Through its high-quality Master of Business Administration degree program, Western Illinois University—Quad Cities prepares people for socially responsible leadership and managerial roles in an interdependent, multicultural, and diverse business world. With full accreditation by AACSB International, Western’s College of Business and Technology ranks among the top 15% of business schools nationwide.

Program Location: Quad Cities

Admission Requirements
Applicants for admission must meet the minimum requirements of the School of Graduate Studies for degree-seeking students. The Director of the MBA program and the MBA graduate committee will review applications and approve candidates for admission based primarily on undergraduate GPA and GMAT score. Applicants should include a résumé and a goals statement with their application. Both the résumé and goals statement may be uploaded into (and submitted with) the online application to the Graduate School. If you choose not to submit these documents with the application, they should be sent directly to the Graduate School.

Applicants with bachelor’s degrees in business from AACSB-International institutions with cumulative undergraduate grade point averages of 3.60 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) will not be required to take the GMAT exam. The GMAT requirement may be waived in certain other cases if the applicant has significant work experience or other qualifications. Contact the MBA Director for more information.

MBA Degree Program
The MBA degree program at Western Illinois University is open to business graduates and those in liberal arts, engineering, mathematics, science, and other fields. The MBA degree consists of 33 semester hours (sh). An additional 21 hours of foundation courses may be required for students who did not take those courses at the undergraduate level. The 33 hours that comprise the MBA degree with a management concentration can be taken in a “hybrid” or blended format in which 75% of the course is online with 25% face-to-face in the classroom. This format combines the flexibility of online learning with the personal interaction of classroom discussions. Foundation courses and some concentration courses are available in either a traditional classroom or a fully online format.

Foundation Courses (21 sh) provide a solid background in the traditional business disciplines for those students who do not have satisfactory academic preparation in these areas. Successful MBA students need this base of theoretical and practical knowledge in financial and managerial accounting, macro and micro economic theory, statistics, management, marketing, finance, and information systems.

Focus Area Courses (21 sh) develop functional and technical knowledge, analytical skills, and interpersonal relations necessary in the business world. Students will complete core courses from a financial perspective, global perspective, improving competitiveness and planning perspective, context and conduct of organizations, and functional areas. A capstone course, Strategic Management, supplies the framework for connecting the specific business disciplines.

Concentration Courses and Electives (12 sh) allow the MBA student attending at the WIU-Quad Cities campus to develop a specialization in a field of their choice. Current concentrations available at the Quad Cities campus are Management, Accounting, and Supply Chain Management. These concentrations provide MBA students attending in the Quad Cities with maximum flexibility and the ability to pursue specific professional goals. Courses for the management concentration are available in the hybrid format. Accounting courses are in a traditional classroom format. Supply Chain Management courses are available online.

Hybrid Course Format
Hybrid courses utilize both online learning as well as the traditional classroom, offering the best of both formats. The time spent in class in a hybrid course is about ¼ of the time spent in class for a traditional semester course. The expectation is that students will spend the remaining time working through the online course materials. This flexibility is especially important for adult learners with busy work and family schedules. Most courses will meet three or four times over an eight week period, typically on weekday evenings or Saturdays. This condenses the course allowing for faster completion. If a student takes all the courses in sequence (one in August, two in each half of the fall and spring semesters, and two the following summer), the entire program can be completed in one calendar year.
Faculty Expertise
College of Business and Technology faculty are student-oriented and believe the most important learning comes from close interaction and exchange of ideas between student and professor. Classroom lectures are supplemented with a wide variety of activities focusing on current issues. MBA students gain an understanding of the social responsibility of business and develop skills using quantitative, technical, and theoretical approaches to business problem solving.

Many of Western’s business faculty members have practical experience and advise business and government agencies. Professors hold doctoral or law degrees from more than 40 internationally recognized universities. Their academic, professional, practical, and research backgrounds, as well as their continuing involvement in business and community problem solving, enhance the classroom experience.

An MBA Program Designed for the Quad Cities
Students in the MBA program at the Quad Cities campus experience many key benefits:

• Small classes (less than 25 students per class) taught by highly qualified, full-time faculty provide opportunities for building personal relationships with professors and mentors for assistance and professional development

Facilities
The new Riverfront campus is now home to the Quad Cities MBA program as well as to undergraduate classes in business and technology, engineering, human services, and arts and sciences. Our first state-of-the-art, 40,000 square foot building features high-tech classrooms; computing and engineering laboratories; student services; the U.S. Bank Writing Center; a Library annex; and the Goldfarb Grand Atrium where students, faculty, staff, and visitors can collaborate, study, learn, and interact with a scenic vista of the Mississippi River.

Accreditation
Western’s MBA has earned accreditation in both business and accounting by the AACSB International, designating Western Illinois University as among the best business schools in the world. Less than one-third of U.S. business schools and only 15% of business schools worldwide meet the rigorous standards of AACSB International accreditation. As a member institution, Western’s MBA has confirmed a commitment to quality and continuous improvement through a rigorous and comprehensive peer review process. AACSB International accreditation ensures that Western’s MBA degree program is committed to providing the highest-caliber education and experiences for our student professionals.

Career Opportunities
After completion of the MBA, many exciting careers are available. The College of Business and Technology works with an active placement office. AT&T, BP Amoco, Caterpillar, Edward Jones, IBM, John Deere, Kraft Foods, and State Farm Insurance are just a few of the companies and corporations which employ Western’s MBA graduates.

Contact Information
For admissions process and general program information, contact the School of Graduate Studies, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455, (309) 298-1806, (877) WIU GRAD toll-free, Grad-Office@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/grad.

For specific program questions, contact Dr. Jim Patterson, Assistant Dean, (309) 762-9481, jqmcb@wiu.edu or Mr. Kenny Wheeler, Quad Cities MBA Advisor, (309) 762-1988, kw-wheeler@wiu.edu, Western Illinois University–Quad Cities, 3300 River Drive, Moline, IL 61265.

“My MBA experience at WIU-QC provided me the opportunity to learn from professors with an outstanding educational background and the necessary real-world experience to prepare students to be successful in the classroom and beyond. I have developed a real friendship with many of the professors whom I still call on for advice.”

– Chris Sauerbrei, CPM
Strategic Supply Management Specialist
Agricultural Equipment Division, John Deere

WIU.EDU/CBT