BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, A.S. (BERKS)

Begin Campus: Berks
End Campus: Berks

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 work place. 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.

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 baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)
- 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

Foundations or Knowledge Domains
- A General Education course selected from GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, or GS, and may include Integrative Studies (Inter-domain or Linked) courses: 3 credits

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.

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 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduates/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

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 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-
rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</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>
</tbody>
</table>

**Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202D</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Business Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA 241</td>
<td>Legal Environment of Business &amp; Social and Ethical Environment of Business</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or BA 243</td>
<td>Social, Legal, and Ethical Environment of Business</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 102</td>
<td>Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ECON 104</td>
<td>Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCM 200** Introduction to Statistics for Business or **STAT 200** Elementary Statistics

**Select one of the following:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 21</td>
<td>College Algebra I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 22</td>
<td>College Algebra II and Analytic Geometry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Techniques of Calculus I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15</td>
<td>Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 30</td>
<td>Honors Freshman Composition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 301</td>
<td>Basic Management Concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MGMT 301W</td>
<td>Basic Management Concepts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<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>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting Courses and Related Areas**

**Select 12-13 credits of the following:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Business</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 250</td>
<td>Small Business Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 364</td>
<td>Small Group Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CAS 252</td>
<td>Business and Professional Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS 352</td>
<td>Organizational Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB 303</td>
<td>International Business Operations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 22</td>
<td>College Algebra II and Analytic Geometry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Techniques of Calculus I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCTG 300 to ACCTG 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 100 to ECON 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENTR 100 to ENTR 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIN 100 to FIN 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HPA 100 to HPA 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LER 100 to LER 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 100 to MGMT 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKTG 100 to MKTG 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIS 100 to MIS 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RM 100 to RM 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCM 200 to SCM 399</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

**Berks**

Sudip Ghosh
Program Coordinator, Associate Professor
Gaige 324
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6346
sxg38@psu.edu

**Abington**

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

**Altoona**

Deborah K. Hommer
Assistant Teaching Professor, Business Administration
Penn Building 223, 3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5265
dxh41@psu.edu

**Brandywine**

Francis Green
Lecturer in Business
25 Yearsley Mill Road
Media, PA 19063
610-892-1488
fog1@psu.edu

**DuBois**

Diane Spradling
Lecturer in Business and Program Coordinator
1 College Place
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-4803
dl1150@psu.edu

**Fayette**

William Gardner
**Business Administration, A.S. (Berks)**

Assistant Teaching Professor  
2201 University Drive  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456  
724-430-4245  
wsg3@psu.edu

**Greater Allegheny**  
Advising Office  
Academic Affairs  
101 Frable Building  
4000 University Drive  
McKeesport, PA 15132  
412-675-9140  
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu

**Harrisburg**  
Jane Kochanov, M.B.A.  
Program Coordinator  
Olmsted Building, E355  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6139  
jxs121@psu.edu (jxs121@psu.edu)u (jxs121@psu.edu)

**Hazleton**  
Sherry Robinson  
Associate Professor of Business  
304 Pasco L. Schiavo Hall  
Hazleton, PA 18202  
570-450-3559  
skr12@psu.edu

**Mont Alto**  
Michael Labalokie  
Lecturer, Accounting and Finance  
205 General Studies Building  
Mont Alto, PA 17237  
717-749-6229  
mxl16@psu.edu

**New Kensington**  
Frank Santimauro  
Lecturer  
3550 Seventh Street Rd.  
New Kensington, PA 15068  
724-334-6743  
fas11@psu.edu

**Schuylkill**  
Gina Whalen  
Program Coordinator, Business  
A-114 200 University Drive  
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972  
570-385-6085  
gck101@psu.edu

**Scranton**  
James Wilkerson  
Assistant Teaching Professor  
117 Business Building  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
570-963-2264  
jmw831@psu.edu

**Shenango**  
Lisa Bertin  
Assistant Teaching Professor  
147 Shenango Avenue  
318 Sharon Hall  
Sharon, PA 16146  
724-983-2908  
lrb19@psu.edu

**Wilkes-Barre**  
Theresa Clemente  
Program Coordinator, Business  
P.O. Box 264  
Lehman, PA 18627  
570-675-9293  
tmc12@psu.edu

**World Campus**  
Undergraduate Academic Advising  
301 Outreach Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-3283  
advising@outreach.psu.edu

**York**  
Ali Kara  
Professor of Business Administration  
206 Grumbacher Building (GISTC)  
York, PA 17403  
717-771-4189  
axk19@psu.edu

**Suggested Academic Plan**

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2019-20 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

**General Business Option at Berks 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30⁺</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ECON 102 or 104</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 21⁺</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ACCTG 211</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100A or 100B⁺</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Business Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
First-Year Seminar 1 
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA 243</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>ENGL 2020‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIS 204</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SCM 200 or STAT 200</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MGMT 301*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MKTG 301*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Business Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 61

1. Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
2. Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
3. Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
1 Students must complete the Writing Across The Curriculum requirement through one (1) of the requirements listed above. Consult adviser for details.
2 Students interested in pursuing the B.S. in Business degree should follow those course recommendations. Consult adviser for details.

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University 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.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). 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:

- 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**

**Berk’s**

EBC DIVISION
Gaige Building
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6346
sxg38@psu.edu

http://berks.psu.edu/associate-business-administration

**Abington**

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

http://abington.psu.edu/associate-bus-administration

**Altoona**

DIVISION OF BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, AND INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY
Penn Building 223, 3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5265
dhx41@psu.edu

http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/business/request-information

**Brandywine**

25 Yearsley Mill Road
Media PA 19063
610-892-1488
fog1@psu.edu

http://brandywine.psu.edu/associate-degree-business-administration

**DuBois**

1 College Place
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-4803
dfl150@psu.edu

https://dubois.psu.edu/directory/business-administration-program

**Fayette**
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4245
wsg3@psu.edu

http://fayette.psu.edu/business-administration

**Greater Allegheny**
101 Frable Building
4000 University Drive
McKeesport, PA 15132
412-675-9140
GA-Academics@lists.psu.edu

http://greaterallegheny.psu.edu/business-administration

**Harrisburg**
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Olmsted Building, E355
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6139
cxs879@psu.edu

https://harrisburg.psu.edu/business-administration/mba-and-business-administration/associate-science-business-administration

**Hazleton**
301A Schiavo Hall
Hazleton, PA 18202
570-450-3533
skr12@psu.edu

http://hazleton.psu.edu/associate-science-business-administration

**Mont Alto**
205 General Studies Building
Mont Alto, PA 17237
717-749-6229
mxl16@psu.edu

http://montalto.psu.edu/directory/associate-business-program

**New Kensington**
3550 Seventh Street Rd.
New Kensington, PA 15068
724-334-6769
rum20@psu.edu

http://newkensington.psu.edu/2-year-business

Schuylkill
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
A-114 200 University Drive
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-6085
gck101@psu.edu

https://schuylkill.psu.edu/academics/degrees/bacc-degrees/business

**Scranton**
117 Business Building
Dunmore, PA 18512
570-963-2643
jmw831@psu.edu

http://worthingtonscranton.psu.edu/business

**Shenango**
147 Shenango Avenue
318 Sharon Hall
724-983-2908
lrh19@psu.edu

http://shenango.psu.edu/business-associate-degree

**Wilkes-Barre**
P.O. Box 264
Lehman, PA 18627
570-675-9293
tmc12@psu.edu

http://wilkesbarre.psu.edu/academics/business

**World Campus**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
111 Old Main
University Park, PA 16802
610-892-1443
vmg3@psu.edu

https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/business-associates/overview

**York**
206 Grumbacher Building (GISTC)
York, PA 17403
717-771-4189
axk19@psu.edu

http://york.psu.edu/academics/associate/business-administration