BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, A.S. (ALTOONA)

Begin Campus: Altoona
End Campus: Altoona

Program Description
The associate degree program in Business Administration provides an introductory foundation to core aspects of the business environment that prepares graduates for future baccalaureate study in business or for direct entry into the workplace. The primary objective of this major is to provide a business-oriented program with sufficient communicative and mathematical skills, socially relevant course work, and specific business specialties to develop a well-rounded and knowledgeable graduate.

Students should work closely with academic advisers to schedule coursework required to transition to baccalaureate business programs.

What is Business Administration?
To be successful in today’s increasingly complex business world, you need to have a broad understanding of how business works. The Penn State Associate degree in Business Administration prepares students for a professional career in today’s business environment. The degree offers students a managerially-oriented program emphasizing communication and mathematical skills, socially relevant course work, and advanced courses in business. While Penn State’s Associate in Science in Business Administration is an excellent stand-alone credential, it can be used to seamlessly transition to a bachelor’s degree such as the Bachelor of Science in Business or other business-related programs at the University.

You Might Like This Program If...
- You want to learn to use the latest technical business tools to perform your job duties effectively.
- You analyze and react to issues facing companies today.
- You collect and analyze data to make inferences and solve business problems.
- You need to execute effective communication strategies.

Entrance to Major
Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to change to this Associate degree after admission to the University.

Degree Requirements
For the Associate in Science degree in Business Administration, a minimum of 60 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>48-50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 of the 21 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3 credits of GQ General Education courses and 6 credits of GWS General Education courses.

Requirements for the Major
To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCTG 211</td>
<td>Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision Making</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100</td>
<td>Effective Speech</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIS 204</td>
<td>Introduction to Management Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202D</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Business Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 241 &amp; BA 242</td>
<td>Legal Environment of Business and Social and Ethical Environment of Business</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 102 or ECON 104</td>
<td>Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCM 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics for Business</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 21</td>
<td>College Algebra with Analytic Geometry with Applications I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 22</td>
<td>College Algebra With Analytic Geometry and Applications II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Techniques of Calculus I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15</td>
<td>Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 30H</td>
<td>Honors Rhetoric and Composition</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 301</td>
<td>Basic Management Concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MGMT 301WB</td>
<td>Basic Management Concepts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MKTG 301</td>
<td>Principles of Marketing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MKTG 301W</td>
<td>Principles of Marketing</td>
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<td>MATH 22</td>
<td>College Algebra With Analytic Geometry and Applications II</td>
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<td>ACCTG 300 to ACCTG 399</td>
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<td>ECON 100 to ECON 399</td>
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<td>ENTR 100 to ENTR 399</td>
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<td>FIN 100 to FIN 399</td>
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<td>HPA 100 to HPA 399</td>
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<tr>
<td>LER 100 to LER 399</td>
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<td>MGMT 100 to MGMT 399</td>
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<td>MKTG 100 to MKTG 399</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIS 100 to MIS 399</td>
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</table>
General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all associate degree students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
- Quantification (GQ): 3 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 3 credits

Knowledge Domains
- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Note: Up to six credits of Inter-Domain courses may be used for any Knowledge Domain requirement, but when a course may be used to satisfy more than one requirement, the credits from the course can be counted only once.

Exploration
- Any General Education course (including GHW and Inter-Domain): 3 credits

University Degree Requirements

Cultures Requirement
3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for a associates degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Program Learning Objectives
- Communication Skills: Demonstrate the necessary skills and abilities to effectively communicate.
- Data Analysis and Problem-Solving: Recognize and solve business problems using quantitative and qualitative measures
- Ethics, Social Responsibility and Conflict Resolution: Demonstrate an awareness of ethical issues, social responsibilities and conflict resolution.
- Fundamental Business Knowledge: Explain fundamental business concepts, principles and contemporary business practices.
- Technology Tools Skills: Apply contemporary tools of information technology to include business software applications.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

Altoona
Deborah K. Hommer
Assistant Teaching Professor, Business Administration
Penn Building 223, 3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5265
dhx41@psu.edu

Abington
Feng Zhang
Program Chair
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
Abington (AB) 215-881-7829
fzz34@psu.edu

Berks
Sudip Ghosh
Program Coordinator, Associate Professor
Gaige 324
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6346
Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2024-25 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://...
To view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition, visit bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/.

**Placed into MATH 4 and/or ENGL 4: Business Administration, A.S. at Altoona Campus**

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ACCTG 211</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>ECON 102 or 104</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 4*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 15‡</td>
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<td>MIS 204</td>
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<td>MIS 204</td>
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<td>MATH 21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSU 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>BA 242*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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16 15 6

**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCM 200</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MGMT 301*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 241†</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MKTG 301W*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 202D*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
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<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 15

Total Credits 67

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.
**Placed Higher than MATH 4 and/or ENGL 4: Business Administration, A.S. at Altoona Campus**

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<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ACCTG 211</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15†</td>
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<td>ECON 102 or 104</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIS 204</td>
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<td>BA 242*</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSU 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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</table>

### Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCM 200 or STAT 200</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MGMT 301*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 241†</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MKTG 301W*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 202D*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
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<td>Business Supporting Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

**Career Paths**

Business impacts our society in many ways. Every business, from small companies to large corporations provide employment options. The associate in business degree can help prepare you for a wide variety of entry-level careers in this sector or for continued study in business. You will have the opportunity to participate in an elective business internship as part of your curriculum. Internships provide valuable experience before graduation and an important first step toward starting your career.

**Careers**

Because the Associate in Science in Business Administration can give you a foundation of business concepts and best practices relevant to any industry, as a graduate of the program you can prepare for positions in accounting departments, management trainee opportunities, retail, insurance industry, industrial management opportunities, office manager, or business service manager. Some examples of jobs include:

- Accounting Specialist
- Accounts Examiner
- Appraisers and assessors of real estate
- Assistant Marketing Director
- Assistant Store Manager
- Billing Clerk
- Business services manager
- Computing business coordinator
- Compliance officers
- Insurance sales agent
- Industrial Salesperson
- Management Trainee
- Office Manager
- Payroll Assistant
- Sales Coordinator


**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**

Upon completion of the associate degree in business, you may also choose to proceed seamlessly to the bachelor of science in business or selected other business-related majors at Penn State.

**Contact**

**Altoona**

DIVISION OF BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, AND INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY
Penn Building 223, 3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5265
dxh41@psu.edu

https://altoona.psu.edu/academics/associate-degrees/business-administration

**Abington**

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7829
fzz34@psu.edu

https://www.abington.psu.edu/associate-degree-programs/associate-business-administration

**Berks**

EBC DIVISION
Gaige Building  
Reading, PA 19610  
610-396-6346  
BKBusiness@psu.edu  
https://berks.psu.edu/academics/associate-business-administration

**Brandywine**  
Main, 207F  
25 Yearsley Mill Road  
Media, PA 19063  
cmo16@psu.edu  
https://www.brandywine.psu.edu/academics/associate-degrees/business-administration

**DuBois**  
1 College Place  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-4803  
dll150@psu.edu  
https://dubois.psu.edu/directory/business-administration-program

**Fayette**  
2201 University Drive  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456  
724-430-4245  
 wsg3@psu.edu  
https://fayette.psu.edu/academics/associate/business-administration

**Greater Allegheny**  
101 Frable Building  
4000 University Drive  
McKeesport, PA 15132  
412-675-9140  
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu  
https://greaterallegheny.psu.edu/academics/business-administration-associate

**Harrisburg**  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
Olmsted Building, E355  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6139  
cxs879@psu.edu  
https://harrisburg.psu.edu/business-administration/business-administration-as

**Hazleton**  
301A Schiavo Hall  
Hazleton, PA 18202  
570-450-3533  
skr12@psu.edu  
https://hazleton.psu.edu/associate-science-business-administration

**Mont Alto**  
205 General Studies Building  
Mont Alto, PA 17237  
717-749-6229  
mx116@psu.edu  
https://montalto.psu.edu/academics/associate/associate-business-degree

**New Kensington**  
111 Administration Bldg.  
3550 Seventh Street Rd.  
New Kensington, PA 15068  
724-334-6727  
sxe5211@psu.edu  
https://newkensington.psu.edu/academics/2-year-business

**Schuylkill**  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
200 University Drive  
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972  
570-385-6080  
amb536@psu.edu  
https://schuylkill.psu.edu/academics/bacc-degrees/business

**Scranton**  
117 Business Building  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
570-9632643  
jmw831@psu.edu  
https://scranton.psu.edu/academics/degrees/bachelors/business-degree

**Shenango**  
147 Shenango Avenue  
309C Sharon Hall  
Sharon, PA 16146  
724-983-2942  
gxm32@psu.edu  
https://shenango.psu.edu/academics/degrees/2-year-business-administration

**Wilkes-Barre**  
44 University Drive  
Dallas, PA 18612  
570-675-9293  
tmc12@psu.edu
https://wilkesbarre.psu.edu/academics/business

World Campus
UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISING
225 Outreach Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-3283
advising@worldcampus.psu.edu

https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-business-administration-associate-in-science-degree

York
1031 Edgecomb Ave.
York, PA 17403
717-718-6785
mal489@psu.edu

https://www.york.psu.edu/academics/associate/business-administration