

GUST | MBA

MBA Handbook

JOIN THE NETWORK

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Introduction

ABOUT GUST

In 2002, the issuance of an Amiri decree completed the legal establishment of GUST as the first private university in Kuwait, and permitted the start of its first academic year in 2002. A strategic partnership was established with the University of Leeds, University of Liverpool, the international counterpart institution chosen to help bring the visualization of the projected university to fruition.

ABOUT CBA

The College of Business Administration (CBA) was established in 2002 as the first private business school in Kuwait. The College offers a range of undergraduate and graduate programs that integrate foundational business knowledge with experiential and applied learning. Through industry engagement, community collaboration, and research-informed instruction, CBA prepares its students to become skilled, ethical, and socially responsible business professionals capable of succeeding in a dynamic global environment. Since its inception, the College has been committed to providing high-quality business education that aligns with international standards and evolving market needs.

CBA is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), reflecting its alignment with globally recognized academic and professional standards. Additionally, the College is a member of the CFA Institute University Affiliation Program and holds endorsement and curricular alignment with the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA). The FinTech and Insurance Center for Advanced Learning (FISCAL) is accredited by the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII) to support professional qualification pathways in insurance and risk management.



Chartered
Insurance
Institute



University Affiliation Program



Program Overview

The MBA program at GUST is designed to meet the professional needs and career goals of working professionals and aspiring business leaders. The program is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), reflecting its adherence to high international quality standards in business education. The degree is typically completed over 24 months in a full-time format. The program is delivered in English, and classes are often scheduled in the evenings to accommodate working professionals. The curriculum integrates foundational business knowledge with applied learning experiences that emphasize analytical thinking, strategic decision-making, and ethical professional practice, while fostering creativity, entrepreneurship, and effective problem-solving.

PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To train future leaders through integrated, student-centered, research-informed, and experiential approaches to management education in collaboration with local and international communities.
- To foster an environment that inspires creativity, entrepreneurship, critical and analytical thinking, and effective and practical problem-solving.
- To emphasize leadership and management excellence in a high-tech, dynamic, diverse, and globally connected marketplace by developing collaborative professionals who drive sustainable organizational success.
- To empower students to achieve their fullest academic, professional, and ethical potential as socially responsible and impactful decision-makers and thought leaders.

Academic Program and Curriculum

MBA CURRICULUM

The MBA curriculum consists of:

1. **Pre-MBA Courses** (for non-business bachelor's degree holders) — 4 Courses (0 credits)
2. **Core Required Courses** — 10 Courses (30 credits)
3. **Elective Courses** — 5 Courses (15 credits)

A total of 15 courses (45 credits) is required to complete the program.

Note: No thesis or final project is required

PRE-MBA CURRICULUM

The Pre-MBA program is designed to equip non-business bachelor's degree holders with fundamental business knowledge before they start the MBA program. It provides a foundation to ensure students can succeed in their graduate-level coursework. The Pre-MBA curriculum consists of four courses:

ECON 400

Microeconomics

ECON 480

Business Statistics

FIN 400

Financial Management

ACCT 400

Financial and Managerial Accounting

Note: PRE-MBA students must complete their Pre-MBA courses within their first year.

MBA CORE REQUIREMENTS COURSES

All MBA students must complete 10 Core Required Courses as part of their MBA program requirements. These courses are:

ACCT 500

Financial and Managerial Accounting

MIS 500

Management Information Systems

MGMT 500

Law, Ethics, and Business

FIN 501

Financial Management

MGMT 501

Management and Organizational Behavior

ECON 503

Economics for Managers

MRKT 505

Contemporary Marketing Concepts

MGMT 511

Quantitative Methods in Business

MGMT 521

Operations Management

MGMT 581

Strategic Management

MBA ELECTIVE COURSES

In addition to the Core Required Courses, students are required to take 5 Elective Courses from different business disciplines. The available electives are:

Accounting Electives

- ACCT 502 — Financial Reporting and Analysis (Prerequisite: ACCT 500)
- ACCT 504 — Auditing and Assurance (Prerequisite: ACCT 500)
- ACCT 505 — Fraud, Auditing, and Forensic Accounting (Prerequisite: ACCT 504)
- ACCT 508 — International Accounting (Prerequisite: ACCT 500)
- ACCT 510 — Management Accounting Planning and Control (Prerequisite: ACCT 500)
- ACCT 511 — Accounting for Decision Makers (Prerequisite: ACCT 500)
- ACCT 595 — Corporate Governance (Prerequisite: ACCT 500)

Economics Electives

- ECON 510 — Money and Banking (Prerequisite: ECON 503)
- ECON 580 — Practical Econometrics for Management Decisions (Prerequisite: ECON 503)
- ECON 590 — Energy in Natural Resource Economics (Prerequisite: ECON 503)
- ECON 591 — International Energy Economics (Prerequisite: ECON 503)
- ECON 592 — Globally Integrated Energy Markets (Prerequisite: ECON 503)
- ECON 595 — Topics in Economics (Prerequisite: Per Course)
- ECON 596 — Advanced Topics in Economics (Prerequisite: Per Course)

Finance Electives

- FIN 504 — Corporate Finance (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 521 — Risk Management (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 551 — Islamic Financial System (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 552 — Theory & Practice of Islamic Banking and Finance (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 580 — International Finance (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 590 — Fundamentals of Financial Technology (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 591 — Application of Financial Technology I (Prerequisite: FIN 590)
- FIN 592 — Application of Financial Technology II (Prerequisite: FIN 591)
- FIN 593 — Seminar on Islamic Banking and Finance (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 595 — Topics in Finance (Prerequisite: FIN 501)
- FIN 596 — Advanced Topics in Finance (Prerequisite: Per Course)

Management Electives

- MGMT 502 — Managerial Communications (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 522 — Service Operations Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 524 — Supply Chain Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 521)
- MGMT 525 — International Logistics and Operations (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 532— Supply Chain Modeling & Analytics (Prerequisite: MGMT 521)
- MGMT 551 — Human Resources Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 552 — Human Resource Analytics (Prerequisite: MGMT 551)
- MGMT 553 — Performance Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 551)
- MGMT 554 — Change Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 561 — Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 562 — Innovation & Design Thinking (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 563 — The Lean Startup (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 571 — International Business (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 573 — Research Methodology (Prerequisite: ECON 480 or Consent of Department)
- MGMT 595 — Topics in Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 596 — Advanced Topics in Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)
- MGMT 597 — Special Topics in Management (Prerequisite: MGMT 501)

Marketing Electives

- MRKT 501 — Marketing Management (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)
- MRKT 510 — Electronic Commerce (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)
- MRKT 530 — Consumer and Motivational Behavior (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)
- MRKT 564 — Entrepreneurial Marketing (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)
- MRKT 570 — Marketing and Business Research (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)
- MRKT 595 — Topics in Marketing (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)
- MRKT 596 — Advanced Topics in Marketing (Prerequisite: MRKT 505)

CONCENTRATIONS AND TRACKS

CONCENTRATIONS

In order to get a concentration letter from the College of Business, the student has to complete a minimum of 3 elective courses (9 credits) from a certain area. Concentrations are available in the following areas: **Accounting, Economics, Finance, Management, and Marketing.**

TRACKS

Tracks are designed to allow students to gain specific knowledge within a certain area of study. The certificate of completion of a track is an informal certificate offered by the College of Business. To receive a track certificate, students must complete three elective courses in a certain area of study. The courses required for each track are as follows:

ACCOUNTING — AUDITING TRACK:

ACCT 502, ACCT 504, & ACCT 505

FINANCE — BANKING TRACK:

ECON 510, FIN 551, & FIN 580

FINANCE — CORPORATE FINANCE TRACK:

FIN 504, FIN 521, & (FIN 580 or ACCT 595)

FINANCE — FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY (FINTECH) TRACK:

FIN 590, FIN 591, & FIN 592

MANAGEMENT — ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRACK:

MGMT 561, MGMT 562, & (MGMT 563 or MRKT 564)

MANAGEMENT — HUMAN RESOURCES TRACK:

MGMT 551, & Two Courses from MGMT 552, MGMT 553, MGMT 554

MANAGEMENT — SUPPLY CHAIN ANALYTICS TRACK:

MGMT 524, MGMT 525, & MGMT 532

Tuition Fees

TUITION CATEGORY	MBA	PRE-MBA
Application Form	40KD	20KD
Admission	40KD	20KD
Course	720KD per course	600KD per course
Cost per Credit	240KD	200KD
Computer Services	50KD Regular 25KD Summer	50KD Regular 25KD Summer
Student Activity	25KD Regular 10KD Summer	25KD Regular 10KD Summer
Grade Appeal	3KD (voluntary)	3KD (voluntary)
Transcript	5KD (voluntary)	5KD (voluntary)

MBA Academic Rules

SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

- Students are allowed to enroll in a minimum of 2 courses, and a maximum of 4 courses in Fall and Spring semesters.
- Students are allowed to enroll in a maximum of 2 courses in the Summer semester.
- All MBA courses are scheduled once a week from 5PM to 8PM during Fall and Spring semesters. Ramadan schedule might vary.
- MBA courses are scheduled twice a week during the Summer semester.

COURSE DROPPING OR WITHDRAWING

- To drop a course(s) or to withdraw from the university, student must apply through GUST APPS. If a student failed to register in any course for more than one academic year, he/she will be suspended.
- If a student wants to re-join after suspension or university withdrawal, he/she must fill a re-admission form and must follow the new curriculum (if applicable).
- Failure to attend a class does not mean a student has dropped a course at Registration Department.
- Drop fees will be charged based on the table. This applies for Fall and Spring semesters.
- Students intending to postpone their studies for a semester must submit a Discontinuation Request via the GUST apps. This action must be completed during the Add/Drop period
- Students seeking to withdraw from the current semester must submit a Semester Withdrawal Request via the GUST apps., this request must be finalized based on the academic calendar dates

Note: for Summer semester, week is replaced with 3 calendar days in the deduction table.

PERIOD	DEDUCTION
1 st Week	0%
2 nd Week	50%
3 rd Week	75%
4 th Week	100%

GRADING POLICY

- Must earn a subject grade no lower than a “C” according to degree requirements.
- Must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all courses.
- Grades of “A, A-, B+, B, B-, C or F” are used in all courses.
- Courses in which grades of “C” or “F” are earned may be retaken.
- A “W” grade on your transcript indicates that you have withdrawn from a course.
- An “I” grade indicates that the course was not completed.
- If a student repeats a course, the lowest grade will be excluded.

Note: there is no limit for the number of courses a student can repeat.

GRADE	PERCENTAGE	EQUIVALENT GPA
A	95 - 100	4.00
A-	90 - 94	3.70
B+	87 - 89	3.30
B	83 - 86	3.00
B-	80 - 82	2.7
C	70 - 79	2.0
F	Less than 70	0.0

W= Withdrawal

I= Incomplete - Incomplete grade must be removed within four months from the official posting grades, provided the student remains active.

Students will not be able to register for subsequent courses if their prerequisite course has been assigned an incomplete grade, unless the incomplete requirements are completed within the four-month period.

PROBATION RULES

Students are notified that they are on probation, based on their performance which is measured by their cumulative GPA.

WARNING	CONDITION	ACTION
First Warning	GPA<3 & attempted credits>9	Allowed to register for 9 credits
Second Warning	GPA<3 & first warning	Allowed to register for 6 credits
Third Warning	GPA<3 & second warning	Allowed to register for 3 credits. The Committee may determine the number of repeat courses or new subjects based on academic evaluation.

NOTE: a student can enroll in an extra 3 credits if it is a repeated class.

Student on Third probation must sign a disclaimer.

NOTE: REGARDING SUMMER SEMESTER

- If a student was not placed under probation before and earns cumulative GPA<3 post summer grades, he/she will get a first probation.
- If a student starts the summer semester while he/she is under probation and earns cumulative GPA ≥ 3 post summer grades, he/she will get out of probation and will continue if the student fails to raise the GPA to 3.0 by the end of the following semester.
- If a student starts the summer semester while he/she is under probation (or had been placed before under probation) and earns a cumulative GPA <3, the student will remain under the latest probation level.

TRANSFER CREDITS

Graduate credits earned in approved or accredited institutions of recognized standing, may be transferred towards GUST's program:

- No more than 15 credits may be transferred, with a maximum of 9 credits to be transferred toward the core courses.
- The minimum accepted grade of all transfer credits is a "B".
- Students who have completed graduate level course work at accredited international universities must submit a degree equivalency.
- Official transcripts of all transferred courses must be submitted to The Admission Office prior to submitting degree plans.
- Transfer courses must be approved by the Dean of the College of Business Administration.
- The university will only accept transferred credits that are applicable to GUST's MBA program.
- Courses not taught within an approved MBA program will not be accepted as transferred credits.

VISITING STUDENTS

- MBA admission requirements apply.
- Students enrolled at other universities and not wishing to pursue a degree at GUST may register as visiting students.
- Visiting students may request for their official transcript to be sent to their home institution, at the end of the semester, provided that all course requirements have been completed.

VISITING AND NON-DEGREE STUDENT REGISTRATION POLICIES

- For visiting students, waiving of prerequisites courses has to be approved by the Head of Department and the Dean of the College of Business Administration.
- Visiting students can enroll in up to two courses.
- Enrollment rules that apply to matriculated students also apply here.

GRADUATION AND HONORS

DEGREES AWARDED WITH HIGHEST HONORS

Highest honor students attain a cumulative GPA of 4.0 upon graduation.

- Not have had any disciplinary action within the University.

DEGREES AWARDED WITH HONORS

- Honor students attain a cumulative GPA of 3.85 or above upon graduation.
- Not have had any disciplinary action within the University.

PRESIDENT'S HONOR LIST

To be placed on the President's Honor List at the end of given fall or spring semester, a student must:

- Be registered for at least nine credit hours
- Not be repeating the semester or be on probation
- Passed all semester courses and attained an overall semester GPA of 4.0
- Not have had any disciplinary action within the University

DEAN'S HONOR LIST

To be placed on the Dean's Honor List at the end of given fall or spring semester, a student must:

- Be registered for at least nine credit hours.
- Not be repeating the semester nor be on probation.
- Passed all semester courses and attained an overall semester GPA of 3.67
- Not have had any disciplinary action within the University.

RULES OF GRADUATION:

In order to graduate, students must:

- Pass the required number of credit hours (45).
- Obtain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (B) or higher.
- Submit an official GMAT score. (if the GMAT submitted during the admission process is expired).

Note: the maximum allowed period for graduation is 5 years. If a student fails to fulfill the graduation requirements within 5 years, he/she may be dismissed.

GUST Facilities

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND E-LEARNING SUPPORT

The Information Technology (IT) Department provides comprehensive support to students, faculty, and staff across the university. Its services include campus-wide network and internet access, email and collaboration tools, hardware and software support, and cybersecurity. The department also oversees the university's eLearning infrastructure, ensuring reliable access to the Learning Management System (LMS), digital content delivery, and instructional technology support. By integrating eLearning within IT, the university promotes a seamless digital experience that enhances teaching, learning, and administrative efficiency.

LIBRARY

At each student's disposal are over 54,000 scholarly eJournals, 409,000 eBooks, 22,000 printed books, and 300 media resources. Students benefit from access to more than 28 premier online databases, offering credible, high-quality content that supports their coursework and research. The GUST Library further empowers MBA students with expert guidance through personalized research consultations and information literacy sessions designed to enhance their scholarly and professional capabilities.

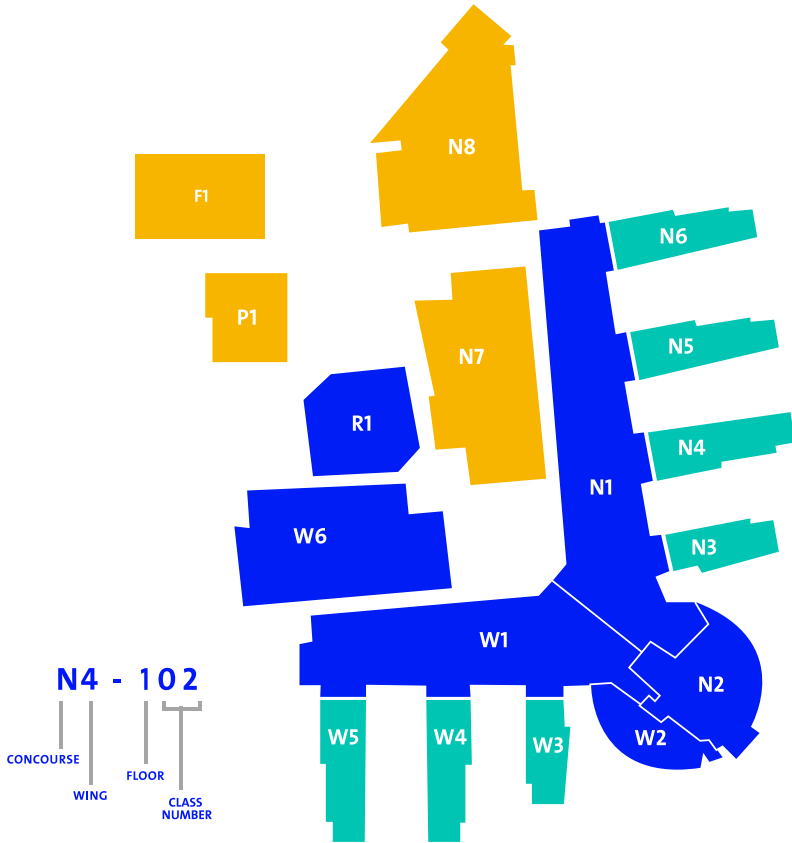
RESTAURANTS AND CAFES

GUST's campus provides a great variety of options to its community. In addition to the various restaurants and cafes, vending machines located all over campus offer a variety of quick snacks and drinks.

GYM AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

GUST houses a very modern and fully equipped gym run by professional coaches and includes a weight lifting area, aerobics halls, and a swimming pool. Squash courts, padel courts, football field and ping pong tables are also available on campus. We also, have an indoor hall for our athletes and students, where they can play basketball, volleyball and futsal

Campus Map



الجنح الشمالي	N1	NORTH CONCOURSE
المكتبة	N2	LIBRARY
مختبرات	N3	LABORATORIES
الفصول الدراسية	N4	TEACHING FACILITIES
الفصول الدراسية	N5	TEACHING FACILITIES
الفصول الدراسية	N6	TEACHING FACILITIES
مركز الصحة والأنشطة	N7	HEALTH & ACTIVITIES CENTER
المركز الرياضي	N8	FITNESS CENTER
ملاعب البادل	P1	PADEL COURT
ملعب كرة القدم	F1	FOOTBALL FIELD

الجنح الغربي	W1	WEST CONCOURSE
الإدارة العليا	W2	SENIOR MANAGEMENT
مختبرات	W3	LABORATORIES
الفصول الدراسية	W4	TEACHING FACILITIES
الفصول الدراسية	W5	TEACHING FACILITIES
مركز المؤتمرات	W6	CONFERENCE CENTER
المسرح الروماني	R1	AMPHITHEATER

Apply Now and Join The Network.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

GUST.EDU.KW/GSR/ABOUT-MBA

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APPLY NOW



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