Mission Statement
The Orfalea College of Business challenges California’s highly motivated and academically talented students to become tomorrow’s socially responsible business leaders through a learn-by-doing, technology-oriented education, which is supported by the faculty’s intellectual contributions in applied, discipline-based and pedagogical research.

Amplification of Strategic Concepts/Phrases
… challenges California’s highly motivated students:
- Committed to rigorous, relevant courses taught by dedicated, professionally-active faculty
- Committed to students actively involved in their education
- Committed to education occurring both inside and outside the classroom
- Committed to significant faculty-student interaction
… to become tomorrow’s socially responsible business leaders:
- Emphasis on having a positive impact on society
- Emphasis on having ethical leaders and role models
- Emphasis on working in a diverse, dynamic business environment
- Emphasis on integration of knowledge
- Development of team skills
- Preparation for careers
- Preparation for lifelong learning
… through a learn-by-doing, technology-oriented education:
- Emphasizes an understanding of the influence and uses of technology in business
- Emphasizes technology-based business decision-making
- Identifies the need to forge partnerships between the College and industry
- Focuses on applied scholarship (AACSB defined)
- Leverages the technological competencies of other colleges at Cal Poly

Shared Values
- Honesty and Integrity
- Openness and cooperation
- Mutual respect and collegiality
- Students as individuals
- Student-centered teaching and learning
- Quality teaching
- Flexible thinking and innovation
- Learn-by-doing
- Diversity in people and ideas
- Quality scholarship

The BS degree program and the graduate programs in Business Administration are accredited by the AACSB—The International Association to Advance Collegiate Business Schools.
Schools of Business. The BS degree program in Industrial Technology is accredited by the National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT). The objective of accreditation is to foster high quality educational programs.

The college is organized into seven areas: Accounting, Economics, Finance, Industrial Technology, Marketing, Management and Graduate Management Programs. This organizational structure allows for programs of study that blend broad-based knowledge of the functional disciplines of Business and Economics with an in-depth study of particular discipline(s).

The college's educational philosophy follows the Cal Poly tradition—that of enlisting maximum student involvement in the learning process through case analysis, special projects, internships, computer simulations and other learn-by-doing exercises. The college has state-of-the-art computer facilities which are available to students to meet their coursework needs. Educational programs are designed to challenge highly motivated students to become tomorrow’s socially responsible business leaders through a learn-by-doing technology oriented education. The curricula include general education requirements and specialized studies in the student's major field. Optional areas of concentration within each major enable the student to select the program most closely suited to the chosen career field.

Business Honor Society

Beta Gamma Sigma is the honor society serving business programs accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive in a business program accredited by AACSB International. Only 7% of the junior class and 10% of the senior class are invited to join. The mission of Beta Gamma Sigma is to encourage and honor academic achievement in the study of business and to foster personal and professional excellence among its members. For further information, please contact the Dean’s Office, 805 756-2705.

Advising Center

Kris McKinlay, Director of Advising Services
Charity Romano, Academic Advisor
Amy Swanson, Industry Liaison and Academic Advisor
Business Bldg. (03), Room 100; 805 756-2601

The Orfalea College of Business Advising Center provides academic advising services to all majors within the College in conjunction with each student’s faculty advisor.

The Advising Center provides advice and clarification of university and college policies and procedures. Academic and administrative progress of all Orfalea College of Business undergraduate students is monitored within the Advising Center. The Advising Center evaluates and processes all change of major applicants for those seeking transfer within the University. Students who are interested in pursuing minors in Business, Economics, Industrial Technology, or Packaging are also assisted here. Most student-related forms (such as curriculum substitution forms, withdrawal forms, and change of major forms) are processed in the Advising Center. Advisors are available by appointment to assist students with course scheduling. A majority of questions concerning general education and breadth and interpretation of transfer credit may be answered in the Advising Center.

This office houses a wealth of information for students, including curriculum sheets and flowcharts for all undergraduate College of Business majors. Professional advisors assist students in academic difficulty, those wishing to study abroad, change majors, or who need assistance with finding internships or career opportunities. This office liaisons with industry to develop a stronger connection with students and employers who recruit Orfalea College of Business students. The Advising Center staff is available to answer most university and college questions or refer the student to the appropriate service on campus.

Faculty advisors provide information on course content, career planning, and specific areas of the concentration. Students may also seek information concerning graduate schools, co-ops, internships, and future jobs. Faculty advisors are assigned by the student’s area office or by the student’s concentration.

Transfer Students

Transfer students to the Orfalea College of Business should refer to the curricula listed for the appropriate major. Please note that all lower division courses may be completed at most California Community Colleges. Full time students who have successfully completed all lower division courses prior to transferring to the College of Business can usually anticipate graduating in six quarters. Admitted transfer students should seek immediate advising assistance from the Advising Center.