Master research and analysis skills that will help you guide your organization to success in today’s unpredictable business environment.

Washington University’s Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) provides you with industry-relevant, applied research experience. Our graduates pursue careers in corporate settings, consulting firms, or in government agencies where advanced research skills in analyzing business challenges lead to greater insights and success.
The Olin DBA is ideal for individuals with a serious interest in research and who want to pursue graduate study either on a part-time or full-time basis.

48 hours of coursework

- Required courses in finance and marketing
- Seminars from other Olin programs
- Graduate-level courses in Olin, as well as in Arts & Sciences (with approval)
- Extended research paper in preparation for thesis proposal

24 doctoral thesis research credit hours

- Independent studies
- Research assistantships
- Directed readings
- Doctoral thesis work

72 total credit hours of graduate coursework

4 years for full-time students
5 to 6 years for part-time students
“This invaluable experience has provided me with a comprehensive foundation in finance and has given me the tools to successfully pursue my personal goals.”

Francisco Marcet, DBA ’14
Assistant Professor of Finance, Universidad de Chile

Olin’s DBA is a practitioner’s doctoral degree designed to meet the needs of a researching professional, rather than a professional researcher.

While a PhD is intended for people who want a research career in academia, the DBA is extended graduate study beyond a master’s degree and is focused on practical application. DBA students typically have careers in corporations, consulting firms, and government agencies where advanced research skills in analyzing business problems are required.

With Olin’s DBA program, you will develop applied research capabilities with more immediate, real-world applicability than the type of research pursued in a PhD program. And unlike the PhD program, the DBA program is designed for people who may continue working during their matriculation.
This advanced Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) graduate program crosses traditional boundaries and provides you the opportunity—under the guidance of Washington University faculty—for structured coursework and focused, independent, scholarly reading and research on important issues relating to business.

“A DBA from Olin will take my career to the next level. The learning I have had and will continue to experience at Olin will allow me to fulfill all short-term and long-term goals, and approach them with more acuity and confidence.”

Danielle McPherson, DBA ’15
Director of Managed Care,
Mercy Hospital and Healthcare

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