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What should I major in if I want to go to Business School?

A

Although there are specific business majors that UCI offers, you could study any major at UCI and still pursue a career in business. Pursue a subject in which you have an interest and focus on gaining skills necessary to succeed such as communication, problem-solving, and analytical skills.

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Is there a Pre-Business curriculum at UCI or is there a specific major that Pre-Business students should choose?

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The Paul Merage School of Business at UCI offers a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with multiple emphases as well as a Bachelor of Science in Business Information Management and minors in Accounting and Management and Innovation and Entrepreneurship. For more information about these programs, visit www.merage.uci.edu. There are also other majors such as Business Economics and Economics to consider as well.

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Are there any courses I should take before I apply?

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Basic courses in calculus, statistics, economics, accounting, computer science, and management can help and are sometimes required. Other courses in communication, public speaking, logic, composition, and foreign language are also beneficial.

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Is full-time work experience required before pursuing an MBA?

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Many programs are designed for students who have full-time work experience before matriculation. Check with the particular schools you are interested in.

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What are the application requirements for getting an MBA?

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They will differ based on each school, so it is best to visit each school, so it is best to visit each website. Typically you will need a GMAT score, letters of recommendation (from employers if experienced), transcripts, personal statements, a resume, and an interview.



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What can I do as an undergraduate to better prepare myself for the business world?

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- Stay up-to-date with the latest business related news
- Prepare for the GMAT early on
- Gain experience through summer internships and part-time jobs
- Develop relationships with professors so that they can speak to your academic strengths
- Learn as much as possible about different types of MBA programs and what they can do for you
- Attend programs at the Division of Career Pathways, Paul Merage School of Business, student organizations, etc.

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When should I take the GMAT?

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GMAT scores are valid for five years. Since full-time work experience is vital to getting into an MBA program, you can take the GMAT during your senior year or even after you graduate, depending on when you decide to apply to graduate school. Students tend to score better if they take the GMAT after their junior year. This test should not be taken for practice, as all your scores from the past five years will be reported.

Q

What factors are the most important in admissions decisions?

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The following factors may vary by school:

OBJECTIVE FACTORS

- Undergraduate GPA
- GMAT score

SUBJECTIVE FACTORS

- Demonstrated leadership ability
- Participation in worthwhile activities
- Relevant work experience
- Evidence of potential contribution to the business world
- Personal Interviews

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Strong letters of recommendation from faculty or professionals and supervisor testimonials
- Interfolio can help meet your letter of recommendation and placement file needs. Visit www.interfolio.com to set up a file or for more information.