

Business Administration - PhD

Haas School of Business (<http://www.haas.berkeley.edu>)

Program Office: 545 Student Services Building, (510) 642-1409 or (510) 642-3944

Program Director: Martin Lettau, PhD

Program Website: PhD in Business Administration (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd>)

Overview

The Berkeley-Haas PhD Program offers seven fields of academic study, for a curriculum of unusual richness and breadth. Since the program enrolls only 14 to 16 new PhD students each year, you work very closely with the faculty members in their chosen specialties. This strong partnership, combined with the high intellectual caliber and diverse academic and cultural backgrounds of PhD students, creates an atmosphere of close cooperation and intellectual excitement.

Program of Instruction

The Berkeley-Haas PhD Program is strongly oriented toward discipline and research. Emphasis is placed on preparing you to evaluate the state of knowledge in your particular field and to advance it through the application of theory from the social sciences, mathematics, or statistics.

Upon applying to the program, you are required to choose a field of study, which will not only determine your coursework, but also focus your future employment opportunities. You may choose from the following seven fields:

- Accounting (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/accounting>)
- Business and Public Policy (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/bpp>)
- Finance (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/finance>)
- Marketing (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/marketing>)
- Operations Management (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/oitm>)
- Management of Organizations (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/management>)
- Real Estate (<http://haas.berkeley.edu/Phd/academics/realestate>)

Instruction in the program is separated into three general phases. The first encompasses formal coursework in basic and advanced subjects and generally requires two years. The second and third phases together usually require two to three years for completion. In addition to coursework, students are normally expected to serve as either teaching or research assistants for one or more semesters.

Curriculum

Instruction in the program is separated into three general phases. The first encompasses formal coursework in basic and advanced subjects. The time devoted to these studies depends on prior preparation, but generally requires two years. Students are usually required to complete two semester courses in each of the following areas:

Common Core Courses

The subjects in the common core of knowledge encompass economic theory and basic quantitative methodology. The economic theory requirement calls for a strong grounding in the principles of this field at the intermediate level. This may be achieved through the completion of graduate-level micro- and macro-economic theory courses in the Department of Economics. The quantitative methodology requirement calls for training in calculus, linear algebra, mathematical modeling, and intermediate statistics. Typically, graduate courses in the departments of Statistics and Mathematics are used to fulfill this requirement. Certain fields, such as accounting and finance, prescribe more advanced work in the quantitative area, much of which must be taken in the departments of Statistics and Mathematics. Core courses taken at Berkeley must be passed with a minimum grade of B+.

Fields of Study Courses

Fields of study provide PhD students with at least eight semester units in advanced courses. Additional work may include courses in the business school but often involves developing research skills in theory and methodology through other departments at UC Berkeley. In consultation with their advisers, students may choose from a wide range of courses in such disciplines as economics, statistics, engineering, and psychology. On completion of this coursework, usually at the end of their second year of study, doctoral students take a written preliminary examination, graded by faculty within the student's chosen field.

Basic Discipline Courses

In addition to the field of study, students choose a basic discipline from a department outside the business school, such as economics, psychology, sociology, or political science. The development of analytic skills in one of several disciplines gives students the depth they need to place their training within a fuller and more unified understanding of the world of business and research.

Research Strategy Courses

Unless similar work has been taken elsewhere, students must take either Research and Theory in Business: Economics and Management Science (PHDBA 297A) or Research and Theory in Business: Behavioral Science (PHDBA 297B). The first focuses on normative models of decision making, while the latter examines research methodology in behavioral sciences. For a formal description of these courses, please refer to the course listings. In addition, students are generally expected to take further work of their own choosing in research methodologies. This work may take the form of intermediate or advanced statistical courses in psychology, statistics, or economics. In the third year of their studies, doctoral students take another methods course through the business school.

The first phase ends with the preliminary exam. The second and third phases together usually require two to three years for completion. In addition to coursework, students are normally expected to serve as either teaching or research assistants for one or more semesters.

PHDBA 219S Research Seminar in Economic Analysis and Policy 1 - 3 Units

Department: Ph.D. in Business Administration

Course level: Graduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Hours and format: 1.5 hours of Seminar per week for 8 weeks.

The research seminar presents new research on economics applied to business management issues.

Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

PHDBA 229A Doctoral Seminar in Accounting I 3 Units

Department: Ph.D. in Business Administration

Course level: Graduate

Term course may be offered: Spring

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Seminar per week for 15 weeks.

Prerequisites: Business Administration 202A or equivalent, and Economics 201A-201B.

A critical evaluation of accounting literature with emphasis on seminar contributions. Topics covered include research methodology in accounting, the private and social value of information.

Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes. Students will receive no credit for 229A after taking 239A. Formerly known as Business Administration 223A.

PHDBA 229B Doctoral Seminar in Accounting II 3 Units

Department: Ph.D. in Business Administration

Course level: Graduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Seminar per week for 15 weeks.

Prerequisites: Business Administration 202A or equivalent, and Economics 201A-201B.

A critical evaluation of recent accounting literature involving empirical research.

Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes. Formerly known as Business Administration 223B.

PHDBA 229C Doctoral Seminar in Accounting III 3 Units

Department: Ph.D. in Business Administration

Course level: Graduate

Term course may be offered: Fall

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Seminar per week for 15 weeks.

Prerequisites: Business Administration 202A or equivalent, and Economics 201A-201B.

A critical evaluation of recent accounting literature with emphasis on financial accounting.

Formerly known as Business Administration 223C.

PHDBA 229D Doctoral Seminar in Accounting IV 2 Units

Department: Ph.D. in Business Administration

Course level: Graduate

Term course may be offered: Spring

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 2 hours of Seminar per week for 15 weeks.

Prerequisites: Business Administration 202A or equivalent, and Economics 201A-201B.

Exploration of issues related to the internal accounting systems of large firms. The first part of the course focuses on the theory of mechanism design, while the second part applies this theory to a variety of managerial accounting questions.

Formerly known as Business Administration 223D.

PHDBA 229S Research Seminar in Accounting 2 - 4 Units