# Sy Syms School of Business

Established in 1987 through a major gift from Sy Syms, a member of Yeshiva University's Board of Trustees, and other business leaders, the Sy Syms School of Business is the university's undergraduate business school for men and women. It offers the unique combination of a complete business curriculum along with an intensive Jewish studies component.

The Sy Syms school instills in students strong analytic skills, discipline, and ethical values. It offers professional preparation with a broad base in liberal arts studies, and its curriculum leads to the Bachelor of Science degree. The curriculum covers a common body of knowledge—the business core—in addition to majors or concentrations in accounting, business analytics, finance, management, and marketing, and strategy and entrepreneurship.

Jewish tradition provides the framework for consideration of ethical issues, an integral part of the student's education. All Sy Syms students simultaneously attend one of the four schools of Jewish studies at the university. Students are taught by distinguished faculty who hold positions in the research and professional communities and offer students a thorough background in the theoretical and practical aspects of business.

The Sy Syms School of Business offers business programs for men at the uptown Wilf Campus and for women at the midtown Beren campus. Students hail from a wide geographic area, both domestic and international. As a result, students have an opportunity to broaden their knowledge of, and sensitivity to, other cultures—an experience that will help them better understand, and thrive in, an ever-growing global environment.

The Rennert Entrepreneurial Institute fosters students' entrepreneurial skills and knowledge for creating and developing a business. The institute employs an interdisciplinary approach, which uses the curriculum and faculty of the Sy Syms School. The institute received its initial funding through a generous grant from Mr. and Mrs. Ira Leon Rennert, for whom it is named.

#### CURRICULUM

The curriculum at Sy Syms School of Business includes general education core requirements, business core requirements, major requirements, and elective courses.

All majors at Sy Syms School of Business lead to the degree of Bachelor of Science.

#### **MAJORS**

Each student must select a major and meet with an academic adviser to review the planned course of study. The following is a list of majors. Regardless of transfer credit,

each student must complete at least 60 percent of the required credits in the major at the Sy Syms School.

Accounting
Business Analytics
Finance
Marketing
Strategy and Entrepreneurship

### **MINORS**

Sy Syms students may select a 9-credit minor in one of the following areas.

Accounting

Business Analytics
Finance
Information and Decision Science
Management
Marketing
Real Estate
Strategy and Entrepreneurship

Sy Syms students may use all of their business electives towards a minor. Sy Syms students may also select a minor in Yeshiva College, YU's liberal arts college for men. These minors are generally 18 credits.

Yeshiva College students may pursue an 18 credit minor in accounting, business, business analytics, finance, information and decision sciences, management, marketing, real estate, or strategy and entrepreneurship at the Sy Syms School.

Regardless of transfer credit, each student must complete at least 60 percent of the required credits in the minor at the Sy Syms School.

### **DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Course and credit requirement: Students must complete at least 128 credits, including all general education requirements, business core requirements, major requirements, and additional electives.
- B. Residence requirement: Students must attend an institution of higher education full time for at least eight semesters. They must complete a minimum of six full-time semesters and a minimum of 84 credits in residence at the Wilf Campus in New York. Furthermore, at least 24 of the last 35 credits must be taken in residence.

Students who transfer with two or more years of full-time study at an accredited degree-granting college (not a yeshiva) must be in residence at the Sy Syms School of Business New York campus for at least four full-time semesters. In total, such a

student must earn at least 60 on-campus bachelors credits. Students who transfer with less than two years of full-time study must earn credits in residence in accordance with the following:

Previous Semesters Outside of YU Bachelors	On-campus Bachelors credits
0	84
1	78
2	72
3	66
4	60

- C. Grade requirement: Students must achieve an average of 2.000 or better overall and a grade of C- or better in all business courses and in the required quantitative and economics courses.
- D. Capstone Course: To be eligible for graduation, seniors must complete a capstone course in their major or area of concentration.
- E. Administrative requirements: Each student must receive approbation of the faculty and the president, and must file an Application for Graduation form during the registration period of the semester in which the student completes all requirements.

## SY SYMS GENERAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- I. Basic Courses
  - First Year Writing (FYWR 1020)
  - Business Communications (FYSM 1012)

# II. Humanities

Two courses selected from the following subjects:
 Art/Music courses numbered between 1000-1700
 History, including Jewish History (except taken with JSS or IBC)
 English Literature
 Foreign Language (other than Hebrew) numbered 1102 or 1201 or 1202
 Philosophy including 3 credit Jewish Philosphy courses (except those taken with JSS or IBC)

# III. Quantitative and Economics

- IDS 1010 Mathematics for Business (students may be exempt if they earned a 4 or 5 on the AP Calculus exam based on their SAT or ACT scores or the Math Proficiency exam for students without these standardized test scores.)
- IDS 1131 Statistics for Business (students may be exempt if they earned a 4 or 5 on the AP Statistics exam).
- IDS 1556 Regression Analysis and Data Visualization
- Economics 1010 Principles of Economics (students may be exempt if they earned a 4 or 5 on the AP Microeconomics exam).

### IV. Natural and Social Science

• One course selected from the following subjects:

Biology Chemistry Computer Science Physics Political Science Psychology Sociology

#### V. General Electives

General electives are three additional 3-credit courses in business or liberal arts (excluding HES courses or AP courses) that are not used to fulfill any other General Course requirement, Business Core requirement or requirement for the major.

#### VI. Jewish Values

The Jewish Values curriculum offers practical, experiential and actionable courses to prepare students for the workplace. The curriculum covers two broad types of issues (purely-business issues, and universal issues with a business lens). There are also two domains of interaction (within the Jewish world, and between the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds). The distribution of the requirement is as follows:

### JUD 2610: Jewish-World Encounters

- JUD 2620: Jewish Business Law
- JUD 2630: Jewish Public Policy
- JUD 2640: Practical Workplace Halacha
- Jewish Values Elective
- Up to three Hebrew courses, ranging from 1010-1030, depending on placement. Students in JSS take 1203 and 1204 instead.
  - All students should take Hebrew language in their first year on campus.

Students who transfer from Yeshiva College and already satisfied some Jewish studies requirements at Yeshiva College should meet with Sy Syms academic advising to discuss which remaining Jewish studies requirements they may need to satisfy at Sy Syms.

Students in the Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies and the Irving I. Stone Beit Midrash Program take these courses mostly at Yeshiva College. Students in Isaac Breuer College of Hebraic Studies and the James Striar School of General Jewish Studies satisfy these requirements with courses at those schools with some modifications, particularly for JSS students. A student in MYP or SBMP typically takes 14 credits in Jewish studies courses which appear on his Sy Syms transcript, while a student in IBC or JSS transfers a minimum of 18 HES credits (3 per semester) to his Sy Syms transcript. Students who change Torah studies programs during their time at the Sy Syms School must consult with the head of their Torah studies studies program regarding the fulfillment of Jewish studies requirements and bring written approval to Sy Syms advising.

## **BUSINESS CORE**

All students are required to take the following core courses as part of their program of study:

- ACC 1001, 1002
- BLW 2021 (Honors students who are not taking BLW 2112, may take BLW 1800H instead of BLW 2021)
- FIN 1001
- IDS 1020
- ENT/MAN 1020
- MAR 1001

# THE SY SYMS BUSINESS HONORS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The mission of the Sy Syms Business Honors and Entrepreneurial Leadership Program is to enhance the educational experience of its high-achieving business students. The program stresses a culture of academic excellence coupled with a commitment to Jewish values. The program is focused on providing honors students with enhanced entrepreneurship opportunities; interaction with senior faculty; and career-changing contacts with global business leaders and executives. Specifically, the program offers high-level business courses, immersion in the liberal arts and sciences, along with entrepreneurship and internship opportunities. Sy Syms honors courses are designed to challenge students, to encourage imagination and creativity and to prepare students for exceptional career opportunities.

Requirements: Admission to the Sy Syms Business Honors and Entrepreneurial Leadership Program requires Sy Syms honors students to exhibit excellent academic achievement as well as evidence of significant entrepreneurship and leadership potential. Sy Syms honors students must maintain a GPA of 3.500 in their college courses as well as Torah studies while on campus.

All Sy Syms honors students will be required to successfully complete:

- A. Honors Business as a Human Enterprise during their first year on campus. This course will examine the varied roles of business in a democratic society. Students will study the historical purpose of business, the role of law and ethics, corporate social responsibility, business sustainability, business and technology, triple bottom line reporting, social entrepreneurship and the future of business.
- B. Honors Entrepreneurial Leadership during their second year on campus. This course will focus on what it takes to develop the next generation of entrepreneurs, managers and leaders. Students will discuss and review companies including startups, family businesses, multi-national companies and high-tech firms, and analyze the leadership skills that their managers and employees possess. We will identify what made them successful companies, what did not and why.

- C. Honors Analytical Driven Decision Making or Honors Corporate Accountabillity during their third year on campus.
  - a. Honors Analytical Driven Decision Making will introduce students to the science of fact based, data driven, decision making. The course will expose students to different approaches, support tools and analytical methods for decision making; enhance students' critical thinking skills and their ability to intelligently use information; and introduce students to modeling.
  - b. Honors Corporate Accountabillity explores the meaning and future of corporate accountability. This course will examine the decreasing relevance in recent years of financial accounting information for investors and creditors. Students will explore some of the reasons for this change, including the explosion of intangible assets as a source of firm value. In the second half of the course students will identify the increasing demands of investors for additional and more relevant corporate disclosures. In addition, we will critically explore various emerging practices in accounting including sustainability reporting, non-GAAP metrics, the Strategic Resources Report, and Integrative Financial Statements. Students will explore the costs and benefits of each of these emerging practices.
- D. Two additional honors courses. These Honors Courses can be from the Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Honors Program, the S. Daniel Abraham Honors Program, or the Sy Syms Honors Program.
- E. Business Internship (3 credits) during the summer before their senior year. Sy Syms honors students choose between an entrepreneurship project and a significant internship experience. The honors student works with a faculty mentor in preparing a report describing the entrepreneurship or internship experience, utilizing the tools and techniques he or she acquired while at Sy Syms.

#### **SCHOOL REGULATIONS**

Regulations pertaining to Sy Syms School alone are given here; those uniformly applicable to all undergraduate schools are given in the section Academic Information and Policies.

Attendance: At the start of each semester, each student must report in person to the instructor of each course to learn the specific attendance requirements, including number of absences allowed. A record of the student's attendance in each class is kept by the instructor. Reasonable attendance is expected for every student in a class. While faculty members may modify attendance policies as they see fit, reasonable absence is defined as twice the number of times a class meets per week. Absence without an excuse may result in the student receiving a grade of G. Excessive absences may result in the student being dropped or withdrawn from the course.

Grades: P/N System To encourage students to take course work outside their area of specialization, each student who is in good standing may select one course each semester to be graded P or N during the week indicated on the acadmic calendar. The

course may not be one required for graduation or required or recommended for the student's major. If awarded a P or N grade, the course will not count for General Education, Business Core requirements or any major or minor requirements.

Regulations and the limitations applicable to the choice of a course on the P/N system are available in the Office of the Registrar.

Credits for Enrollment in Classes, Honors, Academic Integrity, Standards, and Disciplinary Action Regulations governing credits for enrollment in classes, the Dean's List, Latin honors at graduation, academic integrity, standards and disciplinary action are found in the Academic Information and Policies section of the catalog.

Workload: The normal number of credits for a full semester's work is 15 - 17 credits. A full-time student is defined as one who is enrolled for at least 12 credits during a 15-week semester.

Under no circumstances will any student be given permission to register for more than 17.5 credits per semester at the Sy Syms School (including credit transferred from any other school of the University or from another institution).

Provisionally admitted students and students on academic probation are subject to restriction on their workload as described in the Academic Information and Policies section of the catalog.

Unless required to limit their programs, students may not take fewer than 12 credits in any semester without written permission from the Office of the Dean.