

BUSINESS: OPERATIONS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, PH.D.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	33 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	26 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Details can be found in the Graduate School's Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244).

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.2 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	n/a
Assessments and Examinations	Doctoral students are required to pass a comprehensive preliminary examination after they have cleared their record of all Incomplete and Progress grades (other than research and thesis). There is an additional requirement of a proposal examination that consists of an oral presentation of an original research paper. Deposit of the doctoral dissertation in the Graduate School is required.
Language Requirements	There are no curricular language requirements for Business Ph.D. students.
Graduate School Breadth Requirement	A doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate is not required; Breadth is achieved in other ways.

REQUIRED COURSES

The Operations and Information Management named option is designed to be customized by each student. Each student will work directly with their advisor to determine the appropriate courses to take to meet all of the requirements listed below. For a student entering the Ph.D. program with a master's degree in the major area, the required coursework is estimated to take two years. Students without a relevant master's degree may take an additional semester to complete the required coursework.

Before becoming a dissertator, Ph.D. students must both complete 32 credits of coursework and pass a preliminary exam. In addition to the required courses listed below, all Ph.D. students are required to participate in the Teaching Improvement Program and Graduate Assistant Equity Workshop.

Code	Title	Credits
Mathematical Foundation ¹		3
Statistical Foundation ²		3
Economics Foundation ³		3
Research Methodology		
GEN BUS 933	Beginning a Research Career in Business	1
Research Electives ⁴		12
Breadth Requirement ⁵		9
Additional Coursework ⁶		20
Total Credits		51

1

This requirement can be met with MATH 340 Elementary Matrix and Linear Algebra or any MATH course numbered 500 or higher.

2

This requirement can be met with any STAT course numbered 300 or higher.

3

This requirement can be met with any ECON course numbered 400 or higher or any A A E course numbered 600 or higher.

4

Working with an advisor, each student chooses a minimum of four courses in the area of research methodology. While students are required to develop basic research background in multiple research areas, most students ultimately specialize in the research area and methodology that best suits their skills and research interests. These courses can be drawn from inside or outside the School of Business.

5

Students also develop specialization in a related field such as economics, psychology, or sociology. Finally, students build a foundation in statistics that supports their research interests. Methodology courses in economics, agricultural economics, or psychology will generally provide a strong foundation.

6

This course include the following courses: OTM 990 Operations and Information Management-Independent Research Ph.D. Thesis, OTM 999 Reading and Research-Operations and Information Management PhD, and other non-research coursework decided with their advisor.

Proposal Examination

An oral dissertation proposal exam is to be taken approximately one year after the successful passing of the preliminary exam. Two weeks prior to the exam, a dissertation proposal document should be submitted to the examination committee. This proposal should contain (1) a clear statement of, and motivation for, the dissertation topic; (2) a thorough review of the literature; (3) an in-depth discussion of the research methodologies and analysis approaches that will be followed; (4) anticipated findings and contributions of the research; and (5) a time-phased plan of milestones to be reached during the remainder of the candidate's study.

The proposal exam can only be taken twice. The second exam must be taken within one year of the first exam. Failure to pass the second time, as decided by the examination committee, will lead to the student's termination from the PhD program.