RICHARD J. WEHLE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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Mission Statement

The Richard J. Wehle School of Business develops business professionals to lead within their organizations, to excel in a globally competitive marketplace and to behave as ethically and socially responsible individuals. This is achieved through teaching excellence, intellectual vigor and community involvement in the Jesuit Tradition.

The objectives of the graduate business programs are to provide the best business education offered and serve the employer market through:

1. The development of graduates who are known for:
   • Technical and professional skills which allow them to make an immediate contribution to their organization.
   • Application of high ethical standards to decision making.
   • The ability to manage effectively in a changing business environment.
   • Effective communication skills.
   • The ability to confront issues and solve problems in an organized and effective way by integrating a number of different disciplines.
   • Engagement in life-long learning and professional development.
   • Interpersonal and team skills.

2. A learning environment characterized by concern for the maximum development of our students who have a variety of abilities and backgrounds.

3. An outstanding faculty of teacher-scholars who are excellent classroom instructors, who provide a blend of theoretical and practical aspects of their discipline, and who engage on a regular basis in professional and community service and scholarly activity involving a blend of basic, applied and instructional research.

4. Maintaining a network of graduates and friends to provide advice on the school’s programs, lend their expertise to the school, serve as a teaching resource and provide counseling, internship and job opportunities for our students.

5. Operating the school with sound management practices including continuous improvement and the efficient allocation of resources.

For more information on the Graduate Business Programs visit the Richard J Wehle School of Business website (https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/richard-j-wehle-school-business).

AACSB Accreditation

The Richard J. Wehle School of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (http://www.aacsb.edu) (AACSB). Accreditation by AACSB is the hallmark of excellence in management education, and has been earned by less than five percent of the world’s business programs. Today, there are 761 business schools in 52 countries and territories that maintain AACSB Accreditation. It represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide. Programs receiving AACSB International accreditation have superior faculty, high-caliber teaching, and meaningful interaction between students and faculty. All students earning degrees in business are required to participate in assessment exercises appropriate for meeting accreditation requirements.

Admission

The graduate programs in business are open to any qualified holder of a bachelor’s degree from a recognized college or university regardless of the undergraduate major field of study. The goal of the admission policy is the selection of those candidates who indicate the greatest potential for academic and professional achievement. The candidate for admission to graduate study must present evidence of qualifications to participate successfully in a graduate level academic endeavor.

Please review degree pages for admission requirements for individual programs.

Graduation

Students must ordinarily complete all requirements within five years of their first semester of attendance. Extensions may be granted upon the petition of the student to the Director of Graduate Business Programs. Student can complete degree requirements in fall, spring, and summer. The graduation ceremony is in May. Students that complete degree requirements in Fall will be invited to the May ceremony. Students that complete the program in summer, may petition the Director of Graduate Business Program to participate in the May ceremony prior to completion of the program.

Transfer Credit

Graduate business course work completed by a student at another AACSB accredited college or university may be accepted for transfer credit. Students desiring transfer credit should submit a written request to the program director for evaluation.

No transfer credit will be awarded for courses with grades below “B” and not more than 18 credit hours of transfer credit will be accepted for the evening MBA and MBAPA programs. No transfer credit is allowed for the One-Year MBA program.

Transfer students in the Graduate Business Programs must complete more than 50% of their program at Canisius.

Graduate business students at Canisius College who wish to transfer graduate course work at another institution must have the prior written permission from the director of Graduate Business Programs.

The Jesuit Consortium (JEBNET), of which Canisius is a member, allows MBA students from another Jesuit institution to readily transfer coursework upon approval of the program director.

Waivers

Students may qualify for waivers of foundation courses in the MBA or MBAPA Program based upon their undergraduate or graduate coursework, at the discretion of the program director. No waivers are granted for the One-Year MBA program.

Policy for Waivers of Foundation Level Courses: A minimum of six credit hours of undergraduate courses with grades of B or better in the last five years in appropriate content.

Beta Gamma Sigma

The Wehle School of Business at Canisius College houses a chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma (https://www.betagammasigma.org). Beta Gamma Sigma is the premier honor society recognizing business excellence. Lifetime
members of the Society have earned the right to be considered the ‘Best in Business.’ Students who graduate in the top 20 percent of their class are eligible for membership.

External Business Programs
Center for Professional Development

The WSB houses the Center for Professional Development (CPD), which delivers executive education and lifelong learning opportunities for individuals and businesses throughout the Western New York region and beyond. The CPD’s diverse program options provide individuals with opportunity to advance their career, regardless of role or experience. Led by distinguished Faculty at Canisius College as well as by Western New York business experts, the CPD’s programs are targeted at enhancing the skills leaders require to be successful in today’s business climate. Located on the Main St. campus of Canisius College in Science Hall, many of the non-credit bearing seminars, professional development workshops, training and other programs offered by the CPD are open to enrollment by students, alumni and members of the community. For additional information and a listing of CPD programs and upcoming events, visit the official CPD website (http://canisiuscpd.com).

The Women’s Business Center

Located in Demerly Hall, just a short distance from the Main St. campus, the Women’s Business Center (WBC) empowers entrepreneurs to succeed through education, connections and community by developing leaders, fostering opportunities and building collaboration. The WBC was established by the Richard J. Wehle School of Business in 2003 to support the success of entrepreneurs and small business owners with a focus on women in Erie County and the surrounding region including Buffalo, Rochester, Jamestown and Niagara Falls. The WBC provides services in small business development: training, counseling, coaching, and networking. Networking serves as a major component of all programs to ensure that every participant has made appropriate connections with business and community resources. Faculty and students at Canisius frequently connect with area entrepreneurs and small businesses through programs offered by the Women’s Business Center. These connections often result in mutually beneficial relationships that contribute to the economic strength of the local and regional economy. The WBC is directed by Sara Vescio. For additional information and a listing of WBC programs and upcoming events, visit the official WBC website (http://thewomensbusinesscenter.com).

Commitment to Business Ethics and the Community

The Richard J. Wehle School of Business has always promoted ethics and the application of Jesuit values to the personal and professional lives of students, alumni, faculty and other members of our campus community. We believe that ethical behavior is a fundamental requirement for long-term success in business for both individuals and organizations. Our commitment to the promotion of ethics and ethical business behavior runs deep and can be seen in the School’s mission statement, our curriculum, and the actions of our students and faculty as they engage with, and serve others in our local, regional and international community. In addition to teaching and promoting ethics in our academic programs, the Wehle School of Business is a founding partner in the Buffalo Niagara Business Ethics Association (BNBEA) (http://buffalobusinessethics.org).

Degrees

The Richard J. Wehle School of Business offers graduate programs leading to the following master’s degrees:

1. Master of Business Administration (MBA)
2. Master of Business Administration in Professional Accounting (MBAPA)
3. Master of Business Administration in Accounting (MBAA) - Canisius undergraduate accounting students only

All three programs are professional in nature and the MBAA and the MBPA are derivatives of the MBA Program. Their objective is to educate forward-looking leaders for business, industry and government. They are all registered with the New York State Education Department. The MBA, MBAPA, MBAA, and MSF programs are fully accredited by AACSB-International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The professional accounting program (MBAPA) is for those who enter on the graduate level without an accounting background. The MBAA is for those who begin as accounting undergraduates at Canisius College. The MBAA is designed to meet the 150-hour requirement of the American Institute of CPAs. The MBAPA and MBAA programs qualify students to sit for the CPA examination in New York State. Graduates of the MBAPA and MBAA are required to complete one year of experience for certification in the State of New York.

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

The Evening MBA is designed for either full or part-time study. Working adults can complete their program of studies on a part time basis. Students attending full-time can take up to 12 credit hours a semester and complete in 16 months. The majority of students come from the Western New York area and they have a variety of undergraduate majors.

One Year MBA Program

The One Year MBA Program is a full-time program designed for individuals who wish to minimize the delay in starting their professional career or reduce the time away from their present career. This intense program begins in the fall semester and continues through the spring and summer semesters. Because of the special nature of this course of study, candidates for the One Year MBA are admitted as a single group in the fall and complete the program together. Classes are during the day in the fall with an evening class in spring and elective classes in summer in the evening.

Master of Business Administration in Professional Accounting (MBAPA)

In addition to enabling them to earn an MBA degree, this program makes it possible for holders of undergraduate and graduate degrees with majors other than accounting to:

1. Complete a major in accounting.
2. Prepare to enter the accounting profession.
3. Acquire the educational requirements to take the CPA examination leading to professional licensing.

Master of Business Administration in Accounting (MBAA)

This program is designed for undergraduate accounting majors at Canisius College. It meets the 150-hour requirement of the American Institute of CPAs and qualifies students for CPA Licensure. Graduates are required to complete one year of work experience for certification. Students should
apply for admission in the fall of their junior year. They should take the GMAT at the earliest opportunity and no later than February 1 of their junior year. The admissions criteria for this program are different from those that apply to the MBA and MBAPA programs. Recommended admission standards:

1. a minimum cumulative average of 2.75 in all accounting courses taken at Canisius, including junior accounting courses,
2. a minimum cumulative overall average of 3.00 by the end of junior year, and
3. a minimum score of 500 on the GMAT.

**Master of Science Forensic Accounting (MSF)**

This program will provide not only skill sets necessary to detect irregularities in financial instruments and systems but also heavily inculcates ethical values in decision making and analysis. The program is intended to provide students with the necessary background and tools to both detect and prevent possible future fraudulent behavior by those developing and using financial data. Additionally, students utilizing the skill sets provided by this program should make financial data more reliable for those who make decisions based upon that data.

The program will provide students with the ability to obtain the additional thirty credit hours to be eligible for licensure as Certified Public Accountants (CPA) as well as being able to obtain other certifications such as a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE).