DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
The Babson MSA degree requires 30 credits of coursework:

- 21 credits – core program
- 9 credits – graduate elective courses

CORE CURRICULUM (21 credits)

**Advanced Financial Statement Analysis (3 Credits)**
The objective of this course is to sharpen the skills you will need to analyze and interpret financial statements effectively. Some of the topics we will cover in the course are earnings quality, ratio analysis, valuation, off-balance sheet financing, inter-corporate investments and consolidations, equity carve-outs, employee stock options, derivatives, foreign currency translation, leases, pensions, and deferred taxes. We also will delve more deeply into the topic of earnings management and discuss techniques commonly utilized in the valuation of common stock.

**Strategic Business and Tax Planning (3 Credits)**
This course provides the opportunity to become familiar with sophisticated tax, corporate, and securities law concepts as they might be encountered within typical business transactions. It begins with startups and financing; proceeds through compensation, dividend, and retirement planning; and culminates in spin-offs, liquidations, public offerings, and mergers and acquisitions.

**Entrepreneurship & Innovation in Service Industries (1.5 credits)**
This course focuses on appreciating and understanding the role of entrepreneurship and innovation in service industries; specifically in the areas of Accounting, Financial, Law, Audit and Tax Services (AFLAT). Students will learn the tools, concepts, and methods of the disciplines of entrepreneurship and innovation at the broad level and then apply them in the AFLAT context. The application of the learning will come alive in a team Signature Learning Experience (SLE) that will run throughout the course.

**Advanced Accounting Topics (3 credits)**
This course will introduce you to advanced accounting topics including government and nonprofit accounting, accounting for foreign currency transactions, and other industry and international specific current complex accounting topics.

**Accounting Analytics (3 credits)**
Data and analytics are being used to assist businesses in becoming more efficient and effective in their decision making process. This course will improve your ability to critically analyze data in order to make better business decisions and to communicate this information effectively to your audience. Students will learn how to use analytics tools from the lens of a manager, a financial statement user, and an auditor.

**Accounting Information Systems and Business Processes (3 credits)**
This course examines the interplay between accounting functions and automated information systems and is designed to familiarize students with systems commonly found in business. Students will learn how to research, evaluate, and audit automated systems, and understand state-of-the-art information systems as they relate to the organization and presentation of accounting data. Students will develop the skills and knowledge to be able to understand, document, and evaluate various business processes and controls within an organization that they will be able to use in partnership with a real organization.
Strategic Writing for Managers (1.5 Credits)
This course helps students become more efficient and effective writers of strategic corporate communications. Cases, readings, and assignments illustrate challenging communication problems that demand readable, succinct, substantive, and persuasive writing. Assignments may range in applications to such issues as ownership structure, finance, investor relations, internal communications, production planning, and media and public relations. Class activities involve extensive peer review and editing of students’ writing.

Persuasive Business Presentations (1.5 Credits)
Managers and entrepreneurs need effective presentation skills to persuade key audiences, such as employees and team members, investors, and prospective clients. A successful presentation depends on delivery and nonverbal factors as well as careful preparation and a logical organization of ideas. In this workshop format class, you will deliver formal presentations, which will be recorded to help you evaluate your technique.

Professional Ethics, Responsibility, and Liability for CPAs (1.5 Credits)
This course provides in-depth coverage of the legal and professional ethical duties of auditors and accountants. The successful student will learn how to minimize the risk of catastrophic personal liability.

ELECTIVE CURRICULUM (9 credits)
- Finance and U.S. Business Law must be taken as part of the elective courses if not taken prior to beginning the MSA program.
- Graduate level elective courses are either 3 or 1.5 credits.

Electives are available in the following academic areas:
- Accounting & Law
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Finance
- Management
- Marketing
- Quantitative Methods (Analytics)
- Technology, Operations, and Information Management

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Graduate Admissions at 781-239-4317.