

MBA 2024

EMPLOYMENT REPORT

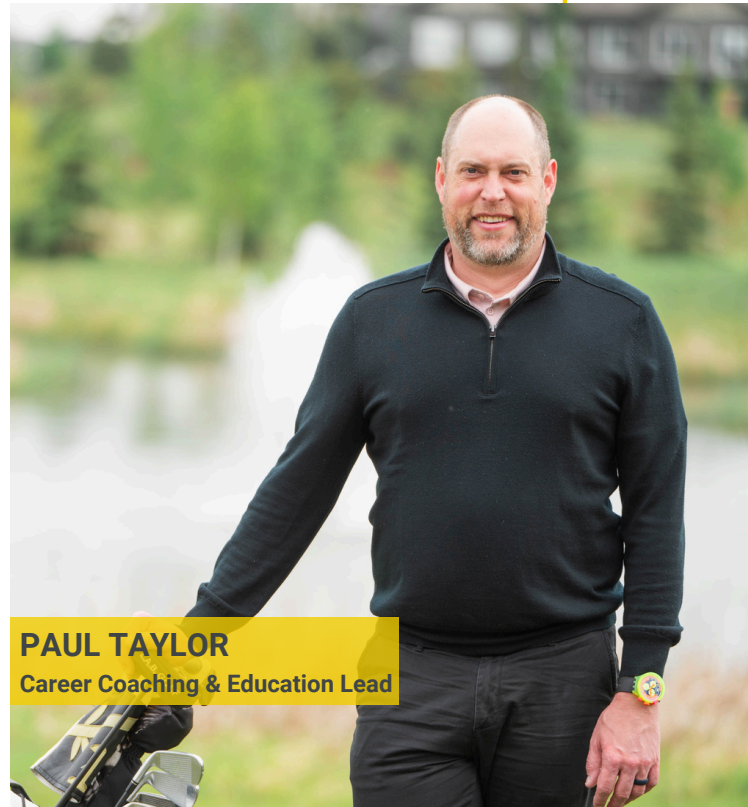


**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**



DISCOVER THE CAREER SUPPORTS AT THE ALBERTA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The career services available to MBA students are diverse, thought-provoking, and motivational. We provide activities and lessons centered around personal branding, career management, as well as overall growth and development. In the first year of the program, you will experience a reflective journey of self-discovery through BUS 501 and 504; looking at values, strengths, areas of growth, as well as emotional intelligence. This will be followed by a tactical approach to finding an internship (if you are seeking one) that fits the student's personal brand and direction. Going through exercises such as practicing networking, resumes and cover letters, interview skills, and more to help students see maximum success. Accompanying these two courses is a fully developed coaching program that allows students to work with a dedicated career coach to help students take action in both their life and career goals. Career coaches are accountability partners, and meeting with them regularly will help you face challenges that may arise during your MBA program. Our certified coaches have many years of coaching and industry-related work experience that is beneficial for success in the MBA program and beyond.



PAUL TAYLOR
Career Coaching & Education Lead

THE CAREER BOOSTERS: AN MBA PODCAST

This podcast was created by the Career Coaches to offer MBA students additional ways to develop and learn. In their BUS 501 and BUS 504 classes, they get to explore incredible topics, and the coaches wanted to share those insights beyond the classroom. It's also an opportunity for MBA students to practice and enhance their communication and storytelling skills.

EPISODES TO LISTEN TO:



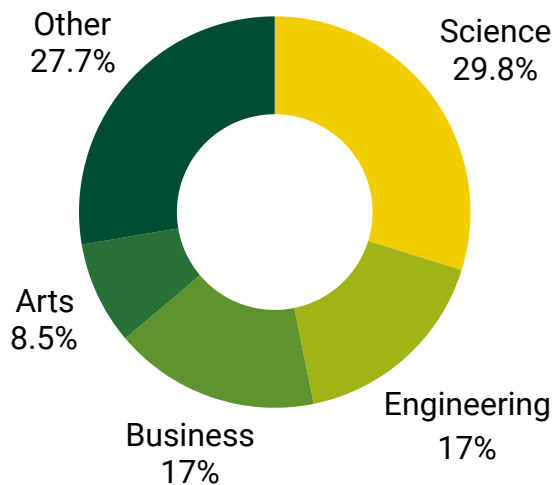
[Failure Boost with Jolene](#)
[Supercharge Boost with Raj](#)

FULL TIME CLASS PROFILE

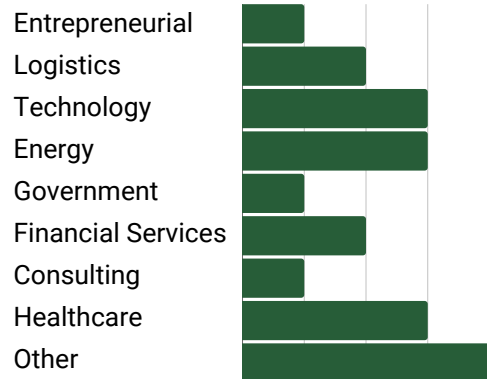
DEMOGRAPHICS

- 47** Students
- 29** Average Age
- 5.6** Avg. Years of Work Experience
- 35%** Female
- 68%** International Experience
- 3.35** GPA

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE BACKGROUNDS



INDUSTRY BACKGROUNDS



COMBINED DEGREES

- 2** MD/MBA
- 2** MBA/JD
- 1** MBA/MEng
- 1** MBA/MScPT
- 1** MBA/MLIS
- 1** MBA/MAG

CAREER STORIES

Christopher Otto, MBA '24



**Christopher Otto,
MBA '24**

Hometown:
Edmonton, Alberta

Current Role:
Engineer in Training at
WSP Canada

MBA Activities:

- MBAA Internal Case Competitions
- MBA Games
- Net Impact Student Consultant

Prior Education:
BSc. Mechanical
Engineering Co-Op,
University of Alberta

Why did you decide to pursue the MBA?

I decided to pursue an MBA to complement my engineering background with business acumen. My goal was to acquire a broader perspective on finance, accounting, business strategy, and leadership, essential for performing in a management role within a technical environment. By adding these business fundamentals into my skill set, I aimed to become a more effective and well-rounded professional.

How did the Careers Management Centre support you?

The most beneficial support I received from the Careers Team was the personal coaching sessions that helped me identify my true passions. Transitioning from a strictly technical background, I had primarily focused on engineering problems. However, through my coaching sessions, I realized my true passion lies in leading teams and solving complex problems collaboratively. This newfound understanding significantly influenced my career aspirations and has steered me towards a role that leverage both my technical skills and leadership capabilities.

How have you grown throughout the program?

Throughout my MBA journey, I have experienced growth, both personally and professionally. My leadership capabilities have notably evolved, giving me the confidence to manage conflicts and make critical decisions effectively. I've developed a deeper understanding of business strategy, which has improved my approach to decision-making within a corporate context. I have also grasped the art of communication and presentation of ideas to different audiences. These skills have equipped me with the tools to convey complex problems and solutions to colleagues and clients. Overall, my growth during the MBA has allowed me to realize my potential in leading and driving change.

What are you doing now? Tell us about your role!

In my current position, I support the design and coordination of signaling systems for the 6.3 billion dollar Calgary Green Line LRT mega-project. Serving as a liaison between our technical teams, project management, and the client, I ensure clear communication and alignment of expectations among key stakeholders. This role leverages my technical and managerial skills, allowing me to bridge gaps between teams and address both technical and commercial challenges effectively, ensuring project progression.

FULL TIME MBA EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

86%

Grads employed
within 3 months
of graduation

\$95,233

Mean Total
Salary

WHERE DID OUR GRADS END UP?

Function	% of Total Employed
Consulting	28%
Marketing & Sales	14%
Project Management	14%
Analyst	8%
Finance	8%
Healthcare	8%
Other	20%

INDUSTRIES



14%

Energy Finance



6%

Technology



6%

Marketing & Communications



25%

Public Sector & Healthcare



19%

Strategy & Consulting



30%

Other



CAREER STORIES

Bhavneet Kaur MBA '24

Why did you decide to pursue the MBA?

After completing my engineering degree, I transitioned into a business analytics role. Although this role wasn't directly related to engineering, it sparked my interest in exploring further opportunities in strategy, management, and entrepreneurship. As I reviewed the curriculum of the MBA program, I felt a strong excitement for the learning opportunities it offered, particularly for someone with my diverse interests. Thus, I decided to pursue the MBA program.

What support did you most benefit from with the CWIL Team?

The personality tests and interactions with my career coach, Paul, were incredibly beneficial. They helped me identify and articulate my strengths effectively during interviews and networking opportunities throughout my MBA. This support also significantly enhanced my self-awareness. Additionally, I appreciated the Careers Team's openness to feedback and their commitment to continuous improvement.

What did you gain throughout your internship?

During my internship with the W by ATB (Women in Business) team at ATB, I worked on impactful initiatives supporting women entrepreneurs, which broadened my perspectives and helped me acquire a gender intelligence lens. This experience boosted my confidence in adapting to a new industry and showcased the value of my MBA learnings in quickly acquiring new skills.

What's Next?

Currently, I am a Product Manager with the Advice & AI team at ATB. My role involves enhancing ATB services and improving the overall client experience by leveraging AI models.

Bhavneet Kaur MBA '24

Hometown:

Patiala, Punjab India

Current Role:

Product Manager, ATB
Financial

MBA Internship:

Summer Student, ATB
Financial, W by ATB (Women in
Business)

MBA Activities:

- MBAA First-Year Representative, Governance
- Net Impact Director of Events

Prior Education:

Bachelor of Computer
Engineering, Thapar Institute of
Engineering and Technology

RECRUITING COMPANIES

WHO HIRES OUR GRADS?



ENERGY

- EPCOR
- Syncrude Canada
- ATCO
- Enbridge
- Suncor

INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

- Aurora Cannabis
- Jobber
- Innovate Edmonton
- Google
- Token Naturals

OPERATIONS & BUSINESS ANALYTICS

- Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute
- AltaML
- Telus
- PCL Construction
- Finning

PUBLIC SECTOR & HEALTHCARE

- Alberta Health Services
- City of Edmonton
- City of Calgary
- Government of Alberta
- Government of Canada

STRATEGY & CONSULTING

- Deloitte
- Ernst & Young
- KPMG LLP
- McKinsey & Company
- Stantec

FINANCE

- AIMCo
- ATB Financial
- RBC Royal Bank
- CIBC
- Scotiabank



CAREER STORIES

Lyndsay Stewart, MBA '24

Lyndsay Stewart, MBA '24

Hometown:
Edmonton, Alberta

Current Role:
Issues Manager,
Office of the
Assistant Deputy
Minister of
Strategic Planning
and Financial
Services

MBA Activities:

- Women of the MBA Committee

Prior Education:
Bachelor of
Commerce,
University of
Alberta

Why did you decide to pursue the MBA?

It was something I always wanted to do. It always seemed like the natural progression for me. I wanted to spend some time focusing on my career only, really learning more about what interested me, where my strengths and weaknesses were, and then go back to school to get my masters to really leverage my strengths and then fill some of the gaps and weaknesses I had learned about. I had planned on doing it earlier in my career, but life took me overseas to support my partner’s career. Being overseas only further motivated me to get my MBA – it’s extremely competitive job market in Asia and I really felt I needed that extra edge to get noticed in job applications. Ultimately, going back to school was an opportunity for me to learn about a broad set of topics, something that is so hard to do when you are laser focused on your job and the specific topics and tasks you are working on. It allowed me to carve out time to learn about topics - like that I just wouldn’t get as much quality exposure to in my job. Topics like data analytics, supply chain management, venture capital and new enterprise finance, leadership, business strategy etc. On top of the learning, when applying for jobs that are really competitive, whether fair or not, having the MBA on my resume has definitely helped me get noticed and get through the screening process. I don’t think this should be the primary reason anyone does an MBA because there are so many other long-term benefits from the learning you do, but it certainly doesn’t hurt!

What support did you most benefit from with the Careers Team?

Hands down, my bi-weekly (sometimes weekly) conversations with Paul Taylor. The growth and curiosity and introspection that I referred to earlier is a result of a lot of these conversations. Challenging me to really be curious about what I am interested in, my strengths, how I developed those strengths or my personality traits, has really helped me grow as a person and I am so grateful for the time I spent with Paul.

What are you doing now? Tell us about your role!

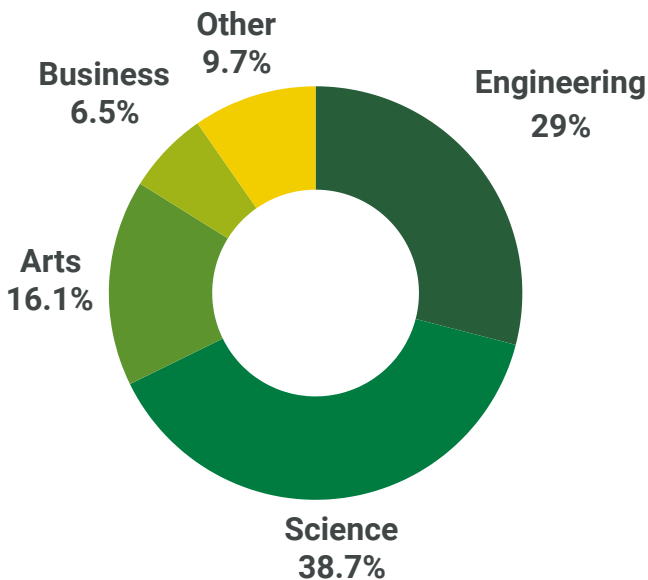
I currently work for the Government of Alberta, as an Issues Manager for the Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Planning and Financial Services for two ministries – Technology and Innovation and Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction (it’s a mouthful, I know). My division is responsible for the budgeting, financial planning and analysis, and reporting for both ministries. I am an advisor to the Assistant Deputy Minister and Senior Financial Officer, and coordinate a lot of the work our division does. At the end of the day, my role is ultimately to facilitate decision-making in government, to make sure the decision-makers (executives and our elected officials) have the information they need to make decisions on the funding and resourcing needed to achieve our department’s mandate and support government priorities.

PART TIME CLASS PROFILE

DEMOGRAPHICS

- 43** Students
- 33** Average Age
- 9** Avg. Years of Work Experience
- 35%** Female
- 3.43** Average GPA

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE BACKGROUNDS



EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

Energy	28%
Healthcare	19%
Education	19%
Financial Services	6%
Consulting	2%
Media	2%
Government	2%
Other	22%

\$109,420 Mean Base Salary

\$116,076 Mean Total Salary

CAREER STORIES

Mahima Bhandari, MBA '24



Mahima Bhandari, MBA '24

Hometown:
New Delhi, India

Current Role:
Business Analyst, AltaML

Summer Internship:
Marketing Consultant,
Alberta School Boards
Association

Fall/Winter Internship:
Business Development
Associate, AltaML

MBA Activities:

- Inclusion & Diversity Club Chair
- Net Impact Director of Communications
- MBA Games VP Spirit
- DeGroot Innovative Solutions Competition
- Net Impact Case Competition

Prior Education:
Bachelor of Commerce
(Honors) from Delhi
University

How have you grown throughout the program?

Throughout the MBA program, I've grown into a skilled multitasker, balancing full-time work, full-time studies, and involvement in four different clubs as an executive. This experience has made me more meticulous and organized, helping me develop a strong work ethic. Working with a diverse group of students and learning from our professors has pushed me to think outside the box and continuously challenge myself.

What support did you most benefit from the Careers Team?

The Careers Team was a critical resource throughout my MBA journey, especially during the pivotal moments of securing internships. Paul Taylor provided guidance during my interview preparation, helping me refine my approach, build confidence, and effectively communicate my skills. Their support was particularly invaluable during my first year in the program, as they played a significant role in easing the transition for international students like myself. The career team's dedication to making us feel welcomed and supported created a strong foundation for my success, both academically and professionally.

What did you gain through your internship?

Both of my internships were pivotal in shaping my professional development, offering invaluable learning experiences that bridged the gap between academic theory and practical application. Through these roles, I gained hands-on experience in managing multiple, complex projects simultaneously, which honed my ability to prioritize tasks and meet tight deadlines. Collaborating with diverse stakeholders was another key aspect of my internships; it taught me how to navigate different communication styles, align objectives, and drive successful outcomes in a dynamic, real-world environment. Moreover, these internships allowed me to directly apply the knowledge and skills I acquired during my MBA program, reinforcing my understanding and deepening my expertise in business strategy, marketing, and development.

What's next?

I am currently a Business Analyst at AltaML, where I play a pivotal role in driving the effectiveness of our pre-sales strategy. My responsibilities include shaping strategic initiatives, optimizing processes, and ensuring seamless collaboration across teams.

INTERNSHIP FACTS

Length of internships:

Typically four months, from May to August.

Types of companies hiring for Interns:

Government, banks, private investment, medical start-ups, construction, & more!

Launch of recruitment for industry internships:

January

Will you be compensated?

Yes, virtually all internship opportunities are paid.

INTERNSHIPS

All full-time students, regardless of specialization or combined degree program, are strongly encouraged to pursue a summer internship in between the first and second years of their program. However, students are not required to complete an internship as part of their MBA degree.

The Careers and Work Integrated Learning team generates numerous summer internship opportunities, all of which are posted on CareerConnect. Students are encouraged to seek internships that align with their goals and take ownership of their internship search. The careers team supports students as part of the career coaching model during the job search, application, interview, and onboarding processes. Most summer internships are located in Edmonton. However, internships in other cities across Canada as well as internationally are also possible.

86% of Full-Time MBA Students seeking employment were employed for an internship in 2023.





CAREER STORIES

Mohammed Shah MBA/MEng '24

Why did you decide to pursue the MBA?

After a couple years of experience in construction, a widely technical role, I was interested in expanding my knowledge in business operations and strategy. I found that the combined MBA/MEng program would allow me to gain valuable knowledge in a group setting while enabling collaboration with many like-minded individuals with different educational and cultural backgrounds.

How have you grown throughout the program?

As the MBA program fosters a collaborative environment, I found myself getting more comfortable in being more vocal and developing my communications skills in public speaking and group meetings. Additionally, networking was a concept which was highly emphasized during the orientation, and it is something I have embraced throughout my program allowing me to meet many amazing people and expand my network.

What support did you most benefit from with the CWIL Team?

At the start of the program, our career coaches, Paul Taylor and Tiffany Baker really allowed me to better understand my strengths and weaknesses, as well as guiding me to land my internship.

What did you gain throughout your internship?

Although I returned to Construction, my role was more catered to Strategic Development, where I got to collaborate with multiple departments within the organization, helping me better grasp the diverse sections and how they contribute towards achieving Business targets.

What's Next?

Continuing within the Strategic Development of the organization, I am also looking to return to Project Coordination, managing the operational and financial aspects of large-scale industrial project within Canada.

Mohammed Shah MBA/MEng '24

Hometown:
Goa, India

Current Role:
Strategic Development
Coordinator, Bird Construction

MBA Internship:
Strategic Development
Coordinator, Bird Construction

- MBA Activities:**
- MBAA First-Year Representative, Co-Chair, Operations
 - HoneyComb Director of Operations
 - Net Impact Student Consultant

Prior Education:
BSc Mechanical Engineering,
York University

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential Learning or "learning by doing" can enrich your educational journey, help you discover new career paths, and grow your network!

2024 Experiential Learning Highlights:

11 on campus networking events

9 off campus networking events

204 students participated in these events

83 students joined the launch of the MBA Mentorship Program

Our Careers and Work Integrated Learning office coordinates a range of opportunities that encompass both curricular and co-curricular activities, such as:

- Case Competitions
- Industry Tours
- Project Based Learning
- Career Treks to other markets
- Applied Technical Training Sessions
- Active Career Exploration Activities

[Visit our website or contact us at \[mbaexp@ualberta.ca\]\(mailto:mbaexp@ualberta.ca\) to learn more!](#)





CAREER STORIES

Raishel Madsen MBA '24

Why did you decide to pursue the MBA?

As an undergrad, an MBA seemed beyond my wildest dreams and it remained that way for many years. Covid provided an opportune time to fill in the gaps in my coursework and make a run at getting into the MBA and it worked! While the potential for great professional success and financial security is certainly a draw, I came to the MBA to be challenged and grow as an individual in a space that I'm naturally drawn to. I love learning and connecting with people who have a shared passion for academic inquiry. The MBA filled that cup ten times over.

How have you grown throughout the program?

The MBA changed my life in many ways, but most importantly, it gave me confidence and community. I came into the program, not sure if I belonged and doubtful of my abilities and the path forward. With an MBA, I now enter the room knowing people are eager to hear what I have to say and see tremendous value in my unique skills and perspective. Imposter syndrome? I don't know her anymore! I also made lifelong friends through the MBA. I now have a network of talented, passionate people I can tap into for friendship, professional support, and networking that feels effortless and natural.

What support did you most benefit from with the CWIL Team?

The Careers Team directly helped me to get the position I am in now. When the opportunity arose to join the Faculty of Agricultural, Life, & Environmental Sciences (ALES), I worked with the Careers Team to assess personal and skills alignment with the role. While I loved my previous job, the Careers team encouraged me to follow my heart, stay curious, and grow in unexpected ways. I found exactly that in working with ALES. Beyond a mid-MBA job switch, the Careers Team has helped me make my resume shine and prepared me for whatever comes next in my professional journey.

What's Next?

I am still in the role I got during the MBA. I love what I do and continue to learn new things each day. While I have bold ambitions for the future, I'm not quite ready to move on from a role that feels so perfect for me at this moment. But, stay tuned!

Raishel Madsen MBA '24

Hometown:
Edmonton, Alberta

Current Role:
Development Associate,
Faculty of Agricultural, Life,
& Environmental Sciences
(ALES), University of
Alberta

- MBA Activities:**
- Net Impact Director of Logistics
 - Exchange with KEDGE Business School, France

Prior Education:
Bachelor of Commerce,
University of Alberta

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

uab.ca/mba

ualberta.ca/business/careers

Email: mba@ualberta.ca

Phone: 780.492.3946

Toll free: 1.866.492.7676



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