
MBA Elective Courses

Trailer Electives: January 19 – May 7, 2021

MBUS 662.01 Advanced Corporate Finance (2 cr.)

This course covers both the theoretical background and practical implications of the central issues in corporate financial management, including capital structure decisions, dividend payout decisions, and asset valuation. Real options are considered as an enhancement to traditional capital budgeting methods. Also, issues related to security design are covered.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Yelin Zhang

DATE & TIME: 1/21 – 3/26; Thursday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBUS 699.02 Business Consulting Projects Lab (1 cr.)

Apply the skills learned throughout your educational journey to work with local businesses to solve real-world challenges. Take the role of a consultant and partner with a local business. This is a project based class, where each student will work independently with guidance from the instructor. In this class you will get to have an immediate impact on our local community. By the end of this course you will have developed a relationship with a local business, built a portfolio piece, and established a relationship with a mentor.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Eileen Dempsey

DATE & TIME: 1/21 – 3/26; Thursday, 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBUS 674.01 Agile Project Management (1 cr.)

This course examines agile principles and practices and how to successfully blend Agile and traditional project management methodologies in multifaceted projects. Students develop an agile mindset in this course and explore methodologies used for high-risk, shifting requirements, or substantial uncertainty to effectively respond to project changes. Students will learn about DevOps and continuous integration approaches common in IT and high-tech industries.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor TBD

DATE & TIME: 3/29 – 5/7; Monday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Project Management concentration (Block A)

MBUS 683.01 Current Issues in Ethics: Ethical Issues in Finance (1 cr.)

This course will focus on ethical issues related to the rise of various information technologies, including data mining, data analytics, and artificial intelligence, as they are now used in business settings.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Brian Steverson

DATE & TIME: 3/29 – 5/7; Monday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBUS 684.01 Current Issues in Marketing: Marketing Sustainability (1 cr.)

Sustainable enterprises tackle some of the world's most important ecological, social, and economic challenges. This learning experience will introduce you to distinctive marketing analysis, strategies, and tactics that support their organizational success.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Richard Vann

DATE & TIME: 3/29 – 5/7; Monday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBUS 699.11 Cases in Earnings Management (1 cr.)

This course introduces Earnings Management as a concept in accrual accounting, reviews typical earnings management techniques employed by managers, and explores and analyzes instances of earnings management through the use of recent cases.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Gerhard Barone

DATE & TIME: 3/29 – 5/7; Monday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBUS 671.01 Risk Management (1 cr.)

This course focuses on integrating risk management processes and change management methods as fundamental project management essentials. Using project risk management best practices, students will develop a risk management plan to identify, analyze, and determine risks and their impacts while applying qualitative and quantitative methods to plan, control, and monitor risks and opportunities. Students will plan and respond to change by implementing control processes using change management theories to increase the probability of a successful project.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Deborah Dickerson

DATE & TIME: 3/30 – 5/7; Tuesday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Project Management concentration (required)

MBUS 682.01 Current Issues in Managerial Accounting (1 cr.)

This course focuses on a number of issues related to strategic and cost accounting – an essential skillset for any manager with profit and line responsibilities. Topics will include the strategic management of costs, quality, and time; capital expenditure decisions; and allocating costs to responsibility centers.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dan Law

DATE & TIME: 3/30 – 5/7; Tuesday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBUS 686 Current Issues in Management: Effective Negotiations (1 cr.)

This course focuses on the art and science of negotiation. Through lecture, discussion, and experiential learning, you can expect to understand the essential elements of successful negotiation. Preparation for negotiation by establishing the relationship, communication effectiveness and evaluating alternative options will be covered in depth. Individual and team negotiation techniques will be discussed through case study experiences.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Greg Husted

DATE & TIME: 3/30 – 5/7; Tuesday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Project Management concentration (Block B)

MBUS 673.01 Global Project Management (1 cr.)

This course focuses on global project management and global team management through practical application and international case analyses. The course explores how individuals, groups, and organizations can impact global businesses in areas such as environmental factors, cultural and national differences, outsourcing and third-party contracts, communication and technology barriers, and virtual project management.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Taryn Fletcher

DATE & TIME: 4/1 – 5/7; Thursday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Project Management concentration (Block A)

MBUS 689.01 Current Issues in Finance (1 cr.) Alternative Investments in Financial Markets

This course introduces non-traditional financial investments to students who have established background knowledge on the functions of classical financial instruments, such as stocks and bonds. In this course, students will learn important milestones in business development, functions of venture capital (VC) and private equity (PE) funds, issues involved in VC and PE contracting design, and the emergence of crowdfunding. Corporate ethical issues and agency problems will be discussed. Students will also learn current researches on small business financing.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Yelin Zhang

DATE & TIME: 4/1 – 5/7; Thursday, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm, (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBA Elective Courses

Other Dates – Spring 2021

MBUS 699 Cybersecurity for Managers (1 cr.)

From foreign hackers to spear-phishing to distributed denial of service attacks, cyber threats abound. As business has moved online, so have criminals. This course will provide a general survey of cybersecurity issues for non-technical managers and executives. Particular focus will be placed on understanding core security concepts and exploring the decisions general managers may need to make to respond to, or avoid, a cyber-security attack on their business.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Michael Stuber

DATE & TIME: 2/13 – 2/20; Saturday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBUS 679.01 Applied Project Management (3 cr.)

This capstone course provides an opportunity for students to apply the project management skills acquired in the MBA PM concentration. The course focuses on applying project management theories in leadership, team building, group dynamics, decision making, communication, contracts, and negotiation. Students will use actual workplace project scenarios with a project management information system (PMIS) to initiate a project and evaluate project processes through a project life cycle—from inception to completion—while managing deadlines, administering communications, reporting performance results, and generating deliverables. Students will study project management case studies and participate in simulations in order to apply project management principles and methodologies to critically analyze real-world project management.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Taryn Fletcher

DATE & TIME: 2/20, 3/27 & 4/24; Saturday, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Project Management concentration (required)

MBUS 681 Current Issues in Information Systems - Python Technologies for Finance (1 cr.)

Prepares students with essential concepts and skills of Python for acquiring, transforming, analyzing and visualizing finance data. Course topics include fundamental programming concepts of Python, Python data structures, essential Python libraries and Python libraries for finance data.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Ta-Tao Chuang

DATE & TIME: 4/10 & 4/17; Saturday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBA Elective Courses

Weekend Intensive Electives - Spring 2021

MBUS 699.04 Real Estate Application (1 cr.)

A comprehensive guide to understanding property rights and legal descriptions, private restrictions of ownership, contracts and title closings, real estate leases and appraisals. An overview of property and asset management, residential, commercial and industrial land uses. Finally, understanding real estate market dynamics, risk return and time value of money, and analyzing income producing properties.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Melissa Murphy

DATE & TIME: Friday (1/29) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (1/30) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBUS 699.08 Legal Environment of Business (1 cr.)

In this class, we explore a systematic process to evaluate components of a business (The Checklist) in order to ascertain its legal health. This Checklist covers areas of prospective liability, human resources management and overall compliance with the law. It is patterned after samples of service which law firms, primarily in Canada and Australia, provide to their clients whereby they assess whether the business is utilizing best practices as it relates to their legal documentation, both internal and external, their relationships and protocols with respect to their employees and their customers, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations imposed by all governmental entities.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dennis Hession

DATE & TIME: Friday (2/5) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (2/6) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective

MBUS 699.05 Forecasting (1 cr.)

Understanding how to use and present data effectively is an important tool for managers. This course focuses primarily on using data currently available to forecast future trends such as forecasting demand, sales, employment trends, and economic indicators. Forecasting primarily involves the technique of multiple regressions analysis. Students will learn how to build regression models to analyze data and how to interpret the results. Case problems and data will provide practical experience. Completion of MBUS 613 prior to this course is highly recommended. This elective may be applied towards the Finance Concentration.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Mirjeta Beqiri

DATE & TIME: Friday (2/19) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (2/20) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBUS 699.09 Derivatives (1 cr.)

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the features of financial derivatives, and derivatives markets. Besides the characteristics of different derivatives, also their use in risk management is covered. We will also learn methods for assessing the economic value of both futures and options, and uses of options in a variety of investment strategies available through combinations of options.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Danielle Xu

DATE & TIME: Friday (3/26) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (3/27) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBUS 699.06 Change Management (1 cr.)

The Greek philosopher Heraclitus is credited with saying, “Change is the only constant in life.” For centuries, humans have navigated the continual change that helps us grow, learn, adapt, and innovate. In this course (MBUS699 Change Management), we acknowledge Heraclitus’ axiom, exploring it from both a personal and organizational lens. Using a combination of management theories and practical tools, students will develop an understanding of the current approaches to organizational change.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Colleen Butcher

DATE & TIME: Friday (4/09) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (4/10) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Project Management concentration (Block B)

MBUS 699.10 Entrepreneurial Finance (1 cr.)

This class begins with an overview of strategic planning, business plan development, and business system implementation for startups and small businesses. The course will then provide thorough explorations into liquidity management, capital planning, key performance indicator (KPI) metric dashboards, mergers, and business exit planning. Students will learn common weaknesses in small business financial management and methods to address these weaknesses.

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Robert Stephens

DATE & TIME: Friday (4/16) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (4/17) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (remote only)

APPLICATIONS: General elective, Finance concentration

MBUS 699.07 Business as a Calling (1 cr.)

The modern business economy has generated unprecedented growth in world-wide standards of living and reduction in poverty over the past two hundred years. This course recognizes the positive improvement in human material flourishing, and examines how participants in economic enterprises can see their life's work in terms of calling, or vocation. This course will address both secular and religious views, but will emphasize the writings of Michael Novak and modern Catholic Magisterial documents on business and labor.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Donald Hackney

DATE & TIME: Friday (2/26) 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Saturday (2/27) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (hybrid/remote)

APPLICATIONS: General elective