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Schedule

- The Fast-Trak MBA Program admits students once a year in the fall semester.
- Students attend classes Monday through Friday for one year.
- Students have the option of obtaining a Masters in International Management from ENAE Business School in Spain or Bordeaux University School of Management in France.
- Every Friday students will be exposed to the Insight Program which includes developmental workshops, career coaching, E-mentorship, corporate visits and guest speakers.

Cost

Total program cost for In-State students, including the double degree offered in partnership with ENAE BUSINESS SCHOOL or BORDEAUX UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, is approximately $43,000. Total program cost for Out-of-State and International students, including the double degree is approximately $57,000. Compare tuition with other Chicago-area MBA Programs and you will see that this program is less expensive than many other institutions.

International Experience

Students are given the option to earn a Masters in International Management. Students who pursue the double degree program will spend two three-week sessions in either Bordeaux, France or Murcia, Spain. Classes are taught in English; course content includes European culture and customs, international trade practices and logistics, international marketing, international law, and international management.
Faculty

NIU MBA faculty are selected primarily for their teaching ability and their proven ability to relate to graduate students. Selection to teach in the MBA program is considered a mark of distinction. Tenure and rank are not considered. With a team of 450 experienced professionals at ENAE BUSINESS SCHOOL and a team of 250 professionals at IAE BORDEAUX, faculty is comprised of highly qualified educators in the fields of business management and research.

Full Time Program

- Average class size: 40-45
- International Students: 15-20%
- Male: 60-65% Female: 35-40%

GMAT

Required for all candidates unless the individual has a master’s degree in another field, or a professional degree. Minimum GMAT score requirement is 450; if you are concerned about the GMAT, please contact the Fast-Trak MBA Office.

Application Deadline: July 15
International Student Application Deadline: May 1

Majors represented by students in the Fast-Trak MBA

- Accounting & Finance
- Communications
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Engineering
- History
- Management
- Marketing
- Mathematics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Sociology

As you see, the class members represent many different disciplines and majors. This program is designed for both business and non-business undergraduates. The curriculum builds on theories and concepts as you progress through the program.

The NIU Fast-Trak MBA program is designed to empower student to achieve career success.
Become a part of a Network of over 8,000 MBA Alums

We invite you to be a part of the Fast-Trak MBA program at Northern Illinois University. This program is designed for students interested in attaining the skills and knowledge needed in today’s global marketplace.

The Fast-Trak MBA Program is a great opportunity for a young professional to earn two masters degrees in 12 months. The education and experience will distinguish the individual when applying for a job. Companies are continually looking for professionals who have international experience; the Masters in International Management will give the students the cultural awareness that brings unique value to a corporation.

The quality of the faculty and academic programs in the College of Business is attested to by the undergraduate and graduate accreditation of both the business administration and accountancy programs by AACSB International–The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Of approximately 1,200 collegiate business programs in the U.S., only about 165 have achieved the four levels of accreditation earned by Northern Illinois University.

To help you make a decision regarding our program, we have provided information about its benefits, curriculum, faculty, and structure.
Benefits of a Fast-Trak MBA Program

Benefits to Students
- The Curriculum. Encourages students to think cross-functionally and strategically about business.
- Managerial Skills. Develop skills to help you better assess real-world issues and workplace problems.
- Class size of 40-45 students. Encourages meaningful participation.
- Business Connections and Networking. Classroom and social activities help you establish business contacts and referrals.
- Ability to earn two masters degrees in one year.
- Insight Program. Students participate in developmental workshops, career coaching, E-mentorship and corporate visits.

Benefits of a Double Degree
- International exposure to global corporations and international business.
- Curriculum allows students to learn from their International peers, through team-taught courses, group projects, and real-world case studies.
- Opportunity to learn from faculty who have real world experience.
- Gain insight on foreign business transactions and relationships with the United States.
- Network and meet new people from all over the world.
- Cost is very reasonable compared to other institutions.

“Thumbs up! The Fast-Trak is a stellar program. The double degree program offers a great education at a reasonable price, and a top choice for anyone considering an MBA. For the price, the quality education, the international experience, the opportunity to meet highly motivated individuals, and to earn two Masters degrees in only twelve months, it will be hard for another university to top this program. I’m happy to have been a part of NIU’s Fast-Trak.”

Warner Jones
Class of 2011
The Fast-Trak MBA is a conceptual yet practical program leading to the Master of Business Administration degree.

The curriculum covers the general business subjects required for the MBA degree; however, it is not restricted by traditional academic boundaries regarding credit hours and semesters. Instead, topics are presented in modules of varying lengths. Communication skills in listening, writing, and speaking are stressed initially in the program and are integrated throughout the curriculum.

The first two modules in the curriculum include the basic business tools, financial accounting applications, legal issues facing managers, economic forecasting, marketing management and financial management. These courses provide the theory and foundation of business principles that students will continue to develop throughout the program. The last three modules in the curriculum include managerial accounting controls, strategic marketing, building an effective organization, operations management, leadership development, financial analysis, and overall policy analysis.

Because the Fast-Trak MBA curriculum is continuously reviewed to reflect the ever-changing needs of the business environment, the College of Business reserves the right to alter the curriculum at any time, through appropriate procedures, for the purpose of effectively achieving its educational mission.

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A variety of instructional methods are used in order to best achieve the optimal blend of theory and real-world application.

Insight Program

Students in the Fast-Trak MBA Program will be enrolled in the Insight Program. The Insight Program is designed to help students learn about professional development, career planning, and leadership; in other words, real-life application of materials taught in the classroom. The Insight Program will be held primarily on Fridays, with an occasional meeting during the regular Monday through Thursday class schedule.

The Insight Program consists of the following components:

1. Developmental Workshops – Workshops are typically 3 to 6 hours in length; a sample of topics that may be presented include presentation skills, leadership skills, writing skills, etiquette in business settings, and ethics.

2. Career Coaching – You will interact with a career coach throughout the program. With the career coach, you will have the opportunity to explore different job opportunities and create a specific action plan regarding your career objectives.

3. E-Mentorship – Each student will be assigned an E-Mentor. E-Mentors are MBA alumni and current MBA students working in industry. This is an excellent opportunity to seek career guidance and expand your professional network.

4. Corporate Visits and Guest Speakers – Classroom discussions are an important component of the learning process in an MBA program; but there is no substitute for real-world knowledge. On selected Fridays, students will have the occasion to travel to various companies or hear from top executives who will make presentations in DeKalb. Both opportunities offer a great way to see leading-edge concepts learned in the classroom being applied in real live companies.

Classroom Activities

Instructors employ the teaching methods of lecture and discussion, case analyses, individual and group research, report writing, presentations, guest speakers, and business related projects.

Study Groups

Students are assigned to a study group in the Fast-Trak MBA. The study groups are designed to help you learn more efficiently. Each group will be a diverse mix of individuals, thus allowing the exchange of ideas from different business disciplines. The study groups enhance the dynamics, communication skills and become a great way to give and receive the support that will help you be a better student. Study groups stay together throughout the entire program, which allows lasting friendships to develop.

Lock Step

All individuals begin the program together, sharing the same educational experience and taking the same courses in the same sequence for 12 months.

Capstone Project

The Fast-Trak MBA Capstone Project is a live case competition that uses a real company, a real business situation, and real people. Unlike other case studies that give students a hypothetical situation to evaluate, the NIU Capstone Project involves real-life applications. Students are challenged to develop a business plan that will grow the company significantly over the next several years. They must present and defend their plan to the company’s management team as well as to business professionals and entrepreneurs.

The students benefit greatly from the Capstone Project. Given a real-time business issue, students must apply a wide range of the knowledge and skills that they have developed in their MBA Program. Students have to make a good decision and defend it. The project teaches students to think strategically, to communicate their idea, and to work with a team – skills that are important for the student to excel in school and in the workplace!

The NIU Capstone Project – Real-Life, Real-Results
ENAE Business School in Murcia, Spain!

Students in the double degree program spend two three-week intensive sessions at ENAE Business School in Murcia, Spain. Double degree students earn a Master of International Management from ENAE Business School and an MBA from Northern Illinois University’s College of Business.

Master in International Management Classes offered in Murcia, Spain

- International Finance
- Global Human Resource Management
- International Trade Practices
- EU History
- Global Marketing

- EU Business
- International Negotiation
- International Logistics
- Intercultural Management

The Master of International Management degree program granted by ENAE School of Business is a lock-step study track. Classes are taught entirely in English and prepare students for positions in international companies or in subsidiaries that specialize in international markets.

Murcia is a center for industry, with many British and American companies choosing it as a location for satellite factories, such as Henry Milward & Sons (which manufactures surgical and knitting needles), American firms like General Electric and Paramount Park Studios.

Murcia serves as a major producer of agricultural products; it is common to find Murcia’s tomatoes and lettuce, and especially lemons and oranges, in European supermarkets. Murcia is a producer of wines, with about 100,000 acres devoted to grape vineyards.

Recently, the economy of the region is turning towards “residential tourism” in which people from northern European countries have a second home in the area. Europeans and Americans are able to learn Spanish in the academies in the town center.

The economy of Murcia is supported by fairs and congresses, museums, theatres, cinema, music, aquariums, bullfighting, restaurants, hotels, camping, sports, foreign students, and tourism.
Students in the double degree program spend two three-week intensive sessions at Bordeaux University School of Management. Double degree students earn a Master II of International Management from Bordeaux University School of Management (IAE) and an MBA from Northern Illinois University’s College of Business.

The Master of International Management degree program granted by the Bordeaux University School of Management (IAE) is a lock-step study track. Classes are taught entirely in English and prepare students for executive positions in international companies or in subsidiaries that specialize in international markets. Students will have the opportunity to work in managerial positions in an international environment in the fields of international trade, logistics, international marketing, etc.

Bordeaux is one of the most famous wine regions in the world. However, Bordeaux is not just a brand of wine, it is one of the most classic, yet lively cities in Europe! In Bordeaux you will find sunny weather year round. Students from all over the world line the cobbled stone streets studying in sidewalk cafes and enjoying the vibrant city and the French way of life. Concerts, festivals, events, and markets make up the daily schedule of a typical student in Bordeaux. The city has a lot to offer: beautiful parks, a historical city-center along the river, countless bars and restaurants, as well as unique shopping areas. In Bordeaux you will learn the French way of living, they call it the “Savoir vivre” - the art of living life.

Master II International Management Classes offered in Bordeaux, France

- International Finance
- Global Human Resource Management
- International Business Law
- International Trade Practices
- Global Marketing
- EU History
- EU Commercial Relations
- European Business Culture
- International Negotiation
- Wine Economics
- International Logistics
- Intercultural Management

International Finance
Global Human Resource Management
International Business Law
International Trade Practices
Global Marketing
EU History
EU Commercial Relations
European Business Culture
International Negotiation
Wine Economics
International Logistics
Intercultural Management
University Montesqueiu-Bordeaux IV

The international component of the program will be at IAE (BORDEAUX UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT). For over 50 years the university has offered expert training and management to graduate students and working professionals from all over the world. The institute offers a wide variety of curricula, from accounting and auditing to business management, international trade and much more.

“The Cultural experience is indescribable. I never thought I would be able to share six solid weeks with people from over six different countries. While it took some time to get used to our various backgrounds, I learned so much from our daily conversations and team work.

In addition, IAE did a fantastic job of sharing the Bordeaux lifestyle with me and my fellow classmates. From the cheese dinner to a wine tasting class, the incredible reputation of Bordeaux was brought to life through an experience designed specifically for our group. I feel so blessed to have such a dedicated team of people who helped introduce me to a new way of living and interacting while abroad.”

Jordan Boyer
Class of 2011
Message from the Dean of Bordeaux University School of Management

This is an opportunity to enhance your career and international experience! The Fast-Trak MBA, coupled with the Master II International Management program granted by our very own Bordeaux University School of Management (IAE), will put you a step ahead in the international business world.

The IAE manages, in partnership with foreign institutions, ten diplomas delocalized or organized within the framework of international programs. Thanks to our many international partnerships our students are given the opportunity to engage in true international business exchanges, networking, and learning. The Master II International Management program will prepare you for executive positions in international companies or in subsidiaries that specialize in international markets.

Our Bordeaux University School of Management is not only one of France’s top business schools, but it is also situated in the heart of beautiful Bordeaux, France. Students from all over the world enjoy our cobbled stone streets, historic monuments, and numerous restaurants. Je vous encourage aussi à embarquer dans cette aventure, découvrir une nouvelle façon de vivre et d’étudier ici avec nous dans notre douce France! [I encourage you too to take this leap and experience a new way of life and learning here with us in “La Belle France.”]

Serge Evraert
ENAE Business School

The modern facilities at ENAE BUSINESS SCHOOL are located within the confines of Murcia University’s campus, in a four story building that contains 2,200 square meters of learning space, 10 classrooms with a capacity for between 18 and 45 students, 3 work rooms, 1 IT room with 31 advanced computer workstations, wi-fi connection and 1 library and documentation room.

“Nothing will ever compare to the cultural experience I had living and studying abroad. That is one of the most memorable things I have ever experienced and I will never forget it. Overall the Fast-Trak MBA Program has turned me into a new person. I have always been diverse and open-minded, but now I am able to see things much clearer. This will assist in getting a job at a corporation that is global or planning on going international. This program is truly perfect, and once the world hears about it, it is going to be number!”

Bianca Sanders
Class of 2013
Message from the President and Coordinator of ENAE Business School

It is our distinct pleasure to invite you to apply for the unique, intercontinental, double-degree Fast-Trak MBA program that is a partnership between Northern Illinois University and ENAE Business School. Completing this program will qualify you for a world-class MBA from the United States and a top-notch European Master's degree in International Management.

ENAE Business School is the top graduate business school in the south and east of Spain and is overseen by the Fundación Universidad Empresa. ENAE Business School is an international institution focused on postgraduate and executive training. Interaction with companies is considered central in inspiring and delivering ENAE Business School performance. ENAE prepares professional graduate students primarily from Spain and Latin-American to lead in the global economic and business environment. Students learn proven applied knowledge and managerial skills grounded in humanistic and entrepreneurial values from professors, and business people. The many interactions students have with companies are an essential part of their success. ENAE has been training current business leaders and preparing future leaders to face their professional future with confidence and security for nearly 20 years. Thanks to our foundation, at ENAE we can count on the support of more than 300 partner companies. We also have agreements with more than 50 universities internationally. This network allows us to perform very competitively with national and international companies and institutions that work with us.

The region of Murcia is a fast-growing area that is situated in the southeast of Spain. The city of Murcia is the seventh most populous in Spain and there are several historic and cultural sights around the region.

We will be glad to host you at ENAE and in the most beautiful part of Spain, Murcia!

Enrique Egea Ibáñez and Raphael Alvarado
The Fast-Trak MBA is a conceptual yet practical program leading to the Master of Business Administration and Master of International Management Degrees (for students who elect to pursue the double degree)

**Orientation:** August 11 - 14, 2015. **Mandatory for All Students**

**Module 1, Business Foundation (7 Weeks): August 17—October 2, 2015**
- ACCY 505  Financial Accounting
- FINA 500  Micro and Macro Economics
- MGMT 505  Principles of Management
- OMIS 524  Business Statistics

**Module 2, Business Foundation (7 Weeks): October 5—November 20, 2015**
- MGMT 511  Ethics and Business Law
- MKTG 505  Principles of Marketing
- FINA 505  Financial Management
- OMIS 505  Operations Management

**Bordeaux/Murcia Exchange (3 Weeks): November 27—December 19, 2015**
**Mandatory for Double Degree Students***
Students travel to Bordeaux France or Murcia Spain for coursework

**Team Weekend & Welcome Bordeaux Students: January 7-8, 2016**

**Module 3, Management of Functional Areas (8 Weeks): January 11—March 4, 2016**
- MGMT 635  Organizational Behavior
- MKTG 654  Marketing Management Business
- ACCY 630  Managerial Accounting

**Bordeaux/Murcia Exchange (3 Weeks): March 7—March 25, 2016**
**Mandatory for Double Degree Students***
Students travel to Bordeaux France or Murcia Spain for coursework

**Module 4, Master Business Strategy (8 Weeks): April 4—May 27, 2016**
- OMIS 627  Operations Analysis
- OMIS 640  IS Technology

**Module 5, Master Business Strategy (5 Weeks): June 6—July 29, 2016**
- FINA 607  Financial Analysis
- MGMT 672  Strategic Policy Business
- MGMT 637  Capstone Project

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**Prerequisite**
- OMIS 507 - Business Information Systems

* Students not pursuing the double degree will complete an intercession course during each exchange.

Due to the intensity and demands of this program, students are not permitted to obtain a Graduate Assistantship while enrolled in the Fast-Trak Program.

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Students enrolled in the Fast-Trak double degree program must successfully complete all components of both Northern Illinois University’s MBA program and all course work delivered at ENAE Business School or IAE Bordeaux. The Master of International Management degree from ENAE and IAE is a second degree that can only be achieved when the primary MBA offered by Northern Illinois University is completed successfully.

Students who apply by June 1 will have the opportunity to select their preferred location to complete the Masters in International Management degree. Every effort will be made to give applicants their preferred international study destination; however, applications received after June 1 will be considered based on availability.

Students pursuing the double degree must complete both three-week sessions at the same location. Students will travel to ENAE or IAE during the specified dates, which are determined by NIU.
Graduate Application and Fee: Applications to the Graduate School are made via our online application process. Online applications speed our ability to reply to you and ensure the accuracy of our records. Applications over our secure server require a credit card to pay the $40 application fee. The website is www.grad.niu.edu/apply/index.shtml.

You will be prompted for the email addresses of your references if you would like them to be able to upload their letter of reference electronically. You will be able to provide your statement of purpose electronically after completing the application.

Statement of Purpose: May be sent electronically (see above) or you may email to the MBA Program office at mba@niu.edu.

College Transcript: An official transcript from the college or university from which the student graduated must be sent directly from that institution to the MBA Office.

Letters of Recommendation: Two letters of recommendation are required. Those may be sent electronically if email addresses are provided on the graduate application form. The recommendation letters should be completed by professors and/or business associates.

Graduate Management Admission Test: The GMAT is a computer adaptive test (CAT) that is available year-round. Test centers are listed in the GMAT brochure.

For complete information regarding the GMAT examination, registration, fees, and testing sites, please contact GMAT Customer Service; phone 800-717-GMAT (4628); fax 952-681-3681; or visit their website at www.mba.com.

TOEFL: TOEFL is required for International students only; applicant must submit score report to the Graduate School.

An applicant whose native language is not English must present an IELTS score of 6.5 or alternatively, a TOEFL score of at least 80 on the TOEFL ibt or 213 on the scale of 0-300. The score must be for an examination administered no more than 24 months prior to the beginning of the academic term for which admission is sought. At the discretion of the intended major department, possession of a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited institution in the U.S., the U.K., Ireland, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand, at which the language of instruction was English, may serve in lieu of the TOEFL score.

For complete information regarding the TOEFL examination, registration, fees, and testing sites, please contact TOEFL Customer Service; phone 1-877-863-3546; or visit their website at www.ets.org/toefl.

Interview: Upon receipt of an application and supporting documents, a face-to-face or telephone interview will be scheduled with the applicant.

It is strongly suggested that all candidates consider admission deadline dates when scheduling an appointment for testing. Early test-taking offers the candidate the best opportunity for admission into the program.

Program Costs

Double Degree (MBA & MiM)

In State: $43,000 (Approximate)
Out of State and International students: $57,000 (Approximate)

The cost includes the double degree program (courses, hotel, and airfare). Books and materials are not included.

Single Degree (MBA)

Students who elect to pursue only the MBA, can deduct approximately $5,000 from the above program costs.

Books and materials are not included.

** Please note: these prices are estimates only and subject to change. International students are required to stay in NIU approved housing. Student housing is not included in program costs.
Message from the Directors

Start your journey with NIU’s Fast-Trak MBA Program. Regardless of your undergraduate degree, this program is designed to give you the business theories and tools you will need to succeed in today’s global marketplace. Along the way, you will have opportunities to improve your personal skill set in communication, team dynamics, and cultural awareness. Imagine the opportunity to complete two degrees in just 12 months!

NIU’s Fast-Trak MBA offers the best of both worlds – you will receive personal attention from our staff and learn from College of Business faculty who are committed to your academic success. Also, the Fast-Trak provides you the opportunity to study abroad; whether in Murcia, Spain, Bordeaux, France or DeKalb, Illinois you will have a global experience in terms of faculty and curriculum. You will receive an unparalleled education, make lifelong relationships and build a network of faculty, students and alumni. This is an exciting, challenging, hassle-free experience, custom-designed for you. You will be exposed to world-class professors from the United States and Europe. Choose the NIU Fast-Trak MBA program and you will be a part of one of the largest professionally networked communities. Our friendly staff will guide you through the application process. Call the Fast-Trak MBA Office at 815-753-0257.

The NIU Fast-Trak MBA is highly ranked and fully accredited. And, best of all, you have the opportunity to gain two degrees from two continents in one year!

Welcome to the NIU Fast-Trak MBA family!

Sincerely,

Paul Prabhaker
Associate Dean
Graduate Programs

Ann Carrel
Assistant Dean
MBA Program

Anthony Preston
Assistant Director
Fast-Trak MBA Program