Management Information Systems

Management is the study of the process of working with and through others to address the challenges and exploit the opportunities that are encountered in building, growing, and sustaining viable organizations (for-profit & non-profit). Effective leaders must be able to meet the challenges of rapid change, intense and global competition, and increased sensitivity to social concerns that characterize today's business environment. The Department of Management provides programs emphasizing competencies needed to perform effectively in positions of increasing responsibility in the prevailing business environment. Classroom instruction includes projects and experiences that involve student interaction with area businesses and agencies. These experiences are in addition to an extensive internship program and involvement with professional student organizations.

Rigorous academic preparation, career-related work experience, and involvement in activities beyond the classroom create a valuable combination that positions business majors for success in the business world.

**Employment Opportunities**

Information systems have dramatically changed the workplace today. As the need for information increases, the greater the recruitment for information system experts becomes. According to a study by the Department of Labor, the positions for management information systems students are expected to grow 92% between 1994 and 2005. The study also stated that 445,000 new systems analysts positions will be added to the workforce by 2005, ranking systems analysis as the number one growth area expected in terms of new positions. Examples of job titles include MIS manager, vice president of information systems, systems analyst, data base administrator, network manager, etc. Knowledge of and familiarity with information systems can also give a competitive advantage to other functional area managers such as human resources, marketing, finance, accounting, and operations management.

Courses in management information systems will focus on the personal, organizational, and technical aspects of the MIS function. The courses offered include database management, project management, e-commerce, data warehousing & business intelligence, information systems in business, and additional courses in enterprise resource planning & applications.

**Degree Options and Majors**

The Williamson College of Business Administration offers the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) degree with majors in accounting, advertising/public relations, business economics, finance, general administration, human resource management, international business, management information systems, and marketing. The WCBA also offers the Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree and three associate degrees: Associate of Arts in Business, Associate in Labor Studies, and Associate in Technical Study.

**The College**

The Williamson College of Business Administration offers the MBA degree and the BSBA with nine majors. The WCBA is composed of the Department of Accounting and Finance, the Department of Management, the Department of Marketing, forty full-time faculty members, three professional academic advisors, a Professional Practice Program coordinator, the Center for Nonprofit Leadership, the Williamson Center for International Business, the Monus Entrepreneurship Center, and the YSU Small Business Development Center (SBDC). There are 40 full-time faculty members, approximately 1800 undergraduate students, and 175 MBA students.

**Mission**

The mission of the WCBA is to prepare undergraduate and MBA students for productive and fulfilling careers as leaders in business, government, nonprofit organizations, and society. Strategic partnerships with the business community, an emphasis on our students’ professional and leadership development, and the international accreditation of our programs distinguish the college and its programs.

For more information about this program, go to [www.ysu.edu](http://www.ysu.edu), click on Colleges, then Williamson College of Business Administration

[www.ysu.edu](http://www.ysu.edu)
Facilities
A new state-of-the-art home for the Williamson College of Business Administration opened in fall 2010. The new building is designed to foster interaction among faculty, students, and the business community. In addition to classrooms and offices, the new facility features a conference center, three computer labs, a financial services lab, a professional business communication and sales lab, team rooms, student organization offices, and a café. In addition, it will house the College’s Williamson Center for International Business, Center for Nonprofit Leadership, Monus Entrepreneurship Center, and Ohio Small Business Development Center. The environmentally certified building will connect the University to the growing downtown of Youngstown and support the College’s priorities of education, partnerships, access, and the success of students, faculty, staff, business and the community.

Faculty
The Williamson College of Business Administration is proud of its 40 full-time faculty members who are dedicated teaching professionals. Eighty-seven percent hold doctoral degrees and many bring prior experience in business to the classroom. In addition to fulfilling their teaching and advising commitments to students, faculty members are active in research, professional activities, consulting, and public service.

YSU maintains a faculty-student ratio of 1:20. among the best of state-affiliated universities in Ohio.

Accreditation
YSU’s bachelor and master’s degrees in business are accredited by AACSB International – The International Association for Management Education, the oldest and most prestigious accrediting agency for business schools. To achieve accreditation, business programs must satisfy the expectations of a wide range of quality standards relating to strategic management of resources, interactions of faculty and students in the educational process, and achievement of learning goals in degree programs. AACSB accreditation is the “hallmark of excellence in management education.” By completing an AACSB accredited program, the quality of your degree is recognized worldwide.

Youngstown State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

Beyond the Classroom–Leadership and Professional Development
Preparing students to be leaders includes rigorous academic preparation combined with co-curricular and professional development opportunities. Business students are encouraged to pursue a variety of activities that will enable them to enhance their knowledge and skills, and position them for success in college and in the business world. Participation in professional student organizations, internships, study abroad, international study tours, and community service contributes to the development of the students’ professional portfolio.

Student chapters of national professional organizations provide an excellent means for students to develop leadership skills, network with professionals in their chosen career fields and increase their exposure to the business world. Students are able to interact with nationally recognized business leaders through the Williamson Symposium Series and the Entrepreneur in Residence Program.

Professional Practice Program
The Williamson College of Business Administration (WCBA) includes the Office of Professional Practice Programs that coordinates the internships and cooperative education activities for the WCBA. Internships and cooperative education provide academically-focused, career-related work experiences that enable students to link and apply the knowledge and skills they are acquiring in the classroom to an actual work setting. Through internships and co-ops, students can earn academic credit toward their degrees and, in most cases, are paid for their work. More than 150 business students complete an internship each year.

The Professional Practice Program helps business students with opportunities to work for public accounting firms; state, local, and the federal government; public relations agencies; health care organizations; Fortune 500 corporations; banks; brokerage firms; banks; insurance companies; manufacturing companies; nonprofit organizations; and entrepreneurial ventures.

Honors
The Williamson College of Business Administration recognizes students’ outstanding academic performance through initiation into Beta Gamma Sigma, the national honor society for business majors at AACSB accredited schools. Students who qualify for Beta Gamma Sigma are inducted in the spring semester of each year. To be eligible, students must be juniors, seniors or graduate students in the top of their class.

Qualified business students are also eligible for membership in Phi Kappa Phi, a national honorary society that recognizes superior scholarship in all academic fields, and Beta Alpha Psi, open to all accounting, finance, and information systems majors with a 3.0 GPA.

Special Scholarships and Awards
The WCBA is fortunate to award more than $120,000 in college-based scholarships each year. Scholarships are designated for incoming freshman and sophomores, juniors, and seniors. College-specific applications are due to the WCBA in February or March each year. Recipients are selected based on academic performance and co-curricular activities.

In addition, Outstanding Senior Leadership Awards are presented to graduating seniors, selected by their department,
for outstanding academic performance, leadership and professional development activities.

**Degree Requirements**

All new students enter the WCBA as pre-business, pre-business economics, pre-accounting, pre-finance, pre-management, or pre-marketing. Students may declare a specific major once they complete 60 semester hours of coursework, including Writing 2 and all business tool courses with grades of C or better and have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher. Students must submit an application to declare a business major with a business academic advisor in Williamson Hall, room 408.

**Business students are required to complete five sets of coursework:**

1. The general education requirement (GER) courses are in writing, oral communications, natural sciences, mathematics, societies & institutions, artistic & literary perspectives and personal & social responsibility. These courses provide students with a broad-range of education that will provide a base of knowledge to better enable students to develop the analytical skills needed in the world of business. These courses are required of all students at YSU. Most of this coursework is completed during the freshman and sophomore years.

2. The business tool courses include: Exploring Business, College Business Math 1 and 2, Economic Principles 1 and 2, Legal Environment of Business, Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Business and Economics Statistics and Economic Statistics Workshop. These courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher. This coursework is typically completed during the freshman and sophomore years.

3. The business core courses include: Business Finance, Marketing Concepts and Practices, Fundamentals of Management, and the capstone course in Strategic Management. Students must have completed the tool courses with a grade of “C” or better and must have an overall grade point average of 2.5 to be eligible to enroll in these courses. Core courses are typically completed in the junior year and Strategic Management is typically taken in the semester prior to graduation.


5. Business electives are completed during the junior and senior years.

6. Non-business electives – selected by student in areas outside of business and completed at any time.