What type of work would I do if I studied business management?

Students with a business degree that emphasizes management can expect to land a supervisory position at area businesses, working into middle and upper management through their career. Among the jobs open to students with these degrees are retail sales manager and department supervisor. Managers plan, organize and control the operations of a retail business or department, overseeing the work of sales people, cashiers, customer service workers and clerks. They also interview, hire and train staff. Although many come into these positions from previous experience as a sales clerk, cashier or customer service worker, many have a postsecondary education. On the local and national level, larger businesses are turning to community and junior college vocational programs to supply management personnel to manage their operations. (Missouri Occupational Information Coordinating Committee)

What type of degree will I earn at Missouri State University-West Plains?

Students enrolled in this program will obtain a two-year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree that will include general education, business and management courses. Using a variety of business core courses allows more flexibility in tailoring a program of study to meet community and student needs. The program also includes an internship component which allows students to work in the area of their career choice. This degree puts an emphasis on the technical skills students will need on the job.

What salary can I expect to earn with this degree?

The salaries of managers vary substantially, depending on the level of responsibility, length of service, and type, size and location of the firm. According to May 2007 statistics from the Mo. Department of Economic Development, however, the average annual salary of office managers in Missouri was $47,820, while in the south-central region it was $36,085. Retail sales managers earned an average annual salary of $38,480 statewide and $32,866 in the south-central region. (May 2007 data, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center Web site)