BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY EXECUTIVE
MBA PROGRAM

Course Descriptions

MBA 501 Management Economics
The techniques and approaches of microeconomic reasoning are applied to issues of management and policy. The theory of the market and the price system are closely examined to identify areas where neoclassical economics is helpful to the analyst and manager. Decisions regarding firm boundaries, competition, pricing, and entry are examined. Extensive use is made of case studies.

MBA 502 Finance *
How firms meet and manage their final objectives. Today’s financial environment, the fundamental trade-off between risk and return, the time value of money, and valuing future cash flows are discussed. Financial tools and techniques, which can be used to help firms maximize value by improving decisions related to capital, are explained. Bond and stock valuations are introduced.

MBA 503 Data Analysis and Decision Making
An introduction to statistical techniques useful in the analysis of management problems. We motivate each topic by managerial applications, and we analyze actual data sets using modern statistical software. Topics include probability estimation, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis.

MBA 504 Financial Accounting *
Introduction and exploration of basic financial accounting terminology, principles, concepts, and their relevant business applications. This course will include the recording, summarization, and adjustment of financial transactions and the preparation and presentation of the basic financial statements. Other topics will include valuation methods for cash, accounts receivable, inventory and property, plant and equipment.

MBA 505 Marketing *
A survey course covering the foundations of the marketing discipline. The course is designed to give students conceptual frameworks and tools to help firms meet demands of the marketplace in a profitable way. A wide range of marketing strategy topics (e.g., segmentation, positioning) and marketing tactics (the Four P’s of Marketing: Product, Price, Place, and Promotions) will be covered, as well as development of the discipline’s foundations (definition, philosophy, and the history of marketing).

MBA 506 Leadership, Team Effectiveness, and Communications
This course focuses on business leadership, teamwork, and communications. It seeks to answer the following three questions: What do leaders really do? What makes teams effective? How do you create persuasive communications? The course addresses such topics as leading organizational change, managing corporate crises, building motivated teams, and developing strategic communications. It examines these topics with a goal of not only imparting knowledge about these managerial practices but also assisting students to acquire the skills necessary to become business leaders, team builders and articulate communicators. We will seek to bridge theory and managerial practice by using case studies and inviting business executives to the class.

MBA 507 Ethics and Law
This course will link the main ethical problems facing the modern manager with the statutes and regulations that have been enacted to deal with these problems. Emphasis is placed on the moral and ethical responsibilities that relate to investors, employees, customers, and the community. Students will learn the basic vocabularies of business law and of ethics.
MBA 511 Technological Innovations
Innovation drives the modern firm by the interaction of technical invention and managerial entrepreneurship. This course explores the variety of sources of new products, processes, and services, such as inventors, universities, research and development departments in industry, and government labs. In addition, the course explores the variety of ways of bringing new products, processes, and services to market, including startup firms, acquisitions, mergers, and entrepreneurship within the firm. Case studies showing the interaction of invention and entrepreneurship are analyzed. A term project is required in which the student either analyzes the history of invention and entrepreneurship in a major firm or writes a business plan for high technology startup firm.

MBA 512 Business Planning and Strategic Management
The principles and techniques of strategic management by which an organization sets and implements its long-range direction. This includes the processes of environment scanning, self-assessment of organizational purpose and comparative advantage, and synthesis of organizational mission, plans, and strategic initiatives. Extensive use is made of case studies and in-class exercises.

MBA 522 Industry Project
Under faculty supervision, groups of students work for clients on management issues in a variety of areas such as health care, MIS, marketing, data analysis, business plans and the like. The course provides students with the opportunity to apply the analytic skills they have learned in the classroom to actual management problems. Students also gain practical experience in business writing, giving formal presentations, and working in teams. The format for this course is a combination of work in the classroom and “lab” work. The lab work consists of visits with a client, developing a formal proposal, generating a final report and various other elements of a professional consulting arrangement.

MBA 530 Employee Dispute Resolution & Conflict Management
The methods and procedures for reaching negotiated agreements. Topics include reducing conflict and confrontation between contending parties, analysis of the techniques of win-lose and win-win negotiation, and mediation. Students are expected to participate in a series of workshop activities and simulated cases to reveal how negotiation and mediation are applied to resolving difficulties in business management, labor relations, international and domestic affairs, patient/doctor/hospital relations, and other areas where negotiation and mediation play a significant role in modern life.

MBA 574 Project Management
This course will explore the theory and practice of managing a project. We will examine the various tools that are available to monitor and measure managerial tasks and to define common business processes. Every aspect of business entails the execution of a series of defined tasks and the associated allocation of corporate resources. From developing new products to implementing customer loyalty programs, managers must understand business processes including their associated tasks, inter-relationships and transformations. Project management involves three primary activities: defining manageable tasks, mapping their logical flow, and creating an implementation process. In the course, we will explore ways to manage these functions successfully to increase the probability of achieving desired results. We will use the latest software tools including: MS Project, MS Visio, @Risk Project Simulation, Business Plan Pro 2007, WIP Information System - online and C-Commerce tools such as Instantstream. We will use Blackboard extensively to interact (c-commerce), post grades, assignments, information and notices.

MBA 589 Operations Management *
A managerial approach to the concepts, issues, and techniques used to convert an organization’s resources into products and services. Topics include strategic decisions for planning products, processes, and technologies, operating decisions for planning production to meet demand, and controlling decisions for planning and controlling operations through teamwork and Total Quality Management (TQM). Operational problems in producing goods and services are reviewed.

MBA 592 Organizational Behavior
An approach to understanding the behavior of individuals in organizations is developed, with emphasis on implications for effective management. This approach is used to analyze decision problems encountered in managing human resources. Topics include individual and group decision-making skills, recruitment and selection, employee ability, motivation and incentive systems, job satisfaction, performance assessment and management, retention, training, and employee development.

* 48 credit track only. 36 Advanced Business Track students do not take these classes.
** Program also includes 4 elective classes in the general management concentration. Descriptions will be provided as the schedule is finalized.