

Hudson Berkhouse

IMBA: Preparing Business Leaders for the Global Marketplace

When Hudson Berkhouse tells people he's enrolled in the International MBA (IMBA) program at Sac State, he sometimes gets a confused look. That's because many people believe the IMBA program is specifically for international students. But the program was actually created to prepare both students from the United States and students from around the world to be business leaders in the global marketplace.

"At first, I wasn't sure either, because almost all my classmates are from other countries," said Berkhouse. "But that is the thing that stands out the most. I love the fact that the cohort is so international, I have classmates from all over the world and we all have different experiences to share and learn from."

Berkhouse received an undergrad degree from Texas A&M in 2016 and had a strong interest in global health. He then enrolled in Duke University's Master of Science in Global Health program based at Duke Kunshan University in Jiangsu, China, where he focused on global health research. After returning to Texas from China, Berkhouse began looking to expand his international education beyond research and eventually found Sac State's IMBA program.

In addition to his current classroom experience, Berkhouse recently completed a four-month internship with the Northern California World Trade Center, where he helped



identify small businesses in the Sacramento area that could benefit from exporting, and helped collect information to determine if doing so was feasible.

"My job was to gather data for our CEO and to create presentations for him about the benefits of exporting," said Berkhouse. "We covered the economics of it, how to get started, etc."

Berkhouse also helped with the organization's international visiting leadership program.

"U.S. embassies from all over the world solicit delegations from other nations to come to the United States to learn about specific topics, whether it's business development,

government, nonprofits, etc.," he said. "The delegations will visit several cities in the United States over a period of several weeks. We find out who the delegation is and what topics they want to learn about. We then create an itinerary and recommendations for who they should visit and talk to while they're here."

Berkhouse expects to graduate in April 2019 and hopes to eventually work on the business development side of a healthcare organization or an international organization that oversees research projects with other countries.

Outside of school, Berkhouse is involved in his church and enjoys hiking and exploring nature. 