



SOFIA UNIVERSITY “ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI”

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CURRICULUM

Approved

Approved by the Academic Council
Record of Proceedings № 15/17.07.2024

Professional field: 3.7 Administration and Management

Educational qualification degree “Master”

Major: Business Administration

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Master’s Program: BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION – STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT, in English

Form of Study: Full-time

Length of Study (number of semesters): 3 (three), summer semester admission

Professional Qualification: Master in Business Administration – Strategic Management

Qualification description

Major: Business Administration

Master's Program: BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION – STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

1. Program focus, educational objectives

The Master of Business Administration program “Strategic Management” **is aimed at candidates** of any major who has obtained a Bachelor’s degree or a Master’s degree.

The objective of the MBA program "Strategic Management" is to prepare highly qualified specialists who master modern methods and means of management with a specific focus on the strategic management in organizations. These include micro and macro-diagnostics of the environment, industry analysis, functional analysis of the organization, business strategies, resource and functional strategies, international strategies etc.

The program targets two main groups of people:

- A) Specialists from the industry with non-economic/management education, which career plans include high-ranked management positions, who want to serve as advisors to the government or serve as public officials in government’s strategic planning units.
- B) Entrepreneurs with education in the field of economics and management, who are aware of the necessity of sound theoretical equipment, and continuous education, training, and self-actualization.

The program is offered in English language to target the growing ex-pat community in Bulgaria, to attract highly qualified bachelors from abroad as well Bulgarians who will have English-speaking careers. The program is an excellent multicultural environment for learning and leadership development.

After completing the program, the student should be familiar with the ideas behind strategic management – from strategic planning to real-time management. The program will also create awareness of the need and a basis for continuous self-improvement in practice. The program gives the students the opportunity to work both in profit and in non-profit organizations, and to specialize in methods used for the strategic and operational management.

The graduates of the program obtain **“Master in Business Administration - Strategic Management” qualification.**

The program application requirements are as follows:

- Applicants with a bachelor’s degree from a non-Bulgarian university must apply first for recognition of their higher education according to the Law on Higher Education and Sofia University regulations on recognition of higher education obtained in non-Bulgarian universities. The procedure¹ is lengthy and complex and we advise applicants to apply as early as four months prior to the start of the program.
- There is a minimum threshold of GPA of 4.0 and should have as a minimum 36 months of working (or entrepreneurial) experience. Preference will be given to those with managerial experience of 5 or more years.
- **The admission in the program requires submitting a CV and an interview.**

¹ [Recognition of higher education acquired at a foreign higher education institution / International Students / Admission / Home - Софийски университет "Св. Климент Охридски" \(uni-sofia.bg\)](https://www.uni-sofia.bg/index.php/eng/admission/international_students/recognition_of_higher_education_acquired_at_a_foreign_higher_education_institution) https://www.uni-sofia.bg/index.php/eng/admission/international_students/recognition_of_higher_education_acquired_at_a_foreign_higher_education_institution

2. Program scope and application (knowledge and skills necessary for successful professional activities; general theoretical and special training, etc.)

Admission to the program is from the **summer semester**.

The duration of studies is three semesters (one and a half academic years), and it includes:

- Basic mandatory training – compulsory academic disciplines shaping the professional specialization of a Master of Business Administration;
- Profiled training in Strategic Management – compulsory and elective academic disciplines in various trendy domains as digitalization, marketing, environmental management, and writing of a Master thesis.

There is an opportunity to study additional disciplines in an optional form. The credits from these disciplines are not considered for the completion of the curriculum.

The students graduate by elaboration and defence of a **Master's thesis**. The Master's thesis defence sessions are in July and March.

The program attracts many guest lecturers and visits to companies from different economic sectors and managerial layers. The Master of Business Administration – Strategic Management program follows the classical MBA design, where the education relies on the rich and diversified experience of the students. Classes are small and include students from different countries and cultures and professional background – state and private sectors, employed and entrepreneurs. Through its Career Centre the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration provides career counselling, meetings with potential employers and practical projects. Students could benefit from the classical Erasmus university exchanges or entrepreneurial exchanges up to six months under the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs.

3. Professional and general competences, specific competences

At the end of the studies, the Master in Business Administration – Strategic Management must:

□ HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF:

- The contemporary economic theories and how to analyse the economic environment by using the appropriate tools;
- The tools of strategic management;
- The key technological trends and transformative power of new ICT;
- The methods for organizational and industry diagnostics;
- The methods for goal setting, formulation, and realization of strategies;
- The methods and approaches for structuring the organization;
- The methods for work in the socio-cultural layer of the organization;
- Public and corporate finance, the tools of the financial institutions, legal norms;
- The legal and administrative basis of businesses;
- The Bulgarian accounting practices and international accounting standards.

□ BE ABLE TO:

- Implement what has been learned as theory and shared practical experience to solve practical problems;
- Make independent functional analysis, argument decisions and provide recommendations;

- Carry out industry analysis, environment, and organization diagnostics;
- Conduct business process modelling and optimize existing processes;
- Formulate goals and strategies, write plans, control;
- Intervene in the socio-cultural layer of the organizations;
- Apply the knowledge in the human resources management and to develop skills for working with people;
- Carry out real organizational changes;
- Communicate effectively;
- Plan and organize own tasks;
- Use and work with various information sources.

□ **BE:**

- Creative;
- Open to innovation;
- With a developed sense of business and people;
- Tolerant of differences and with a desire for self-development and lifelong learning.

4. Professional realization (according to the National Classification of Professions and Positions in the Republic of Bulgaria / international classifications and according to the position of the future professional in the National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education and the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area)

The Master in Business Administration – Strategic Management program provides an opportunity for profiling and specialization of the students, for upgrading of knowledge and skills necessary for the successful fulfilment of the requirements of a particular position or group of positions, for the performance of specific work functions.

Graduates of the Master in Business Administration – Strategic Management program can become managers of organizations of various sizes and specificities, they can work as specialists in the management bodies of the organization, dealing with strategic management or planning, human resources management, operational management, etc. Successful graduates can occupy management and administrative positions in business organizations, the middle and higher levels of the state administration, organizations from the third sector; to work as consultants; to continue their studies and research work in doctoral studies; to be lecturers at different levels of the higher education system; to work in research and development units. Typically, graduates will go through positions like analysts, project or product manager, account manager, procurement manager, business development, etc. and after a while they could serve as executive managers, high-ranked civil servants, senior analysts at think-tanks, or develop a research and consultant career.

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Code of specialty

Major Business Administration / Master's Program: Business Administration - Strategic Management

Academic year beginning from 2024/2025; Form of Study: Full-time, 3 semesters; Summer Admission

№	course code				Course Title	Type - R, E, F	Term	ECTS credits	Number of Classes - total					Weekly load	Type of Grading* - e, ca, m, a
									Total	Lectures	Seminars	Practical classes / practice	Out-of-class work		
1	2				3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Compulsory courses															
1	R	8	2	8	Finance	R	1	3	90	45	0	0	45	3+0	E
2	R	8	3	3	Managerial Accounting	R	1	4	120	30	30	0	60	2+2	E
3	R	8	2	6	Human Resources Management and Organizational Behavior	R	1	6	180	45	30	0	105	3+2	M
4	R	8	4	3	Operations Management	R	1	2	60	30	0	0	30	2+0	E
5	R	8	1	3	Fundamentals of Management	R	2	6	180	45	30	0	105	3+2	M
6	R	8	3	0	Managerial Economics	R	2	4	120	30	15	0	75	2+1	M
7	R	8	0	2	Business Intelligence	R	2	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M
8	R	8	1	8	Strategic Marketing	R	2	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M
9	R	8	1	9	Strategic Management	R	2	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M
10	R	8	1	6	Entrepreneurship	R	2	5	150	30	15	0	105	2+1	M
11	R	8	3	4	Innovation Management	R	3	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M
12	R	8	3	2	International Business Strategies and Leadership	R	3	5	150	30	15	0	105	2+1	M
13	R	8	1	2	Organizational Theory	R	3	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M

Elective courses* - the chosen courses must provide a minimum of 15 credits for the entire period of study

1	E	8	6	6	Management and Development of Startups and SMEs	E	1	3	90	30	15	0	45	2+1	E
2	E	8	6	1	Fundamentals of Successful Sales	E	1	3	90	30	15	0	45	2+1	E
3	E	8	7	4	Project Management (PMBOK)	E	1	5	150	45	0	0	105	3+0	E
4	E	8	5	3	Economic Agents' Decision Making	E	1	4	120	30	15	0	75	2+1	E
5	E	8	8	6	Digital Business Models	E	1	3	90	30	0	0	60	2+0	E
6	E	8	7	6	Investment Portfolio Management	E	1	4	120	30	15	0	75	2+1	E
7	E	8	7	5	Mergers & Acquisitions	E	2	3	90	30	15	0	45	2+1	E
8	E	8	5	7	Agile Management	E	2	3	90	30	15	0	45	2+1	E
9	E	8	8	5	Business Process Modeling and Reengineering	E	2	5	150	45	0	0	105	3+0	E
10	E	8	7	0	NGO Management	E	2	3	90	30	15	0	45	2+1	E
11	E	8	5	8	Ecological Management	E	2	4	120	30	15	0	75	2+1	E
12	E	8	8	8	Data Analysis and Research Methods	E	2	3	90	30	15	0	45	2+1	M
Facultative (optional) courses - the credits on them are NOT considered for the implementation of the curriculum.															
1	R	8	3	1	Leadership and Organizational Culture Development	F	1	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M
2	R	8	4	2	Customer Relationship Management	F	2	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M
3	E	8	5	1	Analysis and Management of Customer Requirements	F	2	5	150	45	0	0	105	3+0	M
4	R	8	2	7	Learning Organization	F	3	5	150	30	30	0	90	2+2	M

Educational practices / Course projects

No	course code	Practice	Type - R, E, F	Term	ECTS credits	Weeks	Hours	Type of Grading* - e, ca, m, a
<p>All students are required to elaborate a course project in the following disciplines: Fundamentals of Management; Managerial Economics; Business Intelligence; HRM and Organizational Behavior; Strategic Marketing; Strategic Management; Entrepreneurship; Innovation Management; International Business Strategies and Leadership; Organizational Theory; Leadership and Organizational Culture Development; Customer Relationship Management; Learning Organization; Analysis and Management of Customer Requirements, and Data Analysis and Research Methods (if elected). *The students can only choose disciplines from the listed in the curriculum.</p>								

GRADUATION

Mode of graduation	ECTS - credits	First Exam Session	Second Exam Session
Master's Thesis Defence	15	July	March

The curriculum was approved at a Faculty Council meeting with Record of Proceedings №5/19.03.2024 and revised with Record of Proceedings №10/18.06.2024

Dean:
 /Assoc. Prof. Atanas Georgiev, PhD/

Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

Curriculum Reference Statement

Major: Business Administration / Master's Program: Business Administration - Strategic Management


Mode of study - full time, length of study - 3 semesters, Summer Admission

Load, ECTS-credits and grades by semester																				
Type of activity	I semester			II semester			III Semester											Total		
	Load (h.)	ECTS credits	number of grades	Load (h.)	ECTS credits	number of grades	Load (h.)	ECTS credits	number of grades									Load (h.)	ECTS credits	number of grades
Compulsory courses	450	15	4	900	30	6	450	15	3									1800	60	13
Min elective courses	450	15	4	0	0	0	0	0	0									450	15	4
Master thesis defence	0	0	0	0	0	0	450	15	1									450	15	1
Total	900	30	8	900	30	6	900	30	4									2700	90	18
of which auditorium	390			345			165											900		

Mode of graduation	ECTS - credits	Number of hours preparation	First Exam Session	Second exam Session
Master's Thesis Defence	15	450	July	March

Professional qualification acquired: Master in Business Administration - Strategic Management

The curriculum was approved at a Faculty Council meeting with Record of Proceedings №5/19.03.2024
and revised with Record of Proceedings №10/18.06.2024

Dean: 
/Assoc. Prof. Atanas Georgiev, PhD/