Requirements for the MA and PhD Degrees in the field of Business

MA Degree Program

The MA degree is a non-thesis master’s degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/).

Although students are not normally admitted to study for an MA in the field of Business, graduate students in the PhD program may complete the MA as part of their path towards the PhD. Students pursuing the MA degree in the field of Business must complete:

1. A minimum of 36 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
2. A minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level study (coursework at the 500-level or above).
3. A minimum residency enrollment of four fall and/or spring semesters of full-time graduate study at Rice University.
4. A minimum of 9 credit hours of doctoral seminars in the student’s specified discipline or area of specialization.
5. A minimum overall GPA of 3.00.

Students must also successfully complete the research workshop participation requirements and the first-year summer research requirements (if applicable) in the area of specialization. Additionally, the Jones School requires that not more than 3 years elapse between the time the student is admitted to the PhD program in Business and the completion of the MA degree, unless an extension is approved by the PhD Program Committee.

Total Credit Hours Required for the MA Degree in the field of Business

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PhD Degree Program

For general university requirements, please see Doctoral Degrees (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/).

For program details, see the PhD Program Guidebook distributed by the Jones Graduate School of Business. Admissions applications should include scores on the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Full financial support will be provided to admitted doctoral students. Candidates for the PhD degree spend at least two years in full-time coursework and at least two years writing the thesis. Four to five years is a reasonable goal for completing the program. For the PhD, students must:

1. Complete a program of doctoral-level courses that is approved by the area faculty advisor. Students take courses from departments such as economics, psychology, statistics, and political science in addition to courses from Jones Graduate School of Business.
2. Complete and defend orally a doctoral thesis, setting forth in publishable form, the results of original research.

Summary

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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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Policies for the PhD Degree in the field of Business

Jones Graduate School of Business Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the Jones Graduate School of Business publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2019_20/Business_Graduate_Handbook.pdf

Withdrawal Policy

A Jones Graduate School of Business student, participating in any offered program, may voluntarily withdraw from school at any time. Upon withdrawal, Rice University applies a sliding scale to tuition, which is noted in the university’s Academic Calendar posted on the Rice Office of the Registrar website (https://registrar.rice.edu/calendars/).

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Jones Graduate School of Business website: https://business.rice.edu/

Opportunities for the PhD Degree in the field of Business

Financial Aid

Jones Graduate School of Business scholarships are awarded at the point of admission and are based on the merit of the application.
Financial assistance is generally awarded one academic year at a time. Continuation of assistance depends on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in accordance with Academic and Professional Standards of performance, professional behavior, and is subject to the availability of funds. Academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or general failure to maintain academic pace will result in the removal of all forms of financial assistance (i.e. scholarship, employment, Federal/State student loans, etc.). Students have the right to appeal the suspension. All appeals will be reviewed by a committee.

**Additional Information**
For additional information, please see the Jones Graduate School of Business website: [https://business.rice.edu/](https://business.rice.edu/)