Boston Offers Wealth of Innovative Business Management Options

Let’s be blunt. Managers get the big bucks. Just take a look at federal data for nationwide annual wages for management roles in health care, finance, advertising, computers, and sales—they’re almost all in the six figures. Talented business managers will always be in demand, and even more so as the global business environment becomes increasingly complex. Leadership is the most important skill that employers want to see on a candidate’s resume, according to Job Outlook 2015, published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. This means that students don’t necessarily need additional degrees but they do need knowledge and/or skills to be competitive in the workplace.

William Boozang, director of Woods College of Advancing Studies at Boston College, says that certificate programs are a good option to complement an undergraduate major; a certificate can add additional expertise and skills or jumpstart career advancement in management. “Certificates are also a great opportunity for someone who has been out of the workforce for some time to get up to speed on management principles and topics,” says Boozang.

At Woods College, a Certificate in Management requires a six-course program comprised of courses, including marketing, leadership, and accounting. These courses are a combination of hybrid, online, and on campus. Tom Hart, 22, a student at Woods College, says that earning two certificates from the school, a management and a finance certificate, has opened the door to new employment possibilities. “Most individuals are not in management positions out the gate, but knowing what managers look for is very helpful for career advancement,” says Hart. Boozang says that for some, the professional studies certificates, which are also offered in marketing, human resources, and accounting, are an end in themselves, while for others like Hart, they can be applied toward the completion of a bachelor’s degree. An accelerated bachelor’s to MBA (Masters of Business Administration), is another option that allows students to earn both a bachelor’s and a master’s within a reduced time frame and at a lower cost.

Students studying at Woods College of Advancing Studies are welcome on the sylvan campus of Boston College, one of the most beautiful in the city.

Cambridge College and the University of Massachusetts Boston both offer fast-track MBA programs, while Curry College offers a new bachelor’s in leadership for those with an associate’s degree; the degree can be completed in 20 months and adds one of the most important skills that employers look for in a resume. At Emmanuel College, a management major provides a deep understanding of business principles and issues surrounding law, leadership, operations, and more, supported by a strong background in the liberal arts and an institutional commitment to social justice.

Hart, for one, feels he’s ready for the working world, with an expanded knowledge of business, economics, and financial management. He doesn’t know what industry he’ll end up in—he’s already had internships in political campaigns as well as banking—but he’s sure that organizations need professionals like him with the right skills. “As a business management expert,” he says, “I have experience at my fingertips.”