RETAILING AND CONSUMER BEHAVIOR, B.S.

Retailing and consumer behavior (RCB) leverages technology and research to understand and improve the global customer experience. This bachelor of science degree blends business and analytics with creativity, trend tracking, and technology. Students develop the skills to work in an industry that powers economies and offers ample employment opportunities, including online retailing and social commerce professions. Our experienced faculty guide RCB students through an inspiring and flexible curriculum that prepares them for careers in a dynamic and globally-focused industry.

Explore the world of commerce and technology from a people-first perspective. As a RCB major you’ll learn to research, improve, and better understand the global customer experience with the support and guidance of SoHE faculty, a team of industry experts and researchers. Coursework integrates analytics and statistics with retailing, consumer science, and business courses.

SoHE’s RCB graduates work for diverse and rapidly growing retailing companies around the globe. Technology and management jobs have been in high demand for several years and are only expected to continue their rapid growth.

RCB majors complete a required internship before graduating, allowing them to pursue their own personal interests and to develop a strong portfolio of skills and references that will propel them to launch successful careers.

HOW TO GET IN

PROSPECTIVE UW–MADISON STUDENTS

All prospective UW–Madison students must apply through the central Office of Admissions and Recruitment (https://www.admissions.wisc.edu).

Students who indicate interest in the retailing and consumer behavior major on their UW–Madison application will be admitted to the retailing and consumer behavior major upon admittance to the university. In addition, students may indicate interest in retailing and consumer behavior when registering for Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR).

CURRENT UW–MADISON STUDENTS

First-year students in good academic standing and first-semester transfer students may declare the retailing and consumer behavior major upon request. All other students must apply through a competitive application process.

The best way for interested students to receive advising or additional information is by attending a Becoming a SoHE Student Workshop (https://sohe.wisc.edu/prospective-students/prospective-students/becoming-sohe-student-workshops).

Visit On-campus Student Application (https://sohe.wisc.edu/prospective-students/prospective-students/applying-human-ecology) for application information and the October and February deadlines.

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudystudent) section of the Guide.

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RETAILING & CONSUMER BEHAVIOR REQUIREMENTS

A complete list of requirements is below. Students should follow the curriculum requirements in place at the time they entered the major. Curriculum checksheets from previous academic years are available online (https://sohe.wisc.edu/prospective-students/advising/curriculum-checksheets). This requirement list should be used in combination with a DARS report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 112</td>
<td>Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
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Or higher (not MATH 130 or 141) unless exempt through placement exam

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAT 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistical Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC/</td>
<td>Statistics for Sociologists I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C&amp;E SOC 360</td>
<td>Statistics for the Life Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>STAT 371</td>
<td>Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 210</td>
<td>Basic Statistics for Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 310</td>
<td>Statistics: Measurement in Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 360</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods in Geographical Analysis</td>
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</tbody>
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**Arts and Humanities**

- Literature: 3 credits
- Humanities: 6 credits

**Social Science**

- ECON 101: Principles of Microeconomics
- Select 6 credits designated Social Science breadth: 4 credits

**Physical, Biological and Natural Science**

- 9 credits

**Human Ecology Breadth**

- Select one Human Ecology course from CSCS, DS, HDFS, or INTER-HE: 3 credits

**Consumer Science Courses**

- CNSR SCI 250: Retail Leadership Symposium: 1 credit
- CNSR SCI 257: Introduction to Retailing: 2 credits
- CNSR SCI 201: Consumer Research & Analysis: 3 credits
- CNSR SCI 275: Consumer Finance: 3 credits
- CNSR SCI 657: Consumer Behavior: 3 credits
- CNSR SCI 564: Retail Financial Analysis: 3 credits
- CNSR SCI 555: Consumer Strategy & Evaluation: 3 credits

**Accounting Course**

- Select one course from the following: 3 credits
  - ACCT I S 300: Accounting Principles
  - ACCT I S 100: Introductory Financial Accounting
  - GEN BUS 310: Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance for Non-Business Majors

**Retailing and Consumer Behavior Depth**

- Select one course from the following: 3 credits
  - CNSR SCI 561: Retail Channel Strategy & Omni-Channel Retailing
  - CNSR SCI 562: The Global Consumer
  - CNSR SCI 567: Product Development Strategies in Retailing

**Consumer Science Depth**

- Select 6 credits from TWO different Consumer Science Depth Option Areas (Not also used above in the Retailing and Consumer Behavior Depth category): 6 credits

**UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

- **Total Credits**: 70-71

1. CNSR SCI 250 Retail Leadership Symposium may be repeated for up to three credits. Credits in addition to the one required credit will be counted as elective credits.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Students will invoke interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to understand the interactions between individuals and their social and environmental contexts.

2. Students will demonstrate the ability to harness, analyze and interpret relevant data for making real world decisions.

3. Students will acquire professional and life skills related to workplace communication, teamwork, active listening and adapting to technology.

4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the global retail industry and how retailers can enhance consumer well-being.
STUDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Student Academic Affairs & Career Development Office (SAA) fosters undergraduate students’ personal, academic, and professional development. Through advising, academic planning, and career education we support students as they navigate the college experience—from exploring our majors as prospective students to becoming SoHE alumni.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Each SoHE student is assigned to an academic advisor in the Student Academic Affairs & Career Development Office. SoHE academic advisors support academic and personal success by partnering with current and prospective SoHE students as they identify and clarify their educational goals, develop meaningful academic plans, and pursue their own Wisconsin Experience.

To explore academic advising resources or schedule an appointment with a SoHE academic advisor, visit Advising in SoHE (https://sohe.wisc.edu/prospective-students/advising).

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Active engagement in the career development process is a vital component of a student’s personal growth in college and future success as a life-long learner, professional, and global citizen. SoHE career advisors help prepare students for life post-graduation through individual and group advising and integration of career readiness throughout our curriculum.

To explore career development resources or schedule an appointment with a SoHE career advisor, visit Internship and Career Preparation (https://sohe.wisc.edu/prospective-students/career-preparation).

PEOPLE

Professors Bartfeld, Shim, Wong, Zepeda; Associate Professor Collins, Robb; Assistant Professors Addo, Ashton, Warmath; Faculty Associates Lepe, Murray, O’Brien, Olive, Whelan

For more information, visit the School of Human Ecology faculty and staff directory (https://sohe.wisc.edu/connect/faculty-staff).