

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONCENTRATION

The objective of the PhD in business administration with a concentration in international business is to prepare students for academic careers at major research universities. To meet this objective, the program:

- Equips students with an in-depth and comprehensive knowledge of international business theories and concepts.
- Provides candidates with the necessary conceptual, quantitative, and methodological skills to carry out high quality empirical research aimed at publication in top-tier academic journals.
- Produces well-trained students who can obtain an academic appointment at a top school in international business or related discipline.
- Prepares candidates for the varied responsibilities of academic careers.

By the end of the program, students are expected to have one or more journal publications in top-tier academic journals; made multiple presentations at major academic conferences; won awards for best dissertations and best papers at professional conferences; and developed effective personal networks with scholars from around the world.

Visit the program website (<https://business.gwu.edu/academics/programs/doctoral/phd-in-international-business/>) for additional information.

## REQUIREMENTS

The PhD in business administration involves two years of formal courses established by each Department and approved by the Doctoral Committee. Students take a minimum of 45 credits during their program, including 27 credits in core courses, a 3-credit summer paper, and 15 credits in elective courses. Students should consult their Faculty Advisory Group about the required courses and electives for which they should register.

Students should complete at least 39 credits within the first two years from matriculation. The remaining 6 credits should be completed during the third year.

### Requirements for the international business concentration

Code	Title	Credits
The following 30 credits constitute the core requirements for international business concentration*:		
Four courses (12 credits) in research methods and quantitative analysis, selected from the following:		

ECON 8301	Microeconomic Theory I
ECON 8302	Microeconomic Theory II
ECON 8305	Macroeconomic Theory I
ECON 8375	Econometrics I
ECON 8376	Econometrics II
Four doctoral seminars (12 credits) covering important studies in the student's area of interest:	
One additional doctoral-level seminar (3 credits) from outside the student's area of interest	
IBUS 8361	Colloquium on International Business (Institutions and Development)
IBUS 8361	Colloquium on International Business (International Management)
IBUS 8361	Colloquium on International Business (Knowledge & Innovation in the International Economy)
IBUS 8361	Colloquium on International Business (International Political Economy)
Completion of a 3-credit summer research paper during the first or first and second summer, as required by the student's area of interest.	

### Electives

The remaining 15 credits required are taken in elective courses, selected in consultation with the student's faculty advisory group.

### \*Policies for core courses

In general, all core courses should be doctoral courses, i.e., those at the 8000 level. All courses must be taken for letter grades. Required courses cannot be waived without substitution except in unusual circumstances as determined on a case-by-case basis. Examples of unusual circumstances include students holding a specialized master's or doctoral degree where equivalent core courses were taken in a particular area (such as statistics or mathematics). Students may petition the Associate Dean of Research and Doctoral Programs to substitute up to 12 credits of required courses with alternative courses approved by the faculty advisory group.

### Comprehensive examination

After the student completes the coursework and the summer paper requirements, the faculty advisory group and department faculty administer a comprehensive examination. The format of the comprehensive examination is at the discretion of the advisory committee, subject to approval by the doctoral committee when evaluating the study plan. The comprehensive examination establishes the student's mastery of the current and classic literature. The comprehensive exam can be written, in-class or take-home, and may include an oral component. Failure to pass the comprehensive examination in two attempts leads to termination from the program.

### Dissertation

Following successful completion of the comprehensive examination, the student is considered a doctoral candidate, and may form a dissertation committee, and develop a dissertation proposal. During this stage, students prepare, submit, and defend a dissertation.

### Other policies

All course work and required comprehensive examination must be completed within five years of matriculation. All program requirements must be completed within seven years of the date of matriculation.

The doctoral program is administered and supervised by the Associate Dean and the committee on doctoral studies. For more detailed information about this program, contact the GWSB Doctoral Program Office.