

Foundation Fact Sheet for Graduate Programs

Welcome!

We welcome students with a wide variety of undergraduate academic and career backgrounds into the Rowan Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Science in Finance (MSF) and Graduate Certificate (COGS) programs in the Rohrer College of Business at Rowan University. This additional aspect of diversity of our student body adds to a rich and robust learning experience.

In order to ensure all students are equipped with key baseline and foundational business knowledge for graduate-level coursework in business, Rowan requires all students to satisfy a set of Foundation requirements.

This document can serve as a guide so that you can find the most efficient way to satisfy Foundation requirements to fit your learning style, timeline, and budget.

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Overview of Foundation Requirements

We welcome students with a wide variety of undergraduate academic and career backgrounds into the Rowan Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Science in Finance (MSF) and Graduate Certificate (COGS) programs in the Rohrer College of Business at Rowan University. This additional aspect of diversity of our student body adds to a rich and robust learning experience.

In order to ensure all students are equipped with key baseline and foundational business knowledge for graduate-level coursework in business, Rowan requires all students to satisfy a set of Foundation requirements.

Students that majored in business in their undergraduate studies (and earned strong grades) are typically waived from all of the Rowan Foundation requirements for graduate programs. Students without an undergraduate degree in business typically need to satisfy many, if not all, of the Foundation requirements.

While students can begin in the MBA program without satisfying all Foundation requirements, students will need to satisfy these requirements early in the program to maintain forward momentum. Some Foundation-level requirements can be taken simultaneously with some core MBA courses, although this option is limited and still requires students to follow course sequencing requirements.

There are many ways that students can satisfy Foundation requirements: non-credit online modules and tests, online or face to face courses at your local community college or 4-year institution, and of course online or face to face at Rowan University. This document details the Foundation requirements, as well as options you can consider so that your pursuit matches your learning style, timeline, and budget.

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At a Glance - Foundation Requirements

Course Title	MBA	MSF	Business COGS	Acct. COGS	Finance COGS	Business Analytics COGS
*Macroeconomics Rowan's ECON 04101	✓	✓			✓	
*Microeconomics Rowan's ECON 04102	✓	✓			✓	
**Accounting I (Financial Accounting) Rowan's ACC 03210	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
**Accounting II (Cost Accounting) Rowan's ACC 03211	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Calculus: Techniques & Applications MATH 03125	✓	✓			✓	✓
Statistics I STAT 02260	✓	✓			✓	✓
Principles of Marketing MKT 09200	✓		✓			
Operations Management MGT 06305	✓					✓
Principles of Finance FIN 04300	✓	✓			✓	

*Macroeconomics & Microeconomics can both also be satisfied by taking one course, ECON 04303 Principles of Economics: A Survey, at Rowan University

**Accounting I & Accounting II can both also be satisfied by taking one course, ACC 03405 Foundations of Accounting, at Rowan University

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Options for Satisfying Foundation Requirements

There are many ways that students can satisfy Foundation requirements: specifically designated online non-credit modules and tests, online or face to face courses at your local community college or 4-year institution, and online or face to face courses at Rowan University. This document details the Foundation requirements, as well as options you can consider so that your pursuit matches your learning style, timeline, and budget.

Non-credit Online Modules and Courses

Online resources such as Sophia.org, Study.com and Straightline.com offer equivalent course options for many of our Foundation requirements. The cost to take a course for any of these websites range between \$60-\$100 on either a per course or per month basis, which is a good cost savings option for many students.

Non-credit Testing via CLEP

For some of our Foundation requirements, students have the option to complete a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) test and earn academic credit by passing the test with a minimum score. This testing option can be FREE for students if they first complete a free, self-paced online course via Modern States that coincides with the CLEP test they intend to take.

Community College or 4-Year College/University

Students are welcome to complete the majority of our Foundation Course Requirements through their local community college or 4-year institution. Depending on the school selected, there may already be pre-approved equivalent courses at that institution to our Foundation requirements. To review pre-approved courses, visit [Rowan's Undergraduate Transfer Credit Equivalent Database](#). Students intending on utilizing courses at schools not listed in [Rowan's Undergraduate Transfer Credit Equivalent Database](#) are encouraged to connect with the Rowan Graduate Business Programs office to discuss course equivalents.

Rowan University

All foundation courses can be completed at Rowan University. If students wish to take foundation courses at Rowan prior to matriculating as a graduate-level student with Rowan, students can sign up to be a non-matriculating student with Rowan. Taking foundation courses at Rowan as a non-matriculating student will allow students to be charged the undergraduate-level per credit cost, which is substantially less than the graduate-level per credit cost. Students taking courses as a non-matriculating student are not eligible for Federal Financial Aid or student loans (e.g. FAFSA). Any foundation courses taken while matriculated as a graduate-level student will cost the graduate-level per credit rate per the Rowan University Bursar's website. Students are eligible for financial aid if they are matriculated as a graduate-level student in the MBA or MS Finance programs.

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At a Glance - Options for Satisfying Foundation Requirements

Course Topics and Rowan Courses (to match equivalency)	Study.com	Sophia.org	Straightline.com	CLEP	Community College	Other 4-Year Schools	Rowan University
*Microeconomics Rowan's ECON 04101		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
*Macroeconomics Rowan's ECON 04102		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
**Accounting I (Financial Accounting) Rowan's ACC 03210	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
**Accounting II (Cost Accounting) Rowan's ACC 03211			✓		✓	✓	✓
Calculus: Techniques & Applications Rowan's MATH 03125		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Statistics I Rowan's STAT 02260	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Principles of Marketing Rowan's MKT 09200	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Operations Management Rowan's MGT 06305						✓	✓
Principles of Finance Rowan's FIN 04300		✓				✓	✓

*Macroeconomics & Microeconomics can both also be satisfied by taking one course, ECON 04303 Principles of Economics: A Survey, at Rowan University

**Accounting I & Accounting II can both also be satisfied by taking one course, ACC 03405 Foundations of Accounting, at Rowan University

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Frequently Asked Questions

Determining My Foundation Requirements and Waivers

Q. I am preparing to apply to a graduate program in business. I would like to know in advance which Foundation courses I have already completed that would satisfy the requirements, and which I might need to still complete for admission to the MBA or a COGS/CAGS program. How can I be sure in advance?

A. First, review this Foundations Fact Sheet in its entirety. If you still have questions after reviewing, send an email request with details of your questions to the Graduate Business Programs office at GraduateBusinessStudies@rowan.edu.

How to Get Credit for Courses to Satisfy Foundation Requirements

Q. Can I transfer Foundation Courses after I start the graduate program?

A. Yes. If you choose to pursue any Foundation Courses at another institution or through an alternative organization (Sophia, Study.com or Straighterline), you are required to manage all logistics regarding researching your options, applying, enrolling, and ensuring your final transcripts are sent to the Graduate Programs in Business at Rowan. The MGT 06.305 Operations Management course must be taken at a four-year institution.

Note that course enrollment outside of Rowan (e.g. Sophia.org, Study.com, Straighterline, Modern States, at a community college, or other 4-year school) will not count towards any graduate program enrollment requirements or policies such as financial aid, loans, or international student visas.

Q. I have been admitted to a Rohrer College of Business Graduate Program! My official admissions offer letter states that I still need to satisfy Foundation course requirements. However, I believe I have already satisfied some or all of the courses noted as outstanding. What can I do to have my case reconsidered?

A. First, be sure that all of your transcripts have been included in your application package. While programs or schools where you might have attended and accrued fewer than 9 credits

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are not required as part of your application package, they are required for consideration to be made regarding Foundation course requirements.

Even if you transferred such courses to a program where you earned a degree and they are listed on your transcript, the grades must show on the transcript where your degree was awarded, otherwise original transcript with grades listed are required.

The only exception to this rule is for students that completed their undergraduate degrees at Rowan University. The Rowan admissions and program teams have direct access to student records.

As a first step in the process, please carefully review the course description in the latter part of this document for each Foundation course in question. If you feel there is a strong match, you will need to prepare an email to GraduateBusinessStudies@rowan.edu detailing which courses you would like to be reconsidered. Be sure to include the following in your email:

- School
- Course title
- Semester completed
- Grade earned
- Course description **and** link to the course description at the home school

This should be for every Foundation course you wish to be reconsidered.

If you are not able to find the course online or in English on the website to share a link to this information, you will need to coordinate with the home school to provide an official course description or course syllabus for content addressed in the course. The evidence can be in the form of an email originating from the home school administrator with signature stamp and all contact information for follow up from a Program Administrator, Registrar, or other university official. This will facilitate an efficient review by the Graduate Business Studies office.

Q. Where do I send my transcripts if I am transferring Foundation course credits from a community college or another 4-year school?

A. Once the final grade(s) is posted on the transcript for the Foundation course(s) of interest, please send the transcript electronically to:

global@rowan.edu

If transcripts must be sent via US Postal Mail, please send to the following address:

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Rowan University
Global Learning & Partnerships Graduate Admissions
Enterprise Center
225 Rowan Blvd, 2nd Floor
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Please be sure to notify the Office of Graduate Business Programs at GraduateBusinessStudies@rowan.edu that you have sent this information to the admissions team so that we can coordinate with them to make sure that your transcripts are received.

Online Modules and Courses

Q. How do I take Foundation courses at Study.com, Sophia.org or Straighterline.com?

A. Students should sign up for the appropriate courses at their website of choice and pay any fees that are necessary. Once the course is completed, students will request that the transcript be sent from the website directly to Rowan University (an option will be provided within the website).

Q. How do I know if the courses I am planning to take at Study.com, Sophia.org or Straighterline.com are equivalent to my outstanding Foundation courses?

A. If you are planning on taking a Foundation course through Study.com, Sophia.org or Straighterline.com, be sure to utilize the [Rowan Transfer Equivalency Database](#) to view course equivalencies between the institution and Rowan University.

If the course in question is not listed in the transfer equivalency database, or you're having trouble determining course equivalents, the Graduate Business Studies office can assist in determining equivalent options.

When trying to determine the equivalent courses at Study.com, Sophia.org or Straighterline.com via the Rowan Transfer Equivalency Database, be sure to use the below information as the Transfer Institution:

Study.com – Set “Transfer Institution” to “ACE CREDIT: 641000” / Study.com courses will start with “SC”

Sophia.org - Set “Transfer Institution” to “ACE CREDIT: 641000” / Sophia.org courses will start with “SO”

Straighterline - Set “Transfer Institution” to “ACE CREDIT: 641000” / Straighterline courses will start with “SL”

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Non-credit Testing via CLEP

Q. What is CLEP testing?

A. CLEP tests are part of the College Level Examination Program from the College Board. This program allows students to receive academic credit for skills and knowledge they may already possess through the successful completion of a test.

Additionally, students are allowed to complete FREE course modules at the [Modern States website](#) in preparation for their specific CLEP exam. Completion of Modern States courses will earn you a voucher to take the appropriate CLEP exam for free.

Q. Am I eligible to take the CLEP exam?

A. Yes. Anyone can take part in the College Level Examination Program or CLEP. This includes both current and prospective students. Individuals seeking to take the CLEP exam can do so at [local testing centers](#) or [Rowan University's Testing Center](#).

Q. What courses can be covered by the CLEP exam?

A. Required Foundation Courses with available CLEP Exam Options are:

- ACC 03210 - Principles of Accounting I (Financial Accounting)
- ECON 04101 - Macroeconomics
- ECON 04102 - Microeconomics
- MKT 09200 - Principles of Marketing
- MATH 01130 - Calculus / *Students who complete the Modern States: Calculus course, and then complete the MATH 01130 Calculus I CLEP exam, are eligible to be waived from the MATH 03125 Calculus: Techniques & Applications foundation requirement.*

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Q. What is the cost of the CLEP exam?

A. The CLEP test costs \$89 with a \$33.50 proctoring fee*. Students are allowed to complete FREE course modules at the [Modern States website](#) in preparation for their specific CLEP exam. Completion of Modern States courses will earn you a voucher to take the appropriate CLEP exam for free.

**Costs listed in this document are intended to give students a general idea of prices, but are not considered final. Please contact the Rowan University Testing Center to learn final costs.*

Q. Can the CLEP be taken online?

A. No, at this time, the CLEP exam is only available to be taken in person at an approved testing center such as Rowan University's Testing Center.

Q. Can I retake a CLEP exam if I do not Pass?

A. Yes. Students can take the test as many times as needed, however, there is a three month waiting period between testing attempts for each subject test.

Foundation Options at Rowan University

Q. I would like to take the 2-for-1 course of ECON 04303 Principles of Economics: A Survey instead of ECON 04101 Macroeconomics and ECON 04102 Microeconomics outside of Rowan University to save money (e.g. through a community college, Sophia.org, Study.com, Straighterline, etc.) Can I do this?

A. ECON 04303 Principles of Economics: A Survey can only be completed at Rowan University. Students that require both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics can either take the Principles of Economics: A Survey course at Rowan, or utilize the Alternative Pathways to satisfy Macroeconomics and Microeconomics separately.

Unfortunately, there is no alternative option at this time outside of Rowan University for ECON 04303 Principles of Economics: A Survey.

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Q. I would like to take the 2-for-1 course of ACC 03405 Foundations of Accounting instead of ACC 03210 Principles of Accounting I and ACC 03211 Principles of Accounting II outside of Rowan University to save money (e.g. through a community college, Sophia.org, Study.com, Straighterline, etc.) Can I do this?

A. ACC 03405 Foundations of Accounting can only be completed at Rowan University. Students that require both Principles of Accounting I and II can either take the Foundations of Accounting course at Rowan, or utilize the Alternative Pathways to satisfy Principles of Accounting I and II separately.

There is no alternative option outside of Rowan for ACC 03405 Foundations of Accounting.

Timing and Sequencing of Foundation Requirements

Q. How do you suggest I stagger completing my Foundation courses vs. completing graduate-level courses towards program completion?

A. It is recommended that students complete their Foundation requirements within the first year of the program (this includes Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters).

- For students interested in utilizing the online resources such as Sophia.org, Study.com or Straighterline.com, course staggering can be extremely flexible. Depending on how many foundation courses students have outstanding, completing 3 or 4 foundation courses via the online resources in a single semester before beginning graduate-level coursework is possible. If students have only 2-3 outstanding foundation requirements, mixing in 1-2 foundation courses via the online options per semester while taking 1-2 graduate courses is feasible.
- For part-time students requiring 2-3 Foundation courses, taking one Foundation course at Rowan or another school (e.g. community college or other 4-year institution) and one core graduate-level course at Rowan during each of their first few semesters might be a good path to take.
- For a full-time student who requires 2-3 foundation courses, taking one Foundation course at Rowan or another school (e.g. community college or other 4-year institution) and two to three graduate-level core courses at Rowan during each of their first few semesters may make the most sense for degree completion within two years.
- For students that require 4 or more foundation courses, students are encouraged to prioritize their foundation courses early in their studies. This could include taking 2-3 foundation courses via community college, another 4-year school, or an affordable online resource and possibly just 1 graduate course for their first couple of semesters.

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Budget, Cost, and Loan Implications for Foundation Options

Q. What are the ballpark costs associated with the various options to satisfy Foundation requirements?

A. Taking foundation courses through one of the alternative online options, CLEP testing, at your local community college or other 4-year institution affords additional flexibility for course offerings and may help reduce the overall cost of Foundations courses.

CLEP testing: ~\$125 per test taken

Online resources such as Sophia.org, Study.com or Straighterline.com: ~\$60-\$100 per month or per course, depending on which site utilized. Students can complete a course in a month if desired to only pay the fee for 1 month, but 2 months is also a reasonable timeframe to complete any of these courses.

Community colleges: typically ~\$200 to \$300 per credit (each foundation course is 3 credits, bringing the cost per course to ~\$600 to \$900).

Non-Rowan 4-year institution: Varies by school, but typically ~\$500 to \$600 per credit (each foundation course is 3 credits, bringing the cost per course to ~\$1,500 to \$1,800).

Q. If I will be using Federal Loans (FAFSA-based) to pay my tuition, how does taking courses outside Rowan impact my loan eligibility?

Foundation courses taken outside of Rowan University, through any of the satisfaction options listed in this Foundation Fact Sheet, do NOT count towards credit requirements for FAFSA-based student loans. Students must be actively enrolled in a degree program (such as the MBA or MS Finance) and taking at least 4.5 credits in a semester at Rowan University to be eligible for student loans that semester.

As an example, MBA students cannot take 3 credits at Rowan University and 3 credits at a local community college and still be eligible for student loans that semester, as all 6 credits are not being taken at Rowan. However, an MBA student can take 4.5 credits at Rowan University and 3 credits at a local community college (or any of the other foundation satisfaction options) and be eligible for student loans because they are taking at least 4.5 credits at Rowan while being enrolled in a degree program. The student loan in this scenario won't directly cover the 3 credits taken at the community college because the student is only eligible for the loan at Rowan University.

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Q. I would like to receive some additional coaching and guidance to help me make the best decision on how to satisfy the Foundation requirements while also making progress in the MBA program. How can I receive additional support?

The MBA program is designed to provide flexibility to its students, so if you wish to discuss a plan of study that works best for you, please contact the Office of Graduate Business Programs at GraduateBusinessStudies@rowan.edu.

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Foundation Descriptions to Match Rowan Equivalency

ECON 04.101

Macroeconomics

Catalog Description: ECON 04.101 - Macroeconomics - 3 s.h.

- No prerequisites
- Macroeconomics is a branch of economics that studies how the aggregate economy behaves. In macroeconomics, a variety of economy-wide phenomena is thoroughly examined such as inflation, price levels, rate of growth, national income, gross domestic product (GDP) and changes in unemployment.
- This course analyzes the overall level of economic activity in the United States and examines its major determinants, public stabilization policies, economic growth and international trade.

ECON 04.102

Microeconomics

Catalog Description: ECON 04.102 - Microeconomics - 3 s.h.

- No prerequisites
- Microeconomics is the social science that studies the implications of individual human action, specifically about how those decisions affect the utilization and distribution of scarce resources. Microeconomics shows how and why different goods have different values, how individuals make more efficient or more productive decisions, and how individuals best coordinate and cooperate. Generally speaking, microeconomics is considered a more complete, advanced and settled science than macroeconomics.
- This course analyzes resource allocation among alternative uses. It studies consumer demand, product and factor price determination, general equilibrium and optimal income distribution.

ECON 04.303

Principles of Economics: A Survey

Catalog Description: ECON 04.303 - Principles of Economics: A Survey - 3 s.h.

- No prerequisites
- This course analyzes the market system and alternative mechanisms for determining prices and allocating resources. Pure competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly and monopoly are examined. Additionally, the determinants of aggregate employment and national income, money, banking, monetary policy, international trade and finance are analyzed. This course is not available to economics majors.
- *ECON 04303 Principles of Economics: A Survey can only be completed at Rowan University. Students that require both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics can*

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either take this Principles of Economics: A Survey course at Rowan, or utilize the Alternative Pathways to satisfy Macroeconomics and Microeconomics separately.

ACC 03.210

Principles of Accounting I (Financial Accounting)

Catalog Description: ACC 03.210 - Principles of Accounting I - 3 s.h.

- No prerequisites
- Principles of Accounting I will provide students with an understanding of the uses and limitations of accounting information in economic decision-making. The course will also build skills in problem-solving, interpersonal communications, and the use of computers. Students will develop an understanding of the basic structure of accounting and the underlying accounting principles, the recording process and the accounting cycle, accounting information systems, and accounting for merchandising operations, inventories, cash, receivables, fixed assets, intangible assets, current liabilities and payroll.

ACC 03.211

Principles of Accounting II (Cost Accounting)

Catalog Description: ACC 03.211 - Principles of Accounting II - 3 s.h.

- Prerequisites: ACC 03210
- This course builds on Intermediate Accounting I and is designed to provide students with an understanding of financial accounting as it relates to interpreting and analyzing financial statements in the private sector. This course has been designed from the perspective of both the user of accounting information and the preparer of accounting information. The most important goal of this course is for students to understand financial statements in depth such that they can prepare, analyze, and critique them. Students will gain extensive knowledge and understanding of financial accounting as related to both U.S. GAAP and IFRS.

ACC 03.405

Foundations of Accounting

Catalog Description: ACC 03.405 - Foundations of Accounting - 3 s.h.

- No prerequisites
- This course presents an overview of accounting as an information system useful for decision making. It provides students with an understanding of the basic concepts of financial and managerial accounting from the perspective of a future user of accounting information.
- *ACC 03405 Foundations of Accounting can only be completed at Rowan University. Students that require both Principles of Accounting I and II can either take this*

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Foundations of Accounting course at Rowan, or utilize the Alternative Pathways to satisfy Principles of Accounting I and II separately.

MATH 03.125

Calculus: Techniques and Applications

Catalog Description: Math 03.125 - Calculus Techniques and Applications - 3 s.h.

- Prerequisites: Math 01123 or Math 01124 or 60 on the CLM exam
- Introduces students to the techniques of differential and integral calculus. Emphasis is placed on practical applications of limits, derivatives and integrals with business applications highlighted. This course also provides experience with and information about the significance and specific uses of the calculus in today's world. A graphing calculator is required.

STAT 02.260

Statistics I

Catalog Description: STAT 02.260 - Statistics I - 3 s.h.

- Prerequisites: Equivalent of College Algebra
- Students learn to use various graphical displays and measures of location and variability to describe data. The course considers elementary probability and sampling distributions and uses the normal and t-distributions in estimation and hypotheses testing. It includes descriptive techniques for simple linear regression and correlation. Use of a graphing calculator is required; computer software may be used.

MKT 09.200

Principles of Marketing

Catalog Description: MKT 09.200 - Principles of Marketing - 3 s.h.

- Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credits (s.h.) and College Comp 1 (ENGL 01111)
- This course provides an overview of the theory and practice of marketing within a corporate and societal context in a dynamic environment. The major functions of marketing are covered from the perspective of management strategy seeking competitive advantage.

MGT 06.305

Operations Management

Catalog Description: MGT 06.305 - Operations Management – 3 s.h.

- Prerequisites: MATH 03.125 - Calculus T&A and STAT 02.260 - Statistics I
- Operations Management is the set of business activities whereby resources, flowing within a defined system, are combined and transformed in a controlled manner to add value in accordance with organizational objectives. Operations Management is

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integrally related to all the other business functions. The key substance of this course is to provide a major opportunity for an organization to improve its profitability and enhance its service to society. This course focuses primarily on such topics as decision making, business forecasting, resource allocation, location and capacity planning, inventory management, quality control and management, layouts, scheduling, and project management that are essential to improving productivity and generating a competitive advantage.

- ***This course must be completed at an AACSB accredited 4-year college or university.***

FIN 04.300

Principles of Finance

Catalog Description: FIN 04.300 - Principles of Finance - 3 s.h.

- Prerequisites:
 - ACC 03.210 - Principles of Accounting I
 - ACC 03.211 - Principles of Accounting II
 - Stat 02.260 - Statistics I
 - MATH 03.125 - Calculus Techniques and Applications
 - ECON 04.101 – Macroeconomics
 - ECON 04.102 – Microeconomics
- This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of finance as it relates to the private sector. Students will gain knowledge and understanding in the following areas: role and environment of financial management, financial statements and analysis, cash flow and financial planning, time value of money, risk and return, interest rates and bond valuation, stock valuation, capital budgeting evaluation, cost of capital, leverage and capital structure, dividend policy, working capital and current asset management, and current liabilities management.
- ***This course can either be completed via a Sophia.org equivalent course or through a an AACSB accredited 4-year college or university. There is no CLEP or Community College equivalent option for this course.***