

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 typical 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.

This program is currently offered in collaboration with Peking University in Beijing.

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. Applicants with graduate degrees can apply for alternative procedures to demonstrate English proficiency, such as equivalent English language tests as a part of the graduate program of study.

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)

Course	Title	Credits
Core Courses (24 credits required)		
CBDP 8001	Global Economy & Development	1.5 to 3
CBDP 8002	Philosophy of Bus Research	3
CBDP 8003	Empirical Sem on Bus Res 1	3
CBDP 8004	Research Methods and Design	1.5 to 3
CBDP 8005	Topics in Business Research	3
CBDP 8006	Empirical Seminar on Business Research 2	3
CBDP 9003	Adv Topics in Bus Research	1.5 to 3
CBDP 9006	Frontier in Bus Practices	1.5 to 3
CBDP 9009	Frontier in Business Practices 2	1.5
CBDP 9011	Advanced Research Methods of Business Research	1.5 to 6

Elective Courses (18 credits required from the below list)

Elective Courses

Course	Title	Credits
CBDP 8007	Business Field Studies	1.5-3
CBDP 9001	Business Research Seminar	1.5
CBDP 9004	Asset Pricing Seminars	3
CBDP 9005	Strategic Mgt Seminars	1.5-3
CBDP 9007	Organizational Design, Change and Competitiveness	1.5-3
CBDP 9008	Fin Innov & Fin Intermediation	3
CBDP 9010	Dissertation Proposal Preparation Seminar	1.5-3
CBDP 9016	Seminars on Organizational Behavior and Leadership	1.5-3
CBDP 9017	Big Data and Artificial Intelligence	1.5

* 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

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.

Course	Title	Credits
CBDP 9012	Dissertation Proposal Development	6
Dissertation Proposal Acceptance ¹		N/A
CBDP 9013	Dissertation I	3
CBDP 9014	Dissertation II	6
CBDP 9015	Dissertation III	6
CBDP 9018	Dissertation IV	7
Total Credits		28

¹ 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.