

Sacred Heart University

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Doctorate of Business Administration Announced

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Sacred Heart University's John F. Welch College of Business is planning a doctorate of business administration in finance program (DBA) for fall 2014.

The 45-credit advanced graduate degree was licensed by the Connecticut Department of Higher Education in August and will commence with an initial cohort of 10. Applications are currently being accepted. Coursework will require two years in the classroom followed by one year for researching and writing a dissertation.

"This new program is an applied research doctorate, so we will be working on real-world cases and data," says Lucjan T. Orlowski, professor and chair of the Department of Economics and Finance. "The structure will allow participants to develop practical, specialized knowledge for advancing their careers in the field of finance—not only at financial but also other business institutions."

Orlowski notes that outside of the core curriculum, the program will be highly personalized, leading to a specialized dissertation research project aligned with participants' individual interests and career aspirations as well as today's business world demands. "We envision that this degree will appeal to finance and business executives who have been in the business world for a while and are seeking to advance their careers," he said. There is also a bridge program for those wishing to move from business to academia in the future.

The program will include field seminars, customized for participants in the areas of fixed income securities, investments, micro-market structure, derivative securities, international finance or portfolio management.

"Our goal is to provide advanced, quantitative skills for applied financial research and analysis by teaching participants the most up-to-date, state-of-the-art quantitative methods," Orlowski says. "We are also focusing on financial risk assessment and management—skills that are in high demand in today's complex business environment."

“The DBA program is yet another example of the Welch College of Business’ dedication to ongoing curricula development. We have an extremely entrepreneurial faculty who are in touch with the needs of the job market in the business world and are focused on providing our students with the programs they will need to be successful in the marketplace,” said John Chalykoff, dean of the College.