D.P.S. in Business

The Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.) in Business program offers doctoral-level education for the practitioner community.

This program—similar in nature to a Doctor of Business Administration program—is designed for experienced individuals who seek higher-level roles in business, entrepreneurship, or education.

The curriculum prepares graduates for future pursuits in private or public corporations, nonprofit organizations, financial institutions, universities, or government agencies.

Students may focus their studies in one of three areas:

- Strategy and Decision-Making
- Capital Markets
- Business Economics

The average time to complete the D.P.S. is four years. Advanced students, such as those who come in with prior transferable coursework, may be able to finish in three years. The maximum timeline is six years; the fifth and sixth years are an option available only to students who are unable to write and successfully defend the dissertation by the end of the fourth year.

Thanks to our partnership with Peking University in Beijing, there is a cohort of students who take classes at Fordham’s Lincoln Center campus only in the summer and study in Beijing during the remainder of the year.

Learn more about the D.P.S. in Business program.

Admissions

A minimum 3.2 grade point average is desired of applicants to the program.

Applicants who earned their previous degree(s) in a language other than English must demonstrate proficiency in English via standardized tests, such as the GMAT and TOEFL.

The Gabelli School admissions team selects candidates to interview based on their review of three primary criteria:

- Demonstrated success in university-level degree programs
- Demonstrated success in professional experiences
- Assessed potential to complete the D.P.S. program and to contribute to development in an organization or a community of business practice

Requirements

To graduate with a D.P.S., students must complete the required courses and minimum credit hours with a GPA of at least 3.500 and submit a written dissertation approved by a doctoral dissertation committee.

The D.P.S. program consists of 70 total credit hours, which includes a combination of coursework credits and dissertation credits.

Coursework

All students will complete 42 credit hours of trimester-based coursework (fall, spring, and summer) in the first two years, comprising 24 credit hours of core courses and 18 credit hours of specialized electives.

The specialized electives are what enables each student to focus on one of the three primary areas: Strategy and Decision-Making, Capital Markets, or Business Economics.

The first two years are broken down as follows:

- Year 1: five core courses (15 credits) and two electives (6 credits)
- Year 2: three core courses (9 credits) and four electives (12 credits)

Dissertation

All students will complete 28 credit hours of dissertation work in years three and four.

Of these, 6 credit hours are toward the preparation and defense of the dissertation proposal, and 22 credit hours are toward the preparation and final defense of the dissertation.

Elective Courses (18 credits required from the below list)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBDP 8007</td>
<td>Business Field Studies</td>
<td>1.5-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBDP 9001</td>
<td>Business Research Seminar</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBDP 9004</td>
<td>Asset Pricing Seminars</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBDP 9005</td>
<td>Strategic Mgt Seminars</td>
<td>1.5-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBDP 9007</td>
<td>Organizational Design, Change and Competitiveness</td>
<td>1.5-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBDP 9008</td>
<td>Fin Inno &amp; Fin Intermediation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBDP 9010</td>
<td>Dissertation Proposal Preparation Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBDP 9017</td>
<td>Big Data and Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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* Dissertation Proposal Preparation Seminar (CBDP 9010) is an optional, credited preparatory seminar that counts as an elective, during which students receive guidance on developing their dissertation proposals.

Dissertation Proposal Acceptance

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBDP 9012</td>
<td>Dissertation Proposal Development</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation Proposal Acceptance</td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once students have successfully defended their dissertation proposal, their academic record will be updated with an attribute that will record their successful defense.

Students should plan to research and write their proposal in the first half of year three. Students spend the second half of year three and the entirety of year four researching and writing the full dissertation.

Students may be dismissed for failure to make academic progress if their proposal is not approved within three years, and they will automatically be placed on academic probation if proposal approval is not secured at least two semesters before the close of degree time limits.

A dissertation committee consists of all supervisors and several other faculty members from Fordham University and other partner universities. This committee determines the outcome of the defense of each doctoral dissertation. A doctoral dissertation is successfully defended only when all members of the dissertation committee sign the approval form.