



From Classroom to Career: What Parents Should Know About Business Education

The following are questions that were submitted during the webinar with the corresponding answers

Business Student Orgs

Can anyone join business-related student organizations?

Yes, although many student organizations have an application process.

The business-related student organizations at Vanderbilt have a competitive application process. How can students increase their chances of being selected or pursue their passion when selectivity is limited?

Students can network with older students and demonstrate a genuine interest in the club's focus area. However, students have various paths to pursue their interests, with clubs being only one option. Other options include engaging faculty, participating in business undergraduate co-curricular programming, and various self-study options.

AI in Business

How do you see AI being utilized in finance jobs?

Certainly, the acquisition, processing, and interpretation of data will be affected as AI claims to be more efficient in these areas. Financial modeling will be an interesting area, as there will be certain parts that AI can handle, but assumptions and judgment, in our opinion, will remain with the experience of humans.

Companies are currently very engaged in figuring out how to work AI into their businesses to see what makes sense. How is the Vanderbilt curriculum incorporating AI and teaching students how to use it in a business context?

Many classes are incorporating AI into the specific topic. Additionally, multiple training sessions/seminars continue to be available to students and faculty. Of course, the computer science and data science programs are diving deep into this area.

Summer Opportunities

What year do you recommend students do the Vandy 2 Wall Street program?

During the summer between their first and sophomore years.

What are the details on the application process and timeline for the upcoming Wall Street Prep and Maymester course in Accounting & Finance? Are rising sophomores eligible for the Maymester course?

The Maymester course registration begins March 23 and will be available in YES, similar to regular semester registration. Wall Street Prep will be announced in the spring by the Career Center and will have an application process administered by the Career Center.

Is the Accelerator Summer Business Immersion in Nashville during summer? Is it a full-time program and do they receive an credit for their business minor?

Accelerator Summer Business Immersion takes place May 31-June 18 (3 weeks) and is a certificate program. Click and learn more here: <https://business.vanderbilt.edu/accelerator/summer-business-immersion/>.

Is the summer before sophomore year a critical summer for internships?

Not a critical year. If students do not have an internship, they can do something else productive that connects them to their passion. For instance, not having an internship, but doing self-study on an industry during the summer creates talking points for interviews and demonstrates commitment to a job or field.

Do you feel the summer immersion program to more valuable then a summer internship actual job related to your career?

Both are valuable; my sense is that students who focus their personal efforts on being better prepared to launch into an industry have the better outcomes. Those efforts are many times a combination of internships, immersive experiences, and self-study/prep

Career Center

Could you suggest the key resources, specifically targeted for current freshmen, in the Career Center that you recommend they take advantage of?

Meet with career center coaches; familiarize themselves with the career center calendar; meet with faculty in areas of interest; network with recent grads of VU

When will the Career Center release the 2025 undergraduate class outcomes report?

Career Outcomes for the Class of 2025 will most likely be available in February.

Misc.

Is the MSBT program an OGSM program? What is the scope of the experiential learning and projected potential outcomes of this program?

The Master of Science in Business and Technology program combines curriculum from the Owen Graduate School of Management and Vanderbilt's School of Engineering with a six-credit summer intensive internship/capstone project designed to equip students with highly sought-after skills and knowledge. This experiential learning component is a key and unique feature of the M.S. in Business and Technology program that provides students with real-world experience that directly connects them with NY's thriving tech and innovation ecosystem.

Are there specific resources and programs for students who have already launched a business?

The Center for Entrepreneurship has many different programs and resources. Baxter Webb can give an overview

Can you share more about what OGSM looks for in VU2MBA students?

We are looking for many of the same qualities in VU2MBA candidates that we look for in full-time, more experienced MBA candidates: leadership initiative and potential, ability to work with others, strong academic ability and aptitude, and candidates who demonstrate a collaborative mindset, willingness to engage in community, and potential to contribute to the cohort beyond academics. The main differentiator with VU2MBA is that we do not have a full understanding of what a candidate's work experience is going to be - if a candidate does have a job lined up after school that's helpful but if not, they should be able to paint a clear picture of what they're hoping to do as far as role/industry after undergraduate graduation.