HELLEr COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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. 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
MGMT 380 must be passed with a grade of C- or better and must be the major must be passed with grades of C- or higher, including transfer credit with a minimum grade point average of 2.0. At least 18 credit hours in the major 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.

Mentoring program

The Heller College of Business pairs those students that are interested in the mentoring program in small groups of 3-6 students with an executive in the business fields to serve as a mentor on a semester to semester basis. Students meet with their mentors on a monthly/regular basis and cover topics such as: networking, career advise, and many other topics. If you would like to become a part of the mentoring program, please reach out to the Assistant Dean of Students for more information and an application.

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.