



**Gies College  
of Business**



**Department of Business Administration**

**PhD in Business Administration**



# Conduct highly collaborative research with intention while preparing tomorrow's purposeful business leaders.

Dear PhD seekers,

As you look to start your path to a PhD, consider a program that's more than just a business education. Here, you'll receive unique training designed both to prepare you to be a worldwide thought leader in your discipline and to give you a broad understanding of research in multiple business domains, all grounded in purpose.

The educational experience at Gies College of Business is created with intention—to broaden your mind, help you push boundaries, ask questions that no one is asking, and guide research that's shaping the future of business education. In the Business Administration PhD program at Gies, you'll partner with world-class faculty in information systems, international business, marketing, operations management, organizational behavior, and strategy and entrepreneurship.

This access to diverse expertise fosters an environment of interdisciplinary collaboration, training you to be uniquely qualified to address a wide range of complex problems in today's business environment. That's what makes us unique. You'll take on emerging topics that don't fit neatly into one box, learning in a program that's one of the nation's few to include interrelated business disciplines under one larger business administration umbrella.

Equally as important, you'll impact business students through your teaching. You'll prepare students to think differently about business, training them to be purposeful leaders who make business decisions with intention and who see how business can make a positive impact.

Our position at the leading edge of research and our dedication to hiring student-focused faculty committed to interdisciplinary collaboration have resulted in 58 doctoral degree conferrals in the last decade.

We'd love for you to join our successful doctoral cohort at Gies College of Business—and be a part of our journey to tackle business problems with intention while preparing purposeful leaders.

Carlos Torelli  
Head, Department of Business Administration  
Anthony J. Petullo Professor of Business Administration

## Admissions

Admission to the program is based on a variety of factors, credentials, and accomplishments. A strong program candidate will have the desire for an academic or research career in business administration, will have completed an undergraduate or graduate thesis, and will have previous research experience.

**Applications are considered for fall semester only, with a deadline of December 15 of the year prior to desired entry.**

## Criteria for Admissions

Candidates who meet the criteria for admissions will have:

- Minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0
- GMAT/GRE score information
- BA or BS degree
- Basic level of proficiency in statistics
- Demonstrated English proficiency for the required teaching assistantship using TOEFL/IELTS

## Admissions Process

To apply to the program, please submit the following by December 15 for admittance to the subsequent fall semester:

- Completed application form at [grad.illinois.edu](http://grad.illinois.edu)
- Statement of purpose
- Résumé
- Three letters of reference

## Financial Assistance

Once admitted to the program, you'll receive the offer of a renewable assistantship for up to five years. This includes a monthly stipend, tuition waiver, and partial fee waiver—provided you maintain appropriate academic progress. You'll also receive a technology award for computing needs and become eligible for conference travel awards, fellowships, and other scholarships/awards.

## Research Resources

**Data Science Research Service (DSRS):** Gies Business researchers in need of data science, machine learning, computation infrastructure, and data acquisition resources can find it all at the DSRS. This research lab grants access to premier databases, cluster computing and supercomputing, and advanced software packages for research purposes.

**Gies Business Research Lab:** Need living, breathing human research participants? There's a lab for that. The Gies Business Research Lab supports all business-related research that must be conducted with the cooperation of human subjects. This includes support for data collection and analysis, and access to a subject pool of student and non-student volunteer participants.

**INQUIRE: Initiative for Qualitative Research in Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** INQUIRE is dedicated to the type of qualitative research methods that can grant fresh insights—methods like interviews, observations, and studying archival data. Gies Business is one of the few business schools with a thriving community of qualitative researchers, with INQUIRE serving as their hub.

**ISOI: Illinois Strategic Organizations Initiative:** In a rapidly evolving business landscape, companies rise and fall on the strength of their organizational strategy. ISOI seeks to understand that strategy by supporting interdisciplinary research into organizational management and strategic goals. Our multidisciplinary exploration and thought leadership are creating a framework for innovative organizational strategy research around the globe.

**Magelli Office of Experiential Learning:** Gies equips every student and PhD candidate with the hands-on experience needed to be a competitive candidate in the job field and within academia. The Magelli Office of Experiential Learning is dedicated to helping you find these opportunities as you study with us. Gain hands-on experience during your program of study.

### Focus Areas

You can choose from six specializations to guide your research and teaching focus:

**Information Systems** is dedicated to the development and management of information systems technologies, as well as their use and their impact on organizations and societies. The program prepares you with the knowledge of existing and emerging technologies impacting the context and practice of business.

**Operations Management** focuses on designing and managing value-added processes across various organizations involved in supplying goods or providing services to meet end consumer needs. Using methodologies from economics, statistics, machine learning, and more, you will focus on the production and distribution of goods, services, and information to understand how companies achieve competitive advantages.

**Organizational Behavior** is designed to prepare you for an academic and research career in the interdisciplinary study of individual and group behavior in organizations, intraorganizational structures and processes, and the relationship of organizations with their environments.

**Marketing** is designed to teach and mentor you to become a successful marketing scholar and educator. It offers rigorous academic training, preparing you to conduct high-impact research and following scholarly pursuits in consumer behavior, quantitative marketing, or marketing strategy subdomains within the marketing discipline.

**International Business** will help you become an expert in how firms operate at a global level by delving into political, economic, cultural, and legal influences. In this interdisciplinary program, you will complement your study of International Business with a strong competence in an additional field (economics, entrepreneurship, history, marketing, organization behavior, strategy, etc.).

**Strategy & Entrepreneurship** is designed to prepare you for an academic and research career in the interdisciplinary study of how firms create, capture, and sustain value. A unique feature of the program is its emphasis on multidisciplinary theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of strategy and entrepreneurship.

### Contact us

Visit [go.gies.illinois.edu/BusinessAdminPhD](http://go.gies.illinois.edu/BusinessAdminPhD)  
or email us at [BA-PhD@illinois.edu](mailto:BA-PhD@illinois.edu)



# Top 10

Public business school in the nation

*US NEWS & WORLD REPORT*

# 55

Tenured and tenure-track BA faculty

# 308

Peer-reviewed journal publications  
from BA faculty over the past five years

# 70

Competitive research awards received  
in BA over the past five years

# 23

Faculty who serve as editors  
on peer-reviewed journals



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