International Business
Preparing students for managerial careers in the global marketplace

Major
The concentration in international business prepares students for business careers in the global marketplace. Global companies have high growth rates and offer good opportunities for career advancement. The international business concentration includes specialized courses, internships in international business, and optional study abroad opportunities. Courses in international marketing, management, finance, and economics give students many opportunities to develop real-world business skills. Students also develop an understanding of the cultural, political, legal, and technological aspects of the global business environment. Students from English-speaking countries are required to take two semesters of a foreign language. Some students in this concentration earn a minor, usually in a foreign language or in international and global studies. Students are encouraged to participate in the many global events that are offered on campus. Graduates are well-prepared to manage the challenges facing global business today, both in the United States and abroad.

“...The program in international business is interdisciplinary in nature and emphasizes the development of foreign language skills as well as an understanding of the social, cultural and political aspects of the international environment.”

Careers/Graduate School
International business graduates have pursued successful careers in marketing, banking, financial analysis, supply chain management, consulting, project management, export/import, and other business fields. Most work for multinational companies in jobs that require a knowledge of international business. American graduates have worked in the United States, Hong Kong, Brazil, Chile, Sweden, and elsewhere. Several graduates have joined the Peace Corps or taught English overseas, before moving on to a business career. If you are an international student, the international business concentration can lead to job opportunities in your home country, or possibly to a job in the United States. Several graduates of this program have earned a Master of International Business from the University of South Carolina, which is often ranked number one in the United States for graduate programs in international business. A number of other graduates have earned MBA degrees at various universities.

Professional Organizations
Winthrop students have many opportunities to participate in student organizations. Students with excellent academic records may be invited to join Beta Gamma Sigma, the national scholastic honor society for students in business administration. Members of Winthrop’s award-winning Enactus chapter develop skills in leadership, communication, teamwork, and project management through campus and community service. Students in the international business concentration are encouraged to participate in the activities offered by Winthrop’s International Center, such as the International Friends program.

Facilities
Business students have access within Thurmond Building and Carroll Hall to a variety of computer labs, state-of-the-art multimedia classrooms, a student resource room with tutoring services, a student services center, and a presentation seminar room.

Accreditation
The baccalaureate degree program in business administration is accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.
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Internships and Study Abroad

Students in the international business concentration are required to complete one of the following courses: an internship related to international business, an international field experience course, or the Business and Study Abroad course. Interns have worked in the local offices of international companies and at overseas locations. As part of the international field experience course, students have traveled to numerous countries in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. These trips, which are led by Winthrop business faculty and scheduled during Maymester or spring break, include visits to businesses, government agencies, universities, and cultural sites. The Business and Study Abroad course is open to students who have completed a study abroad experience that lasted at least four weeks.

For students in the international business concentration who want to study abroad for a full semester, the most popular study abroad programs are located in England, Australia, Spain, and Japan. The Winthrop International Center maintains a study abroad portal that lists many other opportunities, including summer programs. Summer programs usually last from two to six weeks and often focus on the language and culture of the country where you are studying. Your advisor and Student Services will work with you to choose a study abroad program that interests you and will allow you to graduate on time.

Faculty

The business administration faculty at Winthrop is dedicated to teaching. A high level of knowledge in their specialty areas, combined with “real world” experience, serves to benefit their students. Members have recently won Winthrop’s Distinguished Professor, Outstanding Junior Professor, and Excellence in Teaching Awards. They are also actively involved in research, participate in a variety of professional activities, and volunteer in the Rock Hill community.

Faculty members have participated in exchange programs to international universities in China, Kosovo, and France. They have also participated in business research projects in South and Central America as well as Eastern Europe. Business administration majors are provided multiple networking opportunities with their professors and the business community. This enables students to establish the contacts that they will need for advanced study and employment.

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