In the School of Business and Economics (SBE), we prepare graduates to become leaders in the rapidly changing, technology-based business world of the twenty-first century. We offer programs leading to a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a Bachelor of Science in Economics, and a Master of Science in Mineral Economics.

Your MTU experience will be distinguished by personal attention and guidance, a commitment to effective teaching, and an emphasis on teamwork, information resources, and the link between the business and technology of organizations. You’ll be prepared to manage your career—not just acquire an entry-level position.

Our student-faculty ratio is low. Nearly all faculty hold the highest degree in their field and are involved in research that enables them to share with students the excitement found at the cutting edge. Many faculty have consulting, industry, government and/or international experience and can share issues, problems, and opportunities that concern potential employers. Most importantly, all are concerned that SBE students receive a first-rate education respected by employers in the business world.

Our programs emphasize computing applications. Our Computing and Educational Technology Center, open twenty-four hours per day, gives students immediate access to tools used in the business world. Home pages and e-mail provide rapid interaction among students, faculty, and staff. Internet access at high data-transmission rates and access to data bases and information services provide nearly unlimited access to the world’s information resources.

You’ll also be able to gain hands-on experience in the workplace through MTU’s highly successful co-op program. You’ll receive academic credit and earnings to help pay for a share of educational expenses and have an advantage over other students when you enter the labor force.

Student chapters of several national professional business organizations sponsor a wide range of professional programs and social activities to assist students in developing their career goals.
Business Administration

Business Administration—BS

The Bachelor of Science in Business Administration curriculum stresses critical thinking, teamwork, leadership, and technology management. Students obtain a broad core of business fundamentals while developing in-depth knowledge in

➤ accounting,
➤ finance,
➤ industrial marketing and management, or
➤ management information systems.

Accounting—Accounting is the language of business. Accountants help organizations, investors, suppliers, and the government determine profitability, evaluate the performance of organizations, and estimate the true costs for providing specific products and services. Accountants also increasingly serve as information system experts and often rise to top management positions. SBE accounting graduates are partners in international, regional, and local CPA firms, chief financial officers of major corporations, and owners of their own businesses.

Finance—Finance is the study of investments, financial markets, and financial operations. Finance graduates help firms raise funds to start or expand operations, help determine which new factories to build and which new machines to buy, manage the cash that the firm needs to operate on a daily basis, and help individuals and organizations invest in stocks, bonds, real estate, and other assets. Finance graduates find employment with the government and in corporate finance departments, banks, brokerage firms, and other financial institutions.

Industrial Marketing and Management—Industrial marketing professionals help firms select, develop, promote, and sell new products and services. Graduates work in industrial and consumer sales, marketing research, advertising, purchasing, distribution, logistics, and brand management activities. Industrial management professionals help firms plan, schedule, and supervise operations and often become involved in quality improvement projects, purchasing, and new equipment selection. Graduates are prepared for positions in a variety of industries and organizations, including small business start-ups. Because production and sales are the most important activities of most businesses, graduates in these areas often rise to top management positions.

Management Information Systems—MIS professionals use computers, communications, and information technologies to help organizations make decisions, improve efficiency, and carry out most of their activities. MIS professionals need to know both the underlying technologies and the needs of other business professionals whom they assist in order to solve business problems and improve methods of doing business. Employment opportunities for MIS graduates are found in every organization that relies on computers and information technology.
Economics

Economics is the foundation upon which all other business disciplines are built. Economists study how consumers and business firms behave, how purchase and output decisions are made, and how all consumers and firms interact in the nation and in the world.

Economics—BS

A BS degree in Economics prepares you for employment in industry, banks and other financial institutions, and government agencies. It also is an excellent pre-professional foundation for advanced study of law (JD), business (MBA), public administration (MPA), or economics (MS, PhD). Our BS program gives you a strong analytical foundation to examine economic, business, and social problems and has the flexibility to allow you to design your studies to match your intended career path. A senior thesis requirement allows you to study an industry, nation, theory, or economic issue of interest to you.

Mineral Economics—MS

The mineral economics program prepares students with backgrounds in the mineral sciences, geology, engineering, or business for careers with firms, trade associations, consulting firms, financial institutions, or government agencies associated with minerals or natural resources. As an MS in Mineral Economics graduate, you’ll find employment in activities stressing analytical skills, such as forecasting mineral or commodity market conditions, undertaking financial analyses of mineral projects, or explaining mineral or commodity market behavior. Faculty and researchers from other MTU programs frequently aid in student advising and research guidance.

Career Opportunities

➤ Recent graduates work in management and marketing, information systems, and public and managerial accounting positions at Fortune 500 firms (Dow Chemical, Kraft, Kimberly-Clark, General Motors, etc.), as well as with medium and small-size business firms.

➤ Others have pursued advanced studies in law, accounting, or marketing at schools such as the University of Wisconsin, Marquette University, University of Georgia, University of Arizona, University of Denver, and Ohio State University.

➤ About 90 percent of SBE graduates have found employment within three months after graduation with undergraduate salaries ranging as high as $48,000 annually. Starting salaries of accounting, finance, and industrial marketing and management graduates have averaged between $25,000 and $35,000; starting salaries of MIS graduates have averaged between $35,000 and $45,000.

➤ Among others, distinguished SBE alumni(ae) include current and retired partners in Big Six accounting firms; vice presidents for finance, marketing, or manufacturing; tax counsels; chief financial officers for major industrial and financial firms; chief economists at major public utility firms; and faculty members at eminent universities.
Other Programs and Certificates

Dual-Degree Programs—
BS in Business Administration or Economics and a BS in another program

The SBE’s dual-degree programs lead to a BS in Business Administration or a BS in Economics in addition to a BS in another discipline from MTU or another university. These programs provide the technically trained person with the tools needed for management in a technologically sophisticated environment or the background for graduate study in economics, business, or law. The SBE course work can generally be completed within one academic year following the first degree or can be taken simultaneously with the first degree program during the second through fifth years of study.

2+2 Program
BS in Business Administration and an AAS in Engineering or Forest Technology

This program allows students with associate degrees in engineering or forest technology to earn BS degrees in Business Administration to complement their technology background. Approximately two and one-half years of study beyond the associate degree is required to earn the BSBA. Our graduates in this program have been very successful in securing employment in management or marketing positions in industries to which their technological background applies.

Certificate in International Business

The SBE offers a Certificate in International Business to meet the needs of students who will be employed in an increasingly global marketplace. This certificate program is open to any student concurrently working toward any MTU degree or to students who are not enrolled in an MTU degree program. US students are strongly encouraged to participate in a study abroad program while completing this certificate. One year of foreign language study is required.

Certificate in Industrial Forestry

The School of Business and Economics and the School of Forestry and Wood Products jointly award a Certificate in Industrial Forestry. Business students can use the certificate program to obtain a working knowledge of the forestry and wood products industries, and SFWP students can use the certificate program to obtain a working knowledge of business and management. Non-degree-seeking students may also obtain this certificate.

For More Information on SBE Programs

Contact the SBE’s associate dean or its director of academic services for more information on SBE undergraduate programs or a sample schedule.

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