

# PH.D. IN BUSINESS

The Gabelli School of Business Ph.D. program offers highly qualified students a unique opportunity to study alongside leading scholars in the heart of Manhattan. This full-time, research-intensive program provides the requisite empirical and theoretical skills necessary for students to become academic scholars. A specialized curriculum and faculty mentorship position students to contribute to business scholarship at the highest level.

The Gabelli School Ph.D. is intended for individuals who envision themselves as researchers or faculty members at universities and other institutions around the world. Ph.D. students complete coursework, pass a series of exams and, of course, propose, write, and defend a dissertation. Students will specialize in one of the Gabelli School's traditional academic areas, such as finance or management. Upon admission, students select one of two interdisciplinary curriculum tracks:

- Capital Markets
- Strategy and Decision-Making

The Capital Markets track combines the traditional aspects of economic theory with the quantitative rigor of finance and accounting. The Strategy and Decision-Making track encompasses all aspects of the contemporary study of decision-making with theories of management, marketing, information systems, business ethics, business media, and operations.

Students in each track complete specialized coursework and receive relevant professional skills training. Program graduates can expect to research and teach in multiple fields in the discipline.

## Learning Competencies

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate and discuss doctoral-level business research.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major tenets of business theory, principles, and practice, in addition to mastering specialized knowledge of their individual subfields.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to engage intellectually with all fields of knowledge in business.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to conduct independent research that is innovative, relevant to the field, and addresses the foundational issues of the study of business.
5. Students will demonstrate understanding of relevant research trends and methods that shape the field.
6. Students will demonstrate the ability to share knowledge, research, and ideas with diverse groups, including, but not limited to, students, faculty members, professional colleagues, international journal audiences, conference attendees, and administrators. In doing so, students must be attentive to audiences' specific needs, responsibilities, and challenges. Students must especially demonstrate preparation for teaching.
7. Students will demonstrate the ability to successfully participate in academia as one of thousands of researchers working and sharing their ideas at an international level.

To learn more about the Ph.D. in Business program, please visit the Gabelli School of Business website.

## CIP Code

52.0201 - Business Administration and Management, General.

You can use the CIP code to learn more about career paths associated with this field of study and, for international students, possible post-graduation visa extensions. Learn more about CIP codes and other information resources.

## Admissions

Each application to the Gabelli School of Business Ph.D. program receives a thorough and complete evaluation.

Applicants are evaluated on two primary criteria:

1. Demonstrated past success in university programs
2. Potential ability in the field as an academic scholar

It is expected that most applicants to the Ph.D. program will hold a graduate degree from an accredited university in business or a related field, such as an M.S. in economics, finance, mathematics, operations research, psychology, or statistics.

Transfer students from other Ph.D. programs, particularly in economics, are strongly encouraged to apply. Students may receive consideration for transferred credits based on previous coursework and degrees. Applicants without graduate degrees or with general questions about their eligibility are encouraged to email [businessphd@fordham.edu](mailto:businessphd@fordham.edu).

## Application Materials

Applicants must provide all of the following materials:

### Statement of Purpose

This one- to two-page statement should introduce the applicant, provide a summary of past academic achievements, indicate the applicant's current academic interests, identify what he or she hopes to accomplish, and explain the choice of both a business Ph.D. in general and the Gabelli School program in particular.

### CV/Résumé

An updated CV or résumé should detail all relevant academic and/or professional experience and achievements.

### Writing Sample

A writing sample demonstrating strong research and writing skills is required. The writing sample should ideally be a research paper in the area of the applicant's interest, such as a master's thesis or a seminar paper.

### Transcripts and GPA

Official transcripts in support of all previously earned degrees must be sent to Fordham directly from the issuing institution. It is expected that applicants have maintained a minimum GPA of 3.5. All international transcripts and related documents must be evaluated by World Education Services (WES). Given the time involved in the evaluation process, unofficial transcripts may be submitted as placeholders; however, any admissions decision is conditional upon eventual evaluation of all international transcripts.

## Letters of Recommendation

Three letters of recommendation are required; at least two of these must be written by professors or academic research practitioners.

## TOEFL/IELTS

International applicants who have not earned their previous degree(s) at a university in the United States or another English-speaking country must submit a valid TOEFL or IELTS score. The minimum expected TOEFL score is 105, and the minimum expected IELTS score is 7.5.

## Interview

Applicants who meet the above requirements may be interviewed by the doctoral program committee.

## Application Fee

The application fee is \$135.

**GMAT/GRE scores are not required, though applicants may submit scores from either exam.**

# Requirements

The Gabelli School Ph.D. program consists of 90 credits, which students complete with guidance from their advisers. Most students complete the program in five years, though advanced students transferring in from another doctoral program may receive consideration for credits already earned.

Upon successful completion of the program, students receive a Doctor of Philosophy in Business degree (Ph.D.). Students also earn a Master of Philosophy in Business degree (M.Phil.) and a Master of Science degree (M.S.) in recognition of earlier milestones in the program.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Coursework</b> <sup>1</sup>		
Core Courses		24
Specialized Seminars		15
Electives		15
Independent Study		12
<b>Comprehensive Examinations</b>		
BPHD 0001	Year 1 Comprehensive Exam	0
BPHD 0002	Year 2 Comprehensive Exam	0
<b>Research Paper</b>		
BPHD 0003	Year 2 Paper	0
<b>Teaching</b>		
<b>Dissertation</b> <sup>4</sup>		
BPHD 8090	Dissertation 1	3
BPHD 8091	Dissertation 2	3
BPHD 8092	Dissertation 3	3
BPHD 8093	Dissertation 4	3
BPHD 8094	Dissertation 5	3
BPHD 8095	Dissertation 6	3
BPHD 8096	Dissertation 7	3
BPHD 8097	Dissertation 8	3
BPHD 0004	Dissertation Proposal Acceptance	0
BPHD 0005	Dissertation Defense	0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>90</b>

<sup>1</sup> See below lists for courses that may fulfill these requirements.

<sup>2</sup> In addition to the Seminar courses listed below, special sections of Elective courses may also fulfill this requirement. These will be listed on the My.Fordham.edu course schedule each semester.

<sup>3</sup> Students register for BPHD 8999 Independent Study each semester during which they are completing an independent study.

<sup>4</sup> 24 credits of dissertation work (BPHD 8090–BPHD 8097) are required. Supplementary dissertation credits beyond this requirement may be needed for individual students (see "Dissertation" section).

## Coursework

The major focus of Years 1 and 2 is the completion of 54 credits of coursework. All students complete 24 credits in common core courses. Students in each focus complete 15 credits in specialized seminars and 15 credits in specialized electives. Upon completion of 30 credits of coursework, students are eligible to be awarded a Master of Science degree (M.S.).

A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher is required for the M.S. degree to be awarded.

## Core Courses

*Courses in this group have the BPD1 attribute.*

Course	Title	Credits
BPHD 8001	Philosophy of Science	3
BPHD 8002	Research Methods	3
BPHD 8003	Intro to Micro & Macro	3
BPHD 8006	Data Analysis	3
BPHD 8007	Econometrics	3
BPHD 9001	Topics in Business Research 1	1.5
BPHD 9002	Topics in Business Research 2	1.5
BPHD 9003	Topics in Business Research 3	1.5
BPHD 9004	Topics in Business Research 4	1.5
BPHD 9005	Topics in Business Research 5	1.5
BPHD 9006	Topics in Business Research 6	1.5
BPHD 9012	Topics in Business Research 7	1.5
BPHD 9013	Topics in Business Research 8	1.5

## Seminars

*Courses in this group have the BPD2 attribute.*

Course	Title	Credits
BPHD 8011	Seminar in Corporate Theory	3
BPHD 8017	Seminar in Banking & Finance	3
BPHD 8029	Empirical Research in Financial Accounting	3
BPHD 8035	Seminar in Theoretical Corporate Finance	3
BPHD 8040	Seminar in Strategic Management	3
BPHD 8045	Financial Intermediation	3
BPHD 8046	Industrial Organization and Market Structure	3
BPHD 8047	Seminar in Empirical Corporate Finance	3
BPHD 8048	Research Methods & Design	3
BPHD 8055	Data Analysis II	3
BPHD 9007	Empirical Issues in Business Research	3
BPHD 9010	Empirical Issues in Research 2	3
BPHD 9011	Empirical Issues in Business Research 3	3

BPHD 9016	Empirical Issues in Business Research 4	3
BPHD 9017	Empirical Issues in Business Research 5	3

## Electives

*Courses in this group have the BPD3 attribute.*

Course	Title	Credits
BPHD 8004	Financial Econometrics	3
BPHD 8005	Empirical Capital Markets	3
BPHD 8008	Fundamentals of Acct 1	3
BPHD 8009	Quantitative Issues in Capital Markets	3
BPHD 8010	Raising Capital & Inv in Glob	3
BPHD 8012	Quantitative Methods	3
BPHD 8013	Managerial Accounting Analysis	3
BPHD 8014	Financial Statement Analysis	3
BPHD 8015	Economic Analysis and Business Decisions	3
BPHD 8016	Investment Banking	3
BPHD 8018	Research in Economics	3
BPHD 8019	International Accounting	3
BPHD 8020	Empirical Research in Accounting and Capital Markets	3
BPHD 8021	International Corporate Tax	3
BPHD 8022	Web Analytics	3
BPHD 8023	Fixed Income Analysis	3
BPHD 8024	Quantitative Issues in Management and Finance	3
BPHD 8025	Corporate Finance	3
BPHD 8026	Big Data Analytics	3
BPHD 8028	Empirical Research in Accounting: Financial Instruments, and Debt Contracting	3
BPHD 8029	Empirical Research in Financial Accounting	3
BPHD 8030	Macro-Finance	3
BPHD 8033	Financial Accounting	3
BPHD 8034	Applied Microeconometrics	3
BPHD 8036	Fintech & Machine Learning	3
BPHD 8037	Financial Modeling	3
BPHD 8038	Advanced Corporate Finance	3
BPHD 8039	Fundamentals of Strategy	3
BPHD 8041	Global Risk Management	3
BPHD 8042	Equity Analysis	3
BPHD 8043	Advanced Global Portfolio Management	3
BPHD 8044	Machine Learning	3
BPHD 8049	Deep Learning	3
BPHD 8050	Advanced Quantitative Modeling I	3
BPHD 8051	Advanced Quantitative Modeling II	3
BPHD 8052	Advanced Quantitative Modeling III	3
BPHD 8053	Advanced Quantitative Modeling IV	3
BPHD 9008	Quantitative Analysis I	1.5
BPHD 9009	Quantitative Analysis II	1.5
BPHD 9014	Blockchain	1.5
BPHD 9015	Digital Currencies	1.5
BPHD 9030	Machine Learning and Text Mining 1	1.5
BPHD 9031	Machine Learning and Text Mining 2	1.5

BPHD 9039	Learning from Established Scholars	3
BPHD 9040	Acting	1.5
BPHD 9041	Learning from Established Scholars 2	3
BPHD 9042	Learning from Established Scholars 3	3
BPHD 9043	Learning from Established Scholars 4	3

## Independent Study

The focus of Year 3 is ensuring that students hone their research and writing skills before moving on to the dissertation phase. Students complete 12 credits of Independent Study (BPHD 8999) in close collaboration with their advisers. An Independent Study may also be used to develop, research, and write a dissertation proposal. Students defend their dissertation proposal to their prospective dissertation committee at the conclusion of Year 3 and register for Dissertation Proposal Acceptance (BPHD 0004) in the semester of the proposal defense.

At the end of Year 3, upon completion of all degree requirements except for the 24 credits of dissertation work (BPHD 8090-BPHD 8097) and the dissertation defense (BPHD 0005), students are awarded a Master of Philosophy in Business degree (M.Phil.).

A cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher is required for the M.Phil. degree to be awarded.

## Comprehensive Examinations

Students sit for two comprehensive exams: the first at the conclusion of Year 1 and the second at the conclusion of Year 2.

The Year 1 comprehensive exam (BPHD 0001) is a written exam designed to measure a student's fundamental understanding of business, with an emphasis on economics, management, and quantitative and empirical methods.

The Year 2 comprehensive exam (BPHD 0002) is a written field exam. Students work with advisers to determine two appropriate reading lists at the end of Year 1 and read for the exam during Year 2. The field exam measures knowledge of the field(s) and determines readiness to move on to the dissertation phase.

Both exams are graded pass/fail.

## Year 2 Research Paper

At the conclusion of Year 2, students present a paper (BPHD 0003) to the faculty during a doctoral program workshop, which will be graded by a pass/fail faculty vote. The paper may be an extension of a course paper or a research paper pursued independently. This paper provides an opportunity for students to build presentation and workshop skills, and should ideally serve as an eventual component of the dissertation.

## Teaching

Teaching is a key component of the Ph.D. program.

In preparation for the rigors and standards of life as an academic, all students attend a seminar on pedagogy in Year 2. This seminar briefs students on specific techniques in teaching business at the highest level, as well as on the academic and cultural standards of education at universities in the United States.

Following this pedagogical training, Ph.D. students have access to a variety of supervised and independent teaching opportunities. These

include teaching courses, working as teaching assistants for faculty, and guiding students in independent research. Teaching commitments are determined based on a student's previous teaching experience, area of focus, and academic standing.

## Dissertation

Years 4 and 5 are devoted to the research and writing of a dissertation. This consists of 24 credits of dissertation work, for which students register in 3-credit increments as Dissertation 1 (BPHD 8090)-Dissertation 8 (BPHD 8097). Supplementary dissertation credits may be assigned as Dissertation 9 (BPHD 8098)–Dissertation 14 (BPHD 8103) if Ph.D. students require additional time to finish their dissertations, subject to Ph.D. program approval.

The dissertation is a large-scale, closely supervised research project typically consisting of three to four article-length papers, preferably along a similar topic, with extensive research, writing, and revision expected. Students offer regular progress updates to their dissertation committee members, who in turn meet with the doctoral program director to ensure sufficient progress.

Upon successful completion and defense (BPHD 0005) of the dissertation, students are awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Business (Ph.D.). When the Ph.D. is conferred, the student's transcript is notated to include a "Business Ph.D. Area of Specialization," reflecting their specific area of expertise.

A cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher is required for the Ph.D. degree to be awarded.