brain science, and provides an imperative, yet often overlooked, foundation for those looking to make a positive impact in the world.

BUAD 292. Independent Study. (1-6 Credits)

BUAD 297. Special Topics. (6 Credits)

BUAD 299. Internship. (1-6 Credits)
A course designed specifically for freshmen- and sophomore-level students. Internships provide guided, counseled, and progressive experience under a dual-tutelage program of a businessperson and an academician. An academically monitored activity to assure quality experience. Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only.

BUAD 300. Business Ethics. (3 Credits)
A study of how ethics apply to business organizations today. Special emphasis is placed on developing moral reasoning. The course provides multiple perspectives on actual cases and ethical dilemmas faced by organizations with an emphasis on allowing students to think through ethical problems. Topics studied include moral philosophies, moral agency and development, ethical underpinnings of free markets and economic systems, and ethical concerns with the environment, future generations, and other stakeholders such as employees and consumers. Prerequisites: completion of Base Curriculum; BUAD 185 or COTH 202; or instructor permission.

BUAD 301. Topics in Business Administration. (1-6 Credits)
Provides an opportunity for students to examine current issues, topics, problems, and trends within the field.

BUAD 302. Energy Management Professional Development. (3 Credits)
This course is designed to both develop and strengthen student professionalism skills. With an emphasis in Energy Management, students will learn energy industry expectations, how to build and polish resumes and cover letters, effective public speaking techniques, interview skills, and professional awareness. This class sets students up to successfully and confidently embark on a career path, whether at Western or beyond. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing and instructor permission.

BUAD 305. Applied Energy Seminar. (3 Credits)
Introduction to the energy industry, including fossil fuel and renewable energy use and development. Explores topics including global energy production and consumption, energy efficiency, infrastructure, grid systems and transmission, and environmental and social impacts of energy development with an emphasis on regulation, policy, and the oil and gas industry. Prerequisite: COM 202.

BUAD 311. Business Analytics. (3 Credits)
This course covers managerial statistical tools in descriptive and predictive analytics, including regression. Other topics covered include forecasting, risk analysis, simulation, data mining, and decision analysis. Prerequisites: BUAD 220 or CS 120; ECON 216 or MATH 213.

BUAD 315. Business Law. (3 Credits)
Study includes: legal attributes of different business entities, employment and agency, intellectual property, securities, antitrust, sales, products liability, secured and unsecured lending, suretyship, bankruptcy, and real and personal property. Prerequisite: BUAD 210.

BUAD 320. Property and Contracts. (3 Credits)
An introduction to basic property and contract law with a focus on land management. Topics include the basic rules of contract and real property law, the land survey systems, legal descriptions, recording statutes, public records examination, surface and mineral ownership, interest types in property, concurrent estates, calculating ownership and revenue associated with mineral development, methods of acquiring property, conveyancing, title research, mineral leasing, and ethics. Prerequisite: BUAD 210.

BUAD 322. Financial Planning. (3 Credits)
An exploration of the fundamental issues of financial planning. Students gain an understanding of the concepts of the financial planning process, the economic environment, the time value of money, the legal environment, financial analysis, and ethical and professional considerations in financial planning. Prerequisite: Completion of Base Curriculum.

BUAD 323. Evolution of the Energy Economy. (3 Credits)
Studies the evolution of global energy development in the context of business. Utilizing a multi-disciplinary approach, students investigate energy technology, energy production processes, economics, social and political institutions, and the unique cultures in energy-producing regions. This class explores the role of fossil fuels in economic development and commerce, and the transition to renewable energy. Prerequisite: COM 202; or instructor permission.

BUAD 325. Management Information Systems. (3 Credits)
A study of how managers can and should be involved with systems planning, development, and implementation; what information systems resources are available to managers for decision support; and how information and technology can be used to support business strategy. Also, this course takes a managerial approach to information systems concepts and applications in business, while exposing the student to various types of software in the business sector. Prerequisite: BUAD 220 or CIS 120.

BUAD 327. Social Media Marketing. (3 Credits)
Students build their social media marketing skills by utilizing projects that give students hands on experience implementing social media marketing strategies. Upon completion, students should be able to use social media technologies to create and improve marketing efforts for businesses. Prerequisite: BUAD 270.

BUAD 333. Organizational Behavior. (3 Credits)
Provides students an understanding of human behavior in organizations today. Students will become familiar with the basic dimensions of organizational behavior covering topics such as leadership, motivation, management of people, and group dynamics. The course stresses an experimental approach as well as the personal nature of the material and how this relates to the complexities of behavior in and of organizations. Prerequisite: BUAD 185 or COM 202; or instructor permission.
BUAD 334. Lodging Operations. (3 Credits)
Students are exposed to operational aspects of the various parts of the domestic and international resort and hospitality industry. Current issues impacts on the operations of casinos, clubs, cruise lines, the lodging industry, and the restaurant/food industries are explored. Students who pursue positions in mid-level management in the resort industry need to understand the challenges to basic operations in the industry and comprehend the struggles of their organizations to provide service excellence as a competitive advantage. Prerequisite: BUAD 150; or instructor permission.

BUAD 335. Marketing Communications. (3 Credits)
Advertising, sales promotions, media utilization, public relations, and personal selling are highlighted in this course. Legal regulations and ethical considerations in mass media advertising and promotions are also covered. Finally, the student is exposed to the principles of planning and budgeting for such media events. Prerequisites: MATH 140, MATH 141, or MATH 151 with a minimum grade of C; ACC 201 with a minimum grade of C; BUAD 270; or instructor permission.

BUAD 340. Global Business. (3 Credits)
An advanced course with application of management and marketing principles to the inter-national marketplace. Cultural, political, and geographic differences are analyzed in order to develop market strategies for global markets. Prerequisite: BUAD 185 or COM 202; or instructor permission.

BUAD 342. Environmental Law. (3 Credits)
An introduction to the history, principles, and enforcement of environmental law with a focus on certain major environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and other laws, acts, and policies. Certain hot topics in natural resource law are also addressed. Students recognize the interplay between environmental laws and various industries, including the energy industry. Prerequisite: BUAD 210.

BUAD 343. Sales I. (3 Credits)
A focus on the habits, thinking, perspective and skills needed to understand professional selling. Students learn the SPIN model and engage in significant amounts of presentation practice and skills building. Students will choose a company, product or service to serve as their role play model for the semester. Prerequisite: BUAD 270.

BUAD 345. Consumer Behavior. (3 Credits)
Utilizing theories from the behavioral sciences, this course provides an in-depth examination of the individual customer learning and decision-making processes, segmentation, as well as culture, subculture, and social class relationships with marketing. Students develop an understanding of consumers shopping behavior, utilization of different marketing channels, perception of products, and reactions to advertising and other selling methods. Prerequisites: completion of Base Curriculum; BUAD 270; or instructor permission.

BUAD 350. Human Resource Management. (3 Credits)
Provides students with an understanding of the functions, content and challenges of Human Resource Management (HRM) in organizations today. Insights will be developed on basic dimensions of HRM such as recruitment, selection, performance management, rewards and retention, as well as particular challenges concerning strategic HRM and global environments. Emphasis is placed on how the complexities of HRM relate to students' past and future experiences as members of organizations. Prerequisites: BUAD 185 or COM 202 or instructor permission.

BUAD 355. Finance for the Non-Financial Manager. (3 Credits)
A study of how organizations produce, comprehend and interpret, and utilize basic financial statements and information to create, manage, and grow their operations. Prerequisites: ACC 201, Admission into the Adult Degree Completion program.

BUAD 360. Managerial Finance. (3 Credits)
An introductory course to the field of managed finance, covering such topics as financial analysis, time value of money, risk/return analysis, capital budgeting, working capital management, cost of capital, optimal capital structure. Prerequisites: Completion of Business Administration Base Curriculum; or Energy Management Base Curriculum; or instructor permission.

BUAD 363. Business and the Environment. (3 Credits)
A focus on the impact on the environment of human presence and absence. There is a consideration of various green practices that result in both positive environmental impacts and cost savings to industry, and examination of governmental initiatives regarding various business practices and their expected impacts on the environment, on businesses bottom lines, and on consumers. Course material emphasizes videos, readings, and guest lectures. Prerequisite: completion of Base Curriculum; or instructor permission.

BUAD 370. Exploration Production Processes. (3 Credits)
Provides students with an introduction to engineering in exploration and production, focusing on oil and gas upstream and midstream engineering processes and their interface with land functions. Concepts discussed in this course include: seismic, exploration, well-site selection and preparation, drilling, wellbore integrity, completions, hydraulic fracturing, facilities, separating, treating, processing, transportation, pipelines, and well-site reclamation. Prerequisites: BUAD 305, GEOL 103 and GEOL 105; or instructor permission.

BUAD 375. Innovation + Entrepreneurship: Toolkit. (3 Credits)
In this course students learn a toolkit of practices used by modern innovation leaders and problem solvers to move ideas forward. This toolkit draws from the practice of designers to integrate the preferences of people, the possibilities of technology, and the requirements for business sustainability. Students create and take action on strategies for a business, team, or organization by combining analysis and creativity - to both understand the world as it is, and imagine how it could be better. Prerequisite: BUAD 275 or instructor permission.

BUAD 380. Commercial Lending & Credit Analysis. (3 Credits)
The study of the principles of commercial lending to corporate customers by commercial banks. The course will examine the 5 Cs of credit, (Character, Capacity, Collateral, Conditions, and Capital), as well as the complete commercial lending function with emphasis on the analysis of corporate financial statements to determine the creditworthiness of commercial loan requests. Special emphasis will be placed on asset-based lending facilities, valuation of collateral, the collection of credit information and its analysis, and the risk-based pricing of commercial loans. Prerequisite: BUAD 360.

BUAD 382. Innovation + Entrepreneurship: Make. (3 Credits)
In this course, students learn to build, test, and refine ideas without having to invest the considerable resources required for a large-scale initiative. Prototyping is the process of deploying a series of small-scale experiments to quickly gauge and adapt an idea. Geared towards rapid making and quick learning, prototyping can be used to test everything from unproven processes, new services, and even entire programs and organizations to turn a rough idea into one supported by feedback, data, and observation. Prerequisite: BUAD 375 or instructor permission.
BUAD 384. Sales II. (3 Credits)
An extension of Sales I that focuses on the habits and tools professional
sellers in the marketplace. Students engage in significant amounts of
presentation practice and skill building. In addition to practice, students
will be involved in real selling experiences at various times during the
semester. Prerequisite: BUAD 343.

BUAD 392. Independent Study. (1-6 Credits)

BUAD 397. Special Topics. (6 Credits)
Prerequisite: completion of Base Curriculum; or instructor permission.

BUAD 399. Internship. (1-3 Credits)

BUAD 402. Commercial Bank Management. (3 Credits)
The study of the various risks banks face, not only in day-to-day
operations, but potential long term exposure to outside uncontrollable
forces including regulatory challenges and changes. Topics such as
asset-liability management, interest rate volatility, reserve management,
capital adequacy and others are covered. Also covered will be a
commercial banks interaction with the Federal Reserve. This course
will be augmented with cases and the American Bankers Associations
computer simulation game BANKEXEC. Prerequisite: BUAD 360.

BUAD 406. Innovation + Entrepreneurship: FIELD. (3 Credits)
This course allows students to apply all the innovation+ entrepreneurial
leadership and design skills they have developed within the I+E program,
and practice making a real impact in the world. Students deepen their
design thinking skills, advance their concepts, and make greater impact
through their projects. To get the most out of this course, students
should come prepared with a change they would like to make in the world
or a rough idea for a new business, organization, product, or service.
Prerequisite: BUAD 275 and BUAD 375; or instructor permission.

BUAD 410. Water Law. (3 Credits)
A comprehensive case law study of water, addressing the historical
development of the riparian and prior appropriation doctrines,
groundwater allocation issues, Federal and Indian water rights doctrines,
public rights in water and water as a shared resource both intrastate and
interstate, together with a brief review of certain environmental laws that
specifically address water issues. Prerequisite: BUAD 210.

BUAD 415. Portfolio Management. (3 Credits)
A study of portfolio management with an emphasis on customizing
asset allocation strategies and tactics for the individual and institutional
investors. Several financial portfolio optimization models will be studied.
The trade-off between risk and return on investments will also be
emphasized. Also covered is how asset derivatives and hedges can be
applied to either reduce risk, increase profitability, or both. Prerequisite: BUAD 360.

BUAD 420. Energy Law and Regulation. (3 Credits)
A comprehensive study of energy law and regulations, including the
legal rights and duties of both companies and landowners in energy
development projects. Students will practice navigating energy regulatory
schemes for energy development projects at the federal, state, and local
levels. Prerequisites: BUAD 210, BUAD 305, BUAD 320; or instructor
permission.

BUAD 421. Energy Contracts. (3 Credits)
This course covers the knowledge and skills an industry professional
is expected to exhibit in preparing, reviewing, securing, drafting and
negotiating commonly used energy agreements with a focus on land
and resource use, exploration and production of natural resources,
and partnerships. Prerequisites: BUAD 320, BUAD 305, or instructor
permission.

BUAD 425. Marketing Research. (3 Credits)
The focus of this course is the collection, analysis, and interpretation
of marketing data for reporting research information necessary
to make informed marketing decisions. Students develop skills in
defining research problems, designing surveys, experiments, and
observational studies, managing data collection, performing data
analysis, and communicating results. Prerequisites: completion of Base
Curriculum; BUAD 270; or instructor permission. BUAD 335 and BUAD 345
recommended.

BUAD 428. Sales III. (3 Credits)
Students continue to learn the SPIN Selling Model while mentoring
students in the first sales class. Also included are leadership models,
including Coveys Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. Prerequisites:
BUAD 343 and BUAD 384.

BUAD 460. Advanced Managerial Finance. (3 Credits)
The study of financial decision-making theory and practice which deals
with major issues in the managing the inflows and outflows of a firms
funds from the chief financial officers (CFO) perspective. Other topics
include financial analysis, forecasting financial needs, sources and use
of funds, efficient allocation of funds within the firm, firm and security
valuation techniques, risk/return decisions, capital budgeting, optimal
capital structure composition, and the firms relationships with investors,
financial markets, and financial institutions. Prerequisite: BUAD 360.

BUAD 461. Investments. (3 Credits)
A study of the many investments available for individual portfolios.
Emphasis is placed on the risks inherent in investments and the methods
and techniques of analysis used in selecting securities for investments.
Prerequisite: completion of Base Curriculum; BUAD 360; or instructor
permission.

BUAD 482. Hospitality Operations Management. (3 Credits)
An integration of management functions learned in previous classes
into a workable approach to profitable resort operations. Students are
encouraged to take this course during their last semester; graduating
seniors are given priority in enrollment. Prerequisite: completion of Base
Curriculum; BUAD 150; BUAD 334; BUAD 360; BUAD 399; or instructor
permission.

BUAD 491. Strategic Management. (3 Credits)
The formal analysis of an organizations macro and industry environment;
its mission and goals; and strategy formulation, implementation,
and control. This is a capstone course which integrates the students
knowledge from the areas of accounting, finance, marketing, and
management. Students are encouraged to take this course during
their last semester; graduating seniors are given priority in enrollment. Prerequisites: completion of Base
Curriculum; BUAD 185; BUAD 333 or 350; BUAD 360; and senior standing.

BUAD 492. Independent Study. (1-6 Credits)
A singular investigation into a unique problem to be determined jointly
by the researcher and the advisor. Prerequisite: completion of Base
Curriculum; or instructor permission.

BUAD 494. Innovation + Entrepreneurship: Launch. (3 Credits)
In this course, students combine traditional business strategy with
the methods and mindsets of design thinking to prototype the key
parts of any business, nonprofit, or other organization. Students unite
the analytical with the creative and focus on people to uncover new
opportunities and give organizations the best chance at success. To
get the most out of this course, students should come prepared with a
change they would like to make in the world or a rough idea for a new
business, organization, product, or service. Prerequisite: BUAD 275 and
BUAD 375; or instructor permission.
BUAD 495. Prospect Economics and Evaluation. (3 Credits)
Synthesizes previous coursework, focusing on the application of advanced concepts in finance, economics, law, regulatory schemes, mergers and acquisitions, negotiations, contract drafting, geology, engineering, title, leasing and environmental, social, and political issues. Prerequisites: BUAD 305, BUAD 320, BUAD 321, BUAD 360, GEOL 103, and GEOL 105; or instructor permission.

BUAD 497. Special Topics. (1-6 Credits)
Prerequisite: completion of Base Curriculum; or instructor permission.

BUAD 499. Internship in Business Administration. (1-6 Credits)
A course designed specifically for junior- and senior-level students. Internships provide guided, counseled, and progressive experience under a dual-tutelage program of a businessperson and an academician. An academically monitored activity to assure quality experience. Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only. Prerequisite: completion of Base Curriculum; or instructor permission.