Ph.D. Programs

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Welcome!

On behalf of the Rawls College of Business, I invite you to expand your business knowledge and research skills in a doctoral program that prides itself on our faculty’s innovative thought leadership.

The Rawls faculty is committed to mentoring and producing the next generation of business educators and researchers. Rawls professors are recognized as top international scholars in their fields and are among the most highly cited authors in the Scopus database of scientific research.

As a Rawls Ph.D. candidate, you will be engaged with and respected by a faculty that invests heavily in the success of our doctoral students, as you are the future of business education and scholarship.

We look forward to helping you succeed as an educator and researcher; I encourage you to submit your application to join the thought leaders at the Rawls College of Business.

From here, it’s possible!

Lance A. Nail, Ph.D., CFA
Dean
What Makes a Rawls Ph.D. Distinct

Earning a doctorate in business at the Rawls College of Business is a rewarding intellectual journey for those who are committed to the discovery and dissemination of knowledge.

The Rawls College seeks to produce scholars who can work in the top tier of the profession through challenging coursework, rigorous research training and guidance by an acclaimed faculty that fosters individual thought, collaboration and lively debate of new ideas.

Dr. Shelby Hunt is identified as one of the 250 most “highly cited” economics and business researchers in the world (Thomson-ISI, 2003).

Aspiring Scholars Learn from Award-Winning Faculty

The faculty members at the Rawls College of Business are recognized nationally and internationally for their research published in scholarly journals. They are equally committed to mentoring the next generation of business school professors through one-on-one seminars and other training initiatives. They have designed a Ph.D. program for disciplined, dedicated students who aspire to create business knowledge.

The Ph.D. in Business Administration is offered with specializations in accounting and taxation, business statistics, finance, management, management information systems, marketing, and operations management.
A Rigorous Curriculum

The program of study requires a minimum of 60 semester credit hours beyond the master's degree. In addition, students accepted into the doctoral program with non-business degrees must initially complete basic studies in business. Each student develops a degree program in conjunction with a doctoral advisory committee composed of faculty advisors for the student’s major and supporting fields. Students begin working closely with their advisors immediately upon arrival.

Practicum in Higher Education: Before teaching their first class, every doctoral student takes a course on teaching offered by a recognized expert in business education.

Business Background as Needed

ACCT 5301 Financial and Managerial Accounting
BLAW 5290 Legal, Regulatory and Ethical Environment of Business
ECO 5310 Price and Income Theory
FIN 5219 Financial Management Tools
ISQS 5345 Statistical Concepts for Business and Management
MGT 5371 Managing Organizational Behavior and Organization Design
MKT 5360 Marketing Concepts and Strategies
Components of the Doctoral Program

**Research Skills**
Doctoral students are immersed in the research process at the Rawls College of Business to become scholars with an appreciation for, and capability to conduct, significant research in their field(s) of interest and to publish in top-tier outlets.

**Analysis Tools**
Mastery of analytical tools is facilitated by courses in statistics and economic analysis. More advanced quantitative courses depend on the field of study.

**Subject Mastery**
Doctoral students are required to master a major field of specialization and at least one supporting field to become scholars who contribute to the progress of those subjects through research. This requires broad knowledge and a detailed understanding of current research in the field.
Major Fields of Specialization

**Accounting and Taxation**
Coursework normally takes two years to complete, after which written comprehensive examinations are taken in both accounting and the minor areas. The final two years of the program are spent on the development and completion of a dissertation. Ph.D. students are directly involved in research conducted by the faculty, which includes behavioral research, market studies and theoretical modeling.

**Business Statistics**
Statistics play an important role in managerial analysis and decision-making under conditions of risk and uncertainty. Ph.D. students develop and apply modern statistical techniques that are needed to conduct research and to teach at a university or to operate as an advanced analyst in the business world.

**Finance**
The finance department offers Ph.D. seminars in the foundational theories of finance, corporate finance, investments and financial markets and a course in special topics. Through these seminars and other coursework, as well as active mentoring by the finance faculty, students learn how to expand existing knowledge by conducting original academic research and how to disseminate knowledge through classroom teaching.

**Management**
Ph.D. students in the field of management join a learning community that prepares them for positions at leading educational institutions where they can make valuable contributions to specialties within the management field, including management research methods, entrepreneurship, human resource management, international business, organizational behavior and leadership, organization theory, social issues in management, and strategic management. Doctoral students receive advanced training in both the theory and research methodologies in their chosen fields. They also are given many opportunities to work closely with faculty on research projects and to explore their own research interests.
Management Information Systems (MIS)

Students in the MIS doctoral program concentrate on the significance of information technology in many managerial settings and have the flexibility to pursue their research interests in technical, behavioral or managerial directions. Coursework includes Ph.D. seminars, research methods and data analysis courses, supporting field courses, and, for students without MIS or business backgrounds, foundational MIS and business courses.

Marketing

The marketing Ph.D. program prepares students for successful careers at leading educational institutions. The goal of the program is to provide training and experiences that enable graduates to become highly productive researchers and excellent educators. Seminars in theory building, research design, theory testing, marketing theory, marketing strategy and consumer behavior give students a thorough understanding of the current issues in the marketing discipline. In addition, the program affords students opportunities to work closely with faculty on research projects and to explore their own research interests. The diverse expertise of the marketing faculty creates a research and learning environment that supports a wide range of student interests.

Operations Management (OM)

The Ph.D. in operations management involves the use of empirical research methodologies (e.g., empirical survey, case research and archival research) as well as mathematical modeling for problem-solving and decision-making in production and service operations. Applications of these approaches are widespread in both private and public sectors. Potential research interests for doctoral students in the OM program include supply-chain management, operations strategy, project management, new product development, quality management and green operations.

Application Details

Application requirements include a recent GMAT or GRE score (within the past five years), transcripts, current resumes, essays and applications to both the Texas Tech University Graduate School and the Rawls College of Business. In addition, international students must supply TOEFL scores. Details and forms are available at phd.ba.ttu.edu.

Financial Assistance

Doctoral students have reduced tuition and fees, as well as teaching assistantships which provide financial support and valuable classroom experience. Rawls Doctoral Scholarships are awarded to students with outstanding potential. In addition, Ph.D. students can apply for competitive university-wide fellowships — AT&T/Chancellor’s Fellowships and CH Foundation Fellowships.

IT Support

The IT division at Texas Tech University provides extensive computing resources for approved projects related to instruction, research and administration.