

Why a business major?

Why should you consider a major in business?

Whether you want to dive directly into business straight after high school or you want to add strong business skills to an already successful career, a business degree can teach you how to make strategic decisions and help your company succeed. A strong business program can prepare younger students to use their stamina to their advantage during the first stage of their careers. Business degree holders can often leap into strong positions at a variety of companies that require long work hours, travel and exhausting negotiations. By applying their business school skills to the real-world demands of their employers, business majors can establish strong track records in their fields.

Meanwhile, experienced professionals who add a business degree to their credentials benefit from combining their life experience with proven principles. Business majors who participate in part-time, online business degree programs can gradually implement their new skills at their current business. Over time, business majors can move up the career ladder while still earning a degree. Once they finish their course work, they can move up within their company or make a leap to a different business that eagerly anticipates their arrival.

Business school prepares students for real-world challenges by forcing them to analyse real-world problems. At the undergraduate level, students must research and understand case studies of both superstar successes and colossal failures of the business world. At the graduate level, MBA candidates often work in teams to launch mock businesses – some of which even take hold in reality to become true success stories.

Along the way, business majors pick up skills that allow them to flourish either as general business professionals or as specialists. By studying accounting, finance, economics and other basics of the business world, students can make consistent, accurate decisions that serve customers, reward investors and shape society.

In addition, business majors take many courses outside their field. This exposure to other areas allows students to shape their career paths by gaining deep experience in a particular industry. Schools also provide business majors with instruction in ethics, culture and history, in order to help them place their business decisions in the broadest possible context.

Hot jobs

In light of the scandals that rocked companies such as Enron and WorldCom, businesses of all sizes are demanding quality compliance personnel. Auditors and accountants work

both within companies and as outside consultants to keep their eyes on the books and make sure businesses uphold their ethical standards. Business majors who specialise in financial management and corporate security can expect extremely strong job prospects after they earn their degrees.

If you love foreign cultures as much as you love to conduct business, more than a few Fortune 500 companies would like to have a word with you. The explosion of global trade has created a surge in demand for international business specialists. For business majors who can't wait to start their day with a donut in New York and finish with sushi in Tokyo, the corporate world extends tremendous opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Could you convince a fish to buy a glass of water? Business majors who understand marketing and negotiation can always earn commissions as professional salespeople. Unlike other careers that might rise

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and fall with the state of a particular trend or product, the strongest sales professionals can apply their skills to any situation. Every business lives or dies by the quality of its sales force; smart business majors use their coursework as proving grounds for these important talents.

People take a more active role in their financial wellness than ever before. Where previous generations spent their entire lives working toward a pension at the same company, today's workers understand the need to plan for an independent future. Business majors who love to work directly with people can thrive as certified financial planners. Helping clients preserve income and increase their wealth, a strong financial planner can directly impact the quality of life for multiple generations of client families. 🍀

Which candidates make the best business majors?

The best business majors possess a strong competitive spirit. Unlike other majors, where students earn grades based on their knowledge of a given subject, business students must fight to earn their grades. These battles can take place in model business competitions, business plan mock-ups or even in courses where professors grade on a curve. Business majors must want to win in order to make a living in the corporate world. Their school experience mirrors that everyday struggle for survival and success.

Admissions counsellors look for a set of traits among strong applicants that reflect the ability to conduct business efficiently and ethically. Business schools look for candidates who possess strong math skills, familiarity with computers and critical thinking abilities.

More recently, schools have started to screen applicants using tests of morals and ethics, in order to emphasise their commitment to preventing future business disasters. Many schools pose ethical dilemmas in application essays or during candidate interviews. According to what is most likely an urban legend, one admissions officer has even left wallets and credit cards in college restrooms to test the honesty of potential students.

So, there you have it, a few tools to help you make your decision. Take your time to explore specific business majors. Because business encompasses various fields, choosing a specialty early can give your career a valuable head start. Remember, some business majors can turn a specialty into a worthwhile profession. As you review each major, try as much as you can to see the benefits of choosing that specific major. You will soon have a pool of opportunities in front of you.