

# HELLER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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## Walter E. Heller and Alyce DeCosta

Over his lifetime, Walter E. Heller developed the skills and expertise to create a world-known organization. As a young man he was given the responsibility to oversee his father's successful sausage casing business. Being a resourceful and meticulous entrepreneur, Heller expanded to jewelry and then automobile financing. As his prosperity grew, so did his vision. Whatever the business at hand, Heller pursued it with vigor. He was the first to arrive on the job in the morning and the last to leave at night. During the 1930s, Heller expanded into the rediscount business and then factoring. Walter Heller's firm became the pre-eminent asset-based commercial lender and factor from the 1940s through the 1960s. Heller's firm was the Cadillac of its industry, loaning money to flamboyant and high-profile Hollywood movie studios, including United Artists Corporation. In 1956, Heller's stock began trading over the New York Stock Exchange. Through its growth, the firm acquired companies, divested companies, and expanded overseas. Business Week magazine summarized Heller's reach in a 1958 article stating the company "served as a funnel through which 1,800 stockholders, 76 banks, and 10 insurance companies extended credit to some 500 manufacturing distributors, small-loan, and auto-finance companies."

In 1969, Walter E. Heller died at the age of 78. With the generous support of his widow, Alyce DeCosta, and the Walter E. Heller Foundation, a gift of \$2 million enabled Roosevelt University to construct a 10-story classroom, laboratory, and library facility. Alyce DeCosta established the Walter E. Heller Lecture Series in International Business and Finance and served as a member of the Board of Trustees until her death. The college proudly carries the name of the Heller College of Business.

## Mission

Roosevelt University's Heller College of Business provides a diverse population of students the best opportunity to develop critical skills necessary for success. This education emphasizes professional integrity, sustainable business practices, and global engagement.

## Accreditation

The undergraduate programs of the Heller College of Business (HCB) are accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). University business programs worldwide pursue this recognition, and ACBSP accredits approximately 10 percent of business programs in the United States and a few outside the United States. ACBSP accreditation is a mark of distinction in that accredited programs must meet national and international standards for teaching excellence, achieving learning outcomes, mission-based strategic planning, and continuous improvement.

## Degree programs

The HCB grants the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA). Each student chooses a major from among Accounting, Finance, Human Resource Management, Management, Marketing, or Social Entrepreneurship.

## Transfer credit

Credits are accepted from community, junior or senior colleges that are accredited by a regional accreditation organization. Up to 66 credits can be accepted from a community college. Up to 90 credits can be accepted from a four-year college or university. All transfer students must satisfy the University Writing Requirement which may include taking English100. No exceptions are made. See the University Writing Requirement. Each transfer course is evaluated to confirm that it includes all topics included in the corresponding Roosevelt course. Regardless of title, courses considered inappropriate or not equivalent will not be accepted. Students should consult with a Roosevelt University advisor and the transfer guide (<http://www.roosevelt.edu/Admission/Undergraduate/Transfer/TransferGuide.aspx>) pages when transferring courses to Roosevelt University.

All business core and major requirements are taken at the 300 level. All community college courses are accepted as lower level credits.

## Grade requirements

Specific requirements for individual majors are listed under each discipline. All courses in the major must be passed with grades of C- or higher. Each major has additional course(s) which require a grade of C- or higher.

## Interdisciplinary major

Students whose career interests span two or more traditional business areas may complete an interdisciplinary major. This major includes nine courses of which at least five must be in a single functional area (accounting, finance, human resource management, management, or marketing). In the past, students have combined such areas as accounting and finance and marketing and finance. This major must be approved by the assistant dean for undergraduate business studies.

## Double major

Students who want a double major, within the Heller College of Business, must complete 18 separate credit hours in each discipline. Students may declare a double major while completing the first bachelor's degree. Usually a double major requires students to complete more than 120 credit hours for the degree. See an advisor for specific information.

## Second bachelor's degree

Applicants who have received a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States are eligible for admission as second bachelor's degree candidates. Applicants with international credentials which are the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a four-year accredited U.S. university (as determined by an evaluation agency approved by Roosevelt University) are also eligible for admission as second bachelor's degree candidates. Official transcripts from each college previously attended are required along with the admission application and fee.

The residency requirement for the second bachelor's degree is a minimum of 30 credit hours earned at Roosevelt University that have not been counted for any other degree.

In all colleges, degree requirements in general may be met with transfer credit, Roosevelt University courses, or a combination of both. However, specific degree requirements differ from college to college. In the College of Arts and Sciences, all specific requirements for the major sequence must be fully met. In the College of Business, all degree requirements

(including residency, grade requirements, and required courses in general education, liberal studies, junior/senior core, and the major) must be satisfied. In the Chicago College of Performing Arts, all specific requirements for the major must be met; acceptance of professional coursework is subject to validation by audition and/or placement examination.

Students with international credentials must consult with the appropriate college to discuss possible deficiencies in major or general education requirements.

Students with a bachelor's degree from a four-year accredited U.S. university have met the University Writing Requirement, and do not need to take the English portion of the Roosevelt University Assessment (RUA). However, if the degree being sought is related to areas such as science, math, business, or computer science, the student may be asked to take the mathematics portion of the RUA.

Requirements for students earning a double major are different from those earning a second bachelor's degree. Please refer to the appropriate college section of the catalog for details.

## **Business minors for business majors**

Students may also complete a business minor in an area outside their business major. The requirements, for Heller College of Business students, are four courses in one area at the 300 level without overlap with the major requirements. At least three of the courses must be taken at Roosevelt University, and all courses must be passed with grades of C- or higher. Students must complete all prerequisites for courses in their chosen minor area.

Business minors are available to non-business major students outside of the Heller College of Business.

## **General business minor (for non-business majors)**

A Business minor is available to students from the other colleges of Roosevelt University. The requirements are seven courses in business, including three required courses and four upper-level (300 level) business courses approved by the student's advisor. A student may choose courses from different business areas such as MGMT 358 ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR, MKTG 302 PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING, and FIN 311 PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE,

## **Discipline minors (for non-business majors)**

A student may take a more specialized business minor in an area such as Accounting, Finance, Human Resource Management, Management, or Marketing. Students must complete all prerequisites for courses in their chosen minor areas, including junior standing for 300-level courses. At least three courses in the minor must be taken at Roosevelt University. See the Assistant Dean for specific course information.

## **Graduation**

A regular student in good standing may become a degree candidate when he/she has completed a minimum of 120 credit hours of credit with a minimum grade point average of 2.0. At least 18 credit hours in the major must be passed with grades of C- or higher, including transfer work. MGMT 380 must be passed with a grade of C- or better and must be

taken at Roosevelt University. All business core class requirements must also be passed with a C- or better.

## **Advising**

Business majors should contact the HCB advising center at either campus. In order to facilitate graduation on a timely basis, all students should see an advisor each semester. Any course waivers or substitutions should be approved in writing and placed in the student's file both in the College and the Registrar's Office.

## **Student services**

The Heller College of Business is committed to the success of our students. We offer internships, mentoring programs and student professional development worksheets in order to emphasize the focus on learning through the classroom and applying knowledge and theory gained in the real world.

## **Internship opportunities**

Well-qualified juniors and seniors may be eligible for internship positions at local firms. These internships provide practical professional experience to complement classroom learning. Academic credit may be available. The office of career services can help with internship placement. See the Assistant Dean for information on academic credit. Up to six credits are allowed for internships. In the Heller College of Business, three credits may be used in the major provided the internship is within the student's discipline. Credits may be used for free elective credit.

## **Professional development workshops**

The Heller College of Business provides many professional development workshops throughout the academic year at both campuses. Topics that are covered include: resume building and cover letter writing, the perfect elevator pitch, Excel for business basics and advanced, financial planning, survival skills for the corporate world and much more.