

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS MBA PROGRAM

GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of school Public

SURVEY SAYS...

Friendly students
 Good peer network
Solid preparation in:
 Accounting
 General management
 Quantitative skills

STUDENTS

Enrollment of parent institution	6,700
Enrollment of MBA program	91
% male/female	40/60
% part-time	90
% minorities	30
% international	10
Average age at entry	32
Average years work experience at entry	10

ACADEMICS

Academic Experience Rating	70
Student/faculty ratio	15:1
Prof's interesting rating	80
Prof's accessible rating	75
% female faculty	20
% minority faculty	50

Academics

The School of Business and Economics at Fayetteville State University, a campus of the University of North Carolina system, offers both on-site and online MBA courses to both full-time and part-time students. Undergraduates pursuing a three-two BA/MBA and international students fill out the full-time population; the remaining majority of students are part-timers who typically work full-time while earning a graduate degree. The latter are well served by UNCFSU's "flexible curriculum" and by the school's partnerships with large local employers, including the US Army at Fort Bragg and the Cape Fear Valley Health System (the school offers an MBA in healthcare, with "classes right on the hospital campus," one participant reports). The school is accredited by the AACSB International.

The UNCFSU MBA is open to all students with undergraduate degrees, including those with no background in business; such students must complete up to 18 credit hours of non-degree foundation courses covering accounting, statistics, finance, microeconomics, macroeconomics, management, communication, and marketing. Students with previous coursework or extensive experience in these areas may place out of some or all foundation courses. The degree-applicable MBA curriculum consists of 24 credit hours of core curriculum and 12 credit hours of electives. Students may take all electives in a single area to develop a concentration in accounting, finance, healthcare, international business, management, project management, or marketing, or they may mix and match electives to earn an MBA in general business. The school offers a fairly even mix of onsite and online classes, with the former more likely to outnumber the latter slightly in any given semester.

Students praise the "high quality of instructors and the friendly atmosphere offering students opportunities to grow intellectually. Many are "very impressed with the technology used in the classrooms and available for the students, particularly the offsite access to several software programs and library resources." Convenience and a developing local reputation seem to be the chief selling points among current students; they like how they can get a relatively inexpensive MBA "with the convenience of taking some classes online, which cuts down on added expenses" and also that the school "has greatly improved the community perception that it is doing a good job with our young people."

Career and Placement

Placement and career counseling services are provided by the Office of Advisement and Career Services Center at UNCFSU. The office serves all undergraduates, graduates, and recent alumni "in their preparation for securing meaningful employment." Services include workshops, symposia, classroom presentations, career exploration seminars, and job fairs. A Career Resource Library "offers materials and information regarding careers, the job search process, and company literature as well as graduate schools and fellowship programs." Access to online job search tools allows students to utilize a broad range of local, national, and international job-search engines.

ADMISSIONS CONTACT: A.A. TAVAKOLI

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Student Life and Environment

UNCFSU serves a student body that consists mostly of “focused working professionals” (their rank include “doctors, accountants, bankers, and soldiers”) with some undergraduates (in the three-two program) and international students in the mix. “Students in the program are extremely friendly and willing to share their experiences and collaborate with studies,” one student here informs us. “Most have families, though some don’t.”

As at most part-time programs serving working students, extracurricular life here is minimal. Some bemoan the dearth of activities, student associations and groups, and “speakers from large businesses and corporations visiting the campus,” but many wouldn’t notice the difference even if all these activities arrived tomorrow. They’re simply too busy with work, school, and life to make time for extracurricular activities. An international student from Romania tells us that the environment is hospitable to foreign students, saying: “It felt like home from the first day of school. Everybody is friendly and helpful and the instructors are always trying to push the students’ limits towards higher achievements that will prepare them better for the job market.”

Admissions

Degree-seeking applicants to UNCFSU must provide the Admissions Committee with the following materials: a completed application form; official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate institutions attended (international students must have their transcripts evaluated by an approved agency such as the World Education Service); an official score report for the GMAT; and two letters of recommendation. Students whose native language is not English must submit an official score report for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). International applicants must complete a different application form and must provide proof of their ability to support themselves financially while attending the institution. Degree-seeking applicants must earn a formula score of at least 950 under the formula [(undergraduate GPA 200) + GMAT score], with a minimum GMAT score of 375. Those failing to meet the above requirements but who have a minimum GPA of 2.5 or a GMAT score of at least 450 may be admitted under the Professional Development status, and may later be reclassified as degree-seeking students. Current undergraduates who have carried a GPA of at least 3.0 for the trailing 60 credit hours and earn a formula score of at least 1000 are eligible for the three-two BA/MBA degree program.

FINANCIAL FACTS

Annual tuition (in-state/ out-of-state)	\$2,118/\$11,708
Fees	\$1,218
Cost of books	\$400
Room & board (on-campus)	\$6,000
% of students receiving grants	3

ADMISSIONS

Admissions Selectivity Rating	64
# of applications received	150
% applicants accepted	80
% acceptees attending	90
Average GMAT	470
Range of GMAT	410–500
Average GPA	3.2
TOEFL required of international students	Yes
Minimum TOEFL (paper/computer)	550/213
Application fee	\$25
International application fee	\$25
Regular application deadline	7/15
Deferment available	Yes
Maximum length of deferment	one year
Transfer students accepted	Yes
Transfer application policy	Up to six credit hours could be transferred from an AACSB accredited program.
Non-fall admissions	Yes

Applicants Also Look At

The University of North Carolina at
Pembroke, Campbell University,
University of North Carolina at
Wilmington, North Carolina Central
University.