

Master of Business Administration with a Concentration in Information Systems

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

In response to the growing demand in today's business world for highly trained graduate-level professionals across a wide range of specializations, Broward International University offers multiple concentrations within its MBA program, allowing students to choose from different sets of elective courses to tailor their program and meet their specific career goals.

The available academic concentrations have been selected based on current workforce demand and designed to prepare students to take on specialized responsibilities within those areas. The MBA program includes 24 semester credits of foundational business coursework (core courses), plus 12 semester credits of specialized courses that uniquely define the selected concentration. Please note that concentrations are not listed on the diploma awarded, but will appear explicitly on the student's academic transcript. Below is a description of the standard MBA and the MBA concentrations currently available.

Program Objective

The objective of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, under the administrative oversight of the School of Business, is to provide a well-balanced blend of rigorous theoretical preparation in core business areas and practical instruction drawn from the real-world business experience of our faculty, to support an understanding of the challenges organizations face in a globalized environment. This combination equips students with the essential business skills needed to lead and manage organizations successfully.

Program Description

The MBA program is a graduate-level business academic program designed to serve students with a strong academic background and professional experience. The MBA is built for working professionals seeking a comprehensive business education through a core curriculum focused on developing a set of conceptual and practical skills across essential business areas, including Accounting, Finance, Marketing, Leadership, and Management.

MBA with a concentration in Information Systems

The Information Systems concentration, an option within the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, has been conceptually designed to further enhance

building on the core business training already provided in the MBA, and delivering a well-rounded education in both the theory and real-world business applications of Relational Database Management Systems, Data Communications, Networking Concepts and Applications, Strategic Information Systems Planning, and Network and Systems Security Management. This concentration equips students with the essential business capabilities and technical expertise needed to successfully lead and manage an organization's information technology infrastructure—including computer networks, database information systems, and IT automation, among others. Special emphasis is placed on effectively integrating information systems across a wide range of business operations, as well as on the corporate value of mining the data stored within those systems.

This concentration is designed to complement the MBA program's core business courses with a comprehensive foundation in information systems. It is intended for students whose interests and career goals focus on developing the business, management, and technical skills required to effectively lead and manage companies' strategic IT infrastructures in a world highly dependent on technology and data processing—and on building the vision to transform traditional business models by implementing digitally driven strategies and business solutions that enable competitiveness in today's global environment.

Course Methodology

Our learning methodology is flexible, designed to fit every learning style, delivered fully online, and implemented through a blend of live sessions and asynchronous group and individual activities grounded in case studies. All live sessions are recorded and available for students to replay (even if they weren't able to attend), giving the program a high level of flexibility.

Our faculty—all of them PhD-prepared and deeply connected to industry—bring theory to life through case studies drawn from real companies and institutions, where students apply what they've learned. The mix of asynchronous discussion forums and live chats makes it possible not only to build a problem-solving mindset, but also to turn learning into practice within the volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous environments that define the fourth industrial revolution our society is navigating.

These spaces for dialogue and exchange create an active-learning approach and strong synergy with classmates in study that leads to the development of soft skills in building professional connections (networking) that are invaluable, strengthening our professional profile with a network of peers holding master's degrees with whom we've built trusted professional relationships. As a result, our graduate students build their learning through real-world cases from the real world, with solid, grounded theoretical approaches in an online environment

flexible, building soft skills and connecting with a network of professionals who will support you throughout your entire career.

1º Período Académico	Nombre del curso	Código	Créditos
	Advanced Management Theory and Practice	BUS6032	3
2º Período Académico	Managerial Accounting	BUS6012	3
	Leadership and Organizational Behavior	BUS6021	3
3º Período Académico	Managerial Finance	BUS6022	3
	Relational Database Management Systems (*)	BIS6031	3
4º Período Académico	Data Communications and Networking for Business Applications (*)	BIS6032	3
	Strategic Information Systems Planning (*)	BIS6041	3
5º Período Académico	Research Methodology	BUS6052	3
	Information Systems and Technology Manager	BUS6051	3
6º Período Académico	Network & Systems Security Management (*)	BIS6042	3
	Operations and Project Management	BUS6061	3
6º Período Académico	Thesis	BUS6062	3

(*) Courses replacing the set of Concentration courses related to the standard MBA.

BUS6032 - Advanced Management Theory and Practice: This course builds advanced business management skills, strengthening students' ability to evaluate organizational situations, make strategic decisions, and apply management principles across a range of settings. It covers the core functions of management and how they connect to value creation, efficiency, and achieving organizational goals. In addition, students put management concepts and tools into practice to address real business scenarios and meet the challenges of a global, digital environment.

BUS6012 - Managerial Accounting: This course examines how accounting information is used for planning, control, and special decision-making. It covers how managers use internal accounting data to run both business and non-business organizations. The course emphasizes managers' need for timely financial information and up-to-date reports on company operations to make sound management decisions.

BUS6021 - Leadership and Organizational Behavior: This course focuses on how managers become effective leaders. It explores the human side of business. Students will examine teams, individuals, and networks in relation to: the key drivers of group culture, managing individual subordinate performance, and building productive working relationships with peers and supervisors over whom the manager has no formal authority. In addition, students will observe successful leaders in action as they shape a forward-looking vision, align the organization to pursue it, inspire people to achieve it, and design effective organizations—making the right changes to drive stronger performance.

BUS6022 - Managerial Finance: This course covers a wide range of financial concepts, including an examination of a firm's financial structure, its need for funds to finance asset acquisition, and the resources available to meet that need. It also explores a company's capital structure, along with alternative financing sources and methods. Special emphasis is placed on capital budgeting, investment decisions, and corporate dividend policy. The course also examines the structure of the financial system, highlighting the supply and demand for loanable funds and the term structure of interest rates.

BIS6031 - Relational Database Management Systems: This course is designed to highlight the importance of database administrative practices and procedures, the duties and responsibilities of database administrators, and how database management affects day-to-day business operations as well as long-term planning. The course also equips students with the core theory behind today's relational database engine/system and builds the practical skills needed to design and manage table structures for data storage while maintaining and enforcing specific Data Relationships.

In this course, students also explore additional concepts, including record and field structures, object-oriented programming, different types of JOINS used to connect multiple tables, queries as tools to manipulate data for inquiry and reporting, forms as tools for creating interfaces to insert, update, delete, and retrieve data to and from existing tables, and reports as tools for presenting data in an organized way. In addition, students are introduced to three relational database management systems (Oracle, MySQL, and MS SQL). Discussions through forums and assignments are used to focus students' attention on the challenges inherently tied to developing, using, and managing database systems in data-driven organizations.

BIS6032 - Data Communications and Networking for Business Applications: This course is designed to immerse students in the fast-changing fields of data communications and computer network management. It focuses on the core concepts of the

Data communications, including identifying the different components of communication systems and what each one does; assessing the effectiveness, reliability, and cost-efficiency of the technologies chosen to establish communication links; and understanding data transmission mechanisms. It also covers the design, installation, and management of computer network architectures, including the internet; technical challenges and technologies related to local area network (LAN) and wide area network (WAN) infrastructures; as well as network security topics and the actions that may be taken to implement the appropriate security protocols.

BIS6041 - Strategic Information Systems Planning: This course is designed to address all aspects related to evaluating an organization's goals, objectives, and strategies, as well as its existing technology and information systems. It also emphasizes establishing communication channels among managers, information systems users, IT professionals, and information systems planners to create a collaborative information systems planning strategy that is aligned with the overall business strategy of an organization. In this course, students will also evaluate the potential impact that implementing information systems can have on organizational performance and decision-making processes, as well as on an organization's ability to meet strategic needs, gain a competitive advantage, and pursue new business opportunities. This course also covers the development/provisioning, management, maintenance, and planning for future expansion of information systems that cost-effectively enhance an organization's capacity to support growth and innovation.

BUS6052 - Research Methodology: In this course, students will develop a scientific research project that will serve as the foundation for a Master's Thesis. To do so, students must rigorously follow the applicable steps of the scientific method, covering the research-process components related to concept development and ethics, as well as an overview of the qualitative, quantitative, or mixed scientific approach to be used. Specifically, students will identify and clearly define a problem of interest that warrants seeking a solution and/or answers to related questions formulated to deepen understanding of the issue; they will address the problem and/or related questions by conducting a background review to gather information and become familiar with what is currently known about the problem to date and/or the proposed related questions, including possible answers; and they will establish the parameters to be used to study and understand the selected problem and/or the questions posed.

They will conceptualize and design the scientific method that will be applied to conduct the study. They will plan and present a clear, thorough research proposal that includes all of the elements above and, in addition, a detailed description of the procedures to be followed during fieldwork, the population expected to participate and/or the sample to be collected for future analysis, and the method that will be used to evaluate the information obtained. Students must follow the most current version of APA guidelines when writing their research project. The student must successfully complete this requirement with a grade of B or higher in order to graduate.

BUS6051 - Information Systems and Technology Manager: In this course, students will gain a strong grasp of the core fundamentals behind today's information systems (IS). They will explore key IS principles through an engaging overview of the field and the rapidly evolving role of today's IS professional. The course focuses on the newest leading-edge IS topics and real-world examples, while new opening vignettes, cases, and special-interest features clearly highlight how strongly organizations prioritize innovation and speed.

In this course, students build an understanding of cloud computing, forecasting, and some of the latest developments shaping virtual communities, virtual teams, and workplace structures. It provides the concise overview students need today to be more effective as employees, managers, decision-makers, and organizational leaders in business.

BIS6042 - Network & Systems Security Management: This course is designed to provide a non-technical overview of the key elements involved in managing information and network security. It places special emphasis on analyzing and assessing network risks, including authentication methods, operating system vulnerabilities, and potential security threats tied to the use of the Internet and the organization's network; as well as evaluating, selecting, and overseeing the deployment of appropriate defense technologies, such as firewalls, data encryption (symmetric and asymmetric), and user and host authentication mechanisms to properly protect information and systems against hacker attacks; ensuring privacy when interacting with external connections; and implementing an effective network and systems security policy.

BUS6061 - Operations and Project Management: This course enables students to build the skills and concepts needed to ensure that a company's operations continue to support its competitive position. It helps them understand the complex processes behind product development and manufacturing, as well as service design and delivery.

BUS6062 - Thesis: In this course, students are expected to continue and complete their Master's Thesis. To do so, students must systematically follow the scientific method outlined as part of their previously completed and approved research project. During this final phase, the student must carry out the approved procedure to conduct the fieldwork, which may be repeated as needed to ensure the data collected are accurate and reliable at the time of collection.

Gather the information obtained through experimentation and/or observation. Carefully document all collected data (observations, measurements, survey information, and other predetermined data) based on the variables evaluated. Analyze the recorded data using the appropriate methodology; Interpret the results by focusing

primarily by providing a solution to the selected problem and/or answering the related questions that have been posed, while still remaining open to opportunities to address other aspects of the issue that were not previously identified as objectives but that emerge from interpreting the data obtained.

Draw conclusions based on the experimental results and present recommendations that point to relevant new scientific research. Students must follow the most up-to-date version of APA guidelines when writing their Master's Thesis, and coordinate a final oral presentation, which must be considered an integral part of a research project. The student must successfully complete this requirement with a grade of B or higher to graduate.