

College of Business and Economic Development

Graduate Degrees 2004-2005

School	Major	Degree
	Business Administration	Master of Business Administration
School of Public Accountancy and Information Systems	Accounting	Master of Public Accountancy
Economic Development and Planning	Economic Development	Master of Science
	Workforce Training and Development	Master of Science
Doctoral Level Economic Development and Planning	International Development	Doctor of Philosophy

Business & Eco Develop

College of Business and Economic Development

Harold Doty, Dean
Farhang Niroomand, Associate Dean
118 College Drive #5021
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
(601) 266-4659

Mission

The College of Business and Economic Development at The University of Southern Mississippi is committed to preparing our students for careers in business and to assisting organizations in South Mississippi.

Accordingly, our programs emphasize

- values conducive to personal and career development
- the functions and environment of business
- communication and critical thinking
- the global dimensions of business
- ethical decision-making

To fulfill our mission, the college seeks a balanced and synergistic agenda of instruction, scholarly activity, and professional service.

Graduate Degree Programs

The following graduate degree programs are available on the Hattiesburg campus: a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) and a Master of Professional Accountancy (M.P.A.). These programs are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The College of Business and Economic Development also offers a Master of Science in Workforce Training and Development, a Master of Science in Economic Development, and a Doctor of Philosophy in International Development.

Graduate assistantships are available for all CBED graduate degrees. Students with good undergraduate records are encouraged to apply at the time they request admission.

Degree Requirements

Master of Business Administration

William Smith, Director
Dianna Ladnier, Assistant Director
Graduate Business Programs
118 College Drive #5096
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(601) 266-4653

Linda Jordan, Coordinator
Department of Business and Economic Development
730 E. Beach Blvd
Long Beach, MS 39560
(601) 867-2620

B. Babin, L. Babin, Black, Bushardt, Carr, Cartee, Carter, Chen, Davis, Duhon, Fisher, Green, Gunther, Hamwi, Henthorne, Hsieh, E. King, R. King, Klinedinst, Lewis, Lindley, Lo, Lopez, Magruder, Mixon, Naghshpour, Nam, Niroomand, Nissan, Peyrefitte, Salter, Sawyer, Sharpe, Smith, Taylor, Topping, Trevino, Vest, Whitesell, Williams, Wong, Yang, Zantow

**Associate Graduate Faculty*

Requests for application forms and other information may be addressed to the director of Graduate Business Programs, College of Business and Economic Development, The University of Southern Mississippi, 118 College Drive #5096, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001. Telephone inquiries may be made by calling (601) 266-4653.

A Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) is also offered on the Gulf Coast. Requests for application forms and other information may be addressed as indicated above. Telephone inquiries can also be made by calling (601) 867-2620 at Gulf Park.

The M.B.A. program is available to students who have no previous coursework in business administration, as well as anyone whose background includes an undergraduate degree in a business discipline. Consequently, required M.B.A. coursework ranges from a minimum of 30 semester hours to a maximum of 48 semester hours. Specific degree requirements will be determined upon admission. Pre-program proficiency requirements include the ability to make use of word processing, spreadsheet, and database management software packages, as well as mathematical competence through managerial statistics and applied calculus.

The M.B.A. program is broad in nature and aimed at developing managerial competence from a general perspective. Specifically, the M.B.A. curriculum

- strengthens critical thinking skills that involve the ability to structure and analyze problems creatively and to process data to yield useful information
- fosters thinking that is global in scope and integrative of the economic, technical, political-legal, and social-cultural dimensions
- provides pragmatic managerial decision-making skills through instruction in the fundamentals of the functional areas of business (accounting, financial analysis, etc.)
- develops skills in dealing with behavioral issues including the ability to function effectively as a decision maker, motivator, and leader
- increases awareness of and appreciation for ethical values, human dignity, cultural diversity, social responsibilities, and the need for continuous self-development
- develops the ability to think strategically and to function effectively in an environment of rapid change
- enhances written and oral communication skills



Foundation course requirements are as follows:

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Courses</u>	<u>Hours</u>
MBA 500	3	MBA 530	3
MBA 511	3	MBA 550	3
MBA 520	3	MBA 570	3
(total foundation coursework: 18 hours)			

NOTE: The foregoing foundation course requirements will normally be waived for students who have undergraduate degrees in business.

Advanced course requirements are as follows:

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Courses</u>	<u>Hours</u>
MBA 600	3	MBA 645	3
MBA 605	3	MBA 650	3
MBA 610	3	MBA 660	3
MBA 640	3	ELECTIVES	9
(total advanced coursework: 30 hours)			

In some cases, pre-program courses should be taken prior to enrolling in M.B.A. classes.

Admission Standards

Admission to The University of Southern Mississippi's M.B.A. and M.P.A. programs is selective. Regular admission is contingent on having graduated from a college or university accredited by a recognized regional accrediting agency. In addition, the Graduate Admissions committee of the College of Business and Economic Development recommends admittance only for those applicants whose academic background, work experience, demonstrated leadership, and communication skills meet the challenging demands of graduate programs in management and accounting.

In evaluating applications, the admission committee utilizes the following criteria:

Undergraduate record—The cumulative grade point average (GPA) from all institutions, the area(s) of concentration, the balance of verbal/communication and quantitative/analytical courses, and the trend of grades are considered.

Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)—The GMAT is sponsored and directed by the Graduate Management Admission Council, consisting of representatives from graduate schools of management. A candidate should strive to achieve a good balance of verbal- and quantitative-area scores.

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)—Students whose native language is not English must achieve a TOEFL score of 550 or more.

Work Experience—While work experience is not required for admission, two or more years of relevant managerial responsibility strengthen the likelihood of admission to the program. Applicants are encouraged to submit resumes showing job responsibilities and accomplishments.

Letters of Recommendation—The admission committee reviews letters of recommendation to gain a more personal understanding of the applicant’s leadership ability in terms of communication and interpersonal skills. Each applicant should request three recommendation letters, at least one of which addresses the applicant’s academic preparation. Letters of recommendation should be from persons qualified to assess the applicant’s readiness for graduate study and should be sent to the department or school.

Essay—The essay requirement provides the applicant an opportunity to demonstrate writing competency and communication skills. It also enables the applicant to provide specific examples of demonstrated leadership, to discuss career plans, and to supply additional information that will assist in selecting those individuals who can most benefit from and contribute to the graduate management or accounting programs.

Students may enroll in College of Business and Economic Development courses reserved exclusively for graduate students if they have regular admission to specific Southern Miss graduate programs and have taken the necessary prerequisites. In rare cases, students may be admitted conditionally. To remove conditional admission status, master’s students must earn a 3.0 on the first nine (9) semester hours of coursework numbered 500 or above or on all courses taken while completing this nine (9) hour requirement. Students with an undergraduate degree in business who have been accepted into the M.B.A. program may start on a full-time basis in the summer and fall semesters. Only part-time students will be allowed to start in the spring semester. Students who do not have an undergraduate degree in business but have been accepted into the M.B.A. program may start in the fall semester only as a full-time student.

Students transferring from other graduate schools must meet the admission requirements stated above. At the time of admission, transfer students may request that up to six (6) semester hours of approved credit be applied toward degree requirements. Once enrolled, transfer of credit between the Hattiesburg and the Gulf Coast campuses, as well as courses taken at other institutions, must be approved in advance.

Academic Policies

Application of credits and dismissal—Students who receive a grade of “C” in more than nine (9) hours of coursework will be dismissed from the program. Students may not apply hours toward a degree for courses in which there is a grade of “D”; students who receive grades of “D” in more than six (6) hours of coursework will be dismissed from the program. Students who receive grades of “F” in more than three hours of coursework will be dismissed from the program.

Upon approval by the director, students may repeat only one course to improve a cumulative grade point average. Students whose cumulative grade point average (GPA) or whose program GPA falls below 3.0 will be placed on probation. Students must attain a cumulative 3.0 GPA by the end of the following (probationary) semester or they may be dismissed from the program subject to review by a faculty committee and the program director.

Graduation requirements—Students must complete course requirements with at least a 3.0 GPA for all graduate courses taken. In addition, all general requirements of the Office of Graduate Studies must be met; this includes a comprehensive examination.

School of Accountancy and Information Systems

Roderick Posey, Director
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Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
(601) 266-4641

Albin, Clark, Crockett, Depree, Gordon, Henderson, Jordan, Pate, Smith

**Associate Graduate Faculty*

Mission

The School of Accountancy and Information Systems (SAIS) is an academic unit within the College of Business and Economic Development (CBED) at The University of Southern Mississippi and is committed to the mission of the CBED. Within this framework, the SAIS has its own unique mission.

The primary objective of the SAIS is to be a quality provider of undergraduate- and master's-level accounting education. The SAIS strives to produce technically competent, yet broadly educated, business and accounting graduates who have marketable skills, the ability to think critically, an understanding of the importance of ethics in decision making, and an appreciation of the necessity for lifelong learning. Therefore, as its first priority, the SAIS emphasizes excellent teaching in an environment of continuous curriculum development.

The SAIS also acknowledges its responsibilities to the university, the accounting profession, business and government enterprises, and taxpayers. The SAIS strives to meet these responsibilities by providing appropriate services and by engaging in the scholarly pursuits of research and writing. These activities complement the primary teaching mission. Emphasis is placed on the preparation for professional careers in both the public accounting and management accounting areas.

The objective of the graduate curriculum is to provide more depth and breadth in accounting and related subjects than can be accomplished in a four-year program. Enrollment in the school's graduate program is limited to those students who show a high probability of success.

The school offers one degree—the Master of Professional Accountancy. The program leading to the M.P.A. is essentially the culmination of a five-year program. A student who earns the bachelor's degree with a major in accounting may normally complete the M.P.A. program with one year's additional work. A minimum of thirty (30) hours of graduate work is required.

Students with a variety of educational backgrounds may enter the program. Students who have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university must either transfer or take the following business environment and tool courses:

Applied Calculus for Business(3 hours)	Advanced Business Law(3 hours)
Principles of Economics(6 hours)	Principles of Finance(3 hours)
Managerial Statistics I(3 hours)	Global Managerial Policy and Strategy..... (3 hours)
Managerial Statistics II(3 hours)	Management Information Systems (3 hours)
Management for Organizations.....(3 hours)	Principles of Marketing(3 hours)
Legal Environment of Business.....(3 hours)	

The following lower-division accounting courses are also required:

Principles of Accounting(3 hours)	Cost Accounting(3 hours)
Accounting Processes and Systems(3 hours)	Income Tax Accounting(3 hours)
Intermediate Accounting(6 hours)	Government and Not-for-Profit Accounting(3 hours)
Advanced Accounting(3 hours)	
Auditing(3 hours)	



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Professional-level courses for M.P.A.:

- ACC 605 - Current Accounting Theory and Research
- ACC 610 - Advanced Auditing
- ACC 620 - Advanced Cost/Managerial Accounting
- ACC 630 - Tax Seminar I
- ACC 631 - Tax Seminar II
- ACC 660 - Contollership

- MBA 640 - Problems in Corporate Finance
- MBA 645 - Communication Skills for Managers
- MBA 6XX - Any 600-level MBA course
- MBA 6XX - Any 600-level MBA course

A minimum of ten (10) courses must be taken at the graduate level with at least seven (7) courses numbered over 600 and at least three (3) MBA courses.

Admission to the Program

Admission requirements for the M.P.A. program are the same as those listed for the M.B.A. program. Admission forms and GMAT applications are available in the Graduate Business Programs Office, JGH Room 307. Members of all underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Graduation and Retention Standards

Graduation and retention standards for the M.P.A. program are the same as those listed above for the M.B.A. program.

Master of Science in Workforce Training and Development

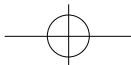
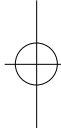
The College of Business and Economic Development offers a program leading to the Master of Science in Workforce Training and Development. The program emphasizes both the research and theory framework as well as the practical application of workforce learning and performance. The goal of the Workforce Training and Development master's program is to prepare students to improve human performance, balance individual and organizational needs, build knowledge capital within the organization, and determine the return on investment of training programs. Students learn to think strategically to design and develop interventions that will positively impact workplace learning and performance. This program is designed to expand instructional opportunities beyond traditional boundaries of on-campus class delivery. The Workforce Training and Development Executive Format program utilizes a distance-learning platform to maximize interaction and learning not only during in-person, weekend-class sessions, but also between sessions via online communication among students and professors.

Admission Requirements

See master's admission requirements in this *Bulletin*.

Program Requirements

1. In addition to the degree requirements established by the Graduate School (30 hours with 18 hours at the 600 level), students earning the Master of Science in Workforce Training and Development must satisfy the degree requirements listed below.
2. Students must complete a project and develop a degree plan to be approved by a faculty adviser and the Workforce Training and Development coordinator prior to the completion of more than nine (9) hours of graduate work.
3. Students must satisfactorily complete 21 hours of core courses. These courses are determined after review of the student's application materials.
4. During the first year of graduate study, students must select a graduate committee composed of three members of whom two must be members of the graduate faculty of the College of Business and Economic Development.
5. Students must perform satisfactorily on a comprehensive examination that is required for graduation. This exam is normally administered during the final semester of graduate work.
6. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 based on all graduate courses completed.



Department of Economic Development and Planning

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Butler, Dvorak, Goodman, Hudson, Miller

The Department of Economic Development offers graduate work leading to a Master of Science in Economic Development and Doctor of Philosophy in International Development.

Master's Program

The goal of the Economic Development program is to assist students in acquiring professional competency in the concepts, skills, working tools, and creative approaches essential to those involved in the field of economic development, whether at the community, state, regional, national, or international level.

Admission Requirements:

1. Have a 3.0 (4.0 scale) grade point average over the last two years of the student's undergraduate studies.
2. Submit GRE scores. The Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) may be submitted in place of the GRE. Students whose native language is not English must achieve a TOEFL score of 560 or more.
3. Provide three letters of recommendation from persons qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study. The letters should be sent to the department.
4. In exceptional cases, students may be admitted conditionally. Such students must earn a 3.0 on the first nine (9) semester hours of coursework numbered 500 or above or on all coursework taken while completing this nine (9) hour requirement in order to qualify for regular admission.
5. Students may be required to take some prerequisite courses in geography or business.
6. Submit statement of purpose and goals, portfolio and resume.

Curriculum Requirements:

1. Successful completion of a minimum of thirty (30) hours in graduate-level courses as follows:
 - a. Minimum of twenty (20) hours with the prefix ED.
 - b. Demonstrated proficiency (through coursework and/or the comprehensive exam) in economic development research, finance, and marketing, equivalent to ED 722, 724, 761, 764, 765.
 - c. At least four (4) hours of apprenticeship (ED 791).
2. Successful completion of a comprehensive written or oral examination.
3. Completion of one of two curriculum options as follows:
 - a. Thesis option
 - 1) ED 698 (3 hours)
 - 2) Acceptance of valid thesis topic
 - 3) Formation of thesis committee prior to last semester of study
 - b. Non-Thesis option
 - 1) ED 789 (3 hours)
4. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

Residency

Students must meet the residency requirements specified in this *Bulletin*.

Doctoral Program in International Development

David Butler, Director
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The purpose of this program is to prepare graduates for new careers in economic development practice, private-sector business and industry, import-export trade, government service, non-governmental organizations, and higher education. This program is also intended to serve professionals already engaged in such careers, to enhance their credentials, broaden their horizons, and sharpen their perspectives. In both cases, the program is intended to provide an active and productive learning experience that reflects a collegial relationship among a diverse body of students, as well as between faculty members and professional-caliber students.

Admission Requirements:

Applications for admission to the program will be accepted in the fall semester only. Students will be selected for admission to the program and financial support based on the following criteria:

1. written statement of (1) purpose for study and (2) proposed program of research
2. personal interview (in person, or by telephone as necessary) with program director, dean of the College, or other associated faculty member
3. master's degree in the social sciences or business (or by petition on behalf of a master's degree in another field), with a 3.5 GPA.
4. demonstration, by transcript or by petition, of basic core competencies in the following areas:
 - a. economics (micro and macro)
 - b. statistics
 - c. computer applications
 - d. foreign language (at least beginning level)
 - e. area study of an international region, in disciplines such as geography, political science, urban and regional planning, anthropology, or history
 - f. professional or international experience
5. satisfactory scores on the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections of the Graduate Record Examination
6. three letters of reference, reflecting academic and professional endorsements, from people qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study. Letters should be sent to the department.
7. For non-native English speakers, a satisfactory score on the TOEFL examination (currently a score of 550 is typical for Southern Miss graduate programs) and a demonstration of verbal communication skills through an examination administered by the Southern Miss English Language Institute.

Curriculum Requirements:

1. Successful completion of a minimum of sixty-six (66) semester hours in graduate-level courses with a 3.0 GPA as follows:

	Hours
Theory and Practice.....	5
Current Issues.....	5
Research Methods.....	8
Field Research.....	4
Grantsmanship.....	3
Geotechniques.....	3
Practicum.....	8
Colloquium.....	6
Finance.....	3
Electives.....	9
Dissertation.....	12

Minimum: 66

2. Successful completion of a qualifying exam
3. Submission of a professional quality grant application and research paper
4. Successful completion of written and oral comprehensive exams
5. Successful completion of an oral dissertation defense



Research Tool(s)

The research tool requirement will be met by

1. demonstration of international competency through one of the following: oral language exam, approved international field experience, or by petition
2. demonstration of statistical proficiency, through one of the following: transcript, written exam, or by petition

Residency

Students must meet the residency requirements specified in this *Bulletin*.