At a Glance
15 courses of depth and breadth
4 full-time and 13 long-standing adjunct faculty
Dedicated Executive-in-Residence works with students on a one-to-one basis
Students learn from nearly 100 Teaching Cases and Notes
40 full-time MBA Real Estate Program students each year
Real Estate Association, an active student club with 200 members
Pioneering scholarship in housing policy, mortgage finance, private equity, public-private partnerships, and urban development
Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate offers over 40 annual events for students, alumni, and the industry
Over 250 global real estate professionals participate in our programming each year

Industry Participation Select Highlights
Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate
MBA Real Estate Program

Full-time Faculty
Christopher Mayer
Tomasz Piskorski
Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh
Brian Lancaster
Professor Emerita
Lynne B. Sagalyn
Adjunct Faculty
Zach Aarons ’13
Ivo de Wit ’17
Camille Douglas
Michelle Feiman
Michael Gilberto
Alicia Glen
John Haggerty
Andrew Jacobs ’96
Gilbert Menna
Jennifer Morgan
Russell Platt
Ross Smorodin ’83
Richard Wolfe
Executive-in-Residence
Leanne Lachman
The MBA Real Estate Program offers an incomparable academic experience defined by a transformative curriculum, unparalleled intellectual leadership, and access to a unique mix of real estate insights and real-world projects.

MBA Real Estate Program: Educating Critical Decision-Makers

At Columbia Business School, in the heart of New York City, the MBA Real Estate Program delivers an unmatched academic experience. It fosters a dynamic and rigorous curriculum and research-driven case studies and notes. The Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate offers vital and unique programs, introducing a powerful network and serving as the perfect complement to the distinguished MBA Real Estate Program. An integral part of the University, we are proud to be at the center of contemporary business and groundbreaking ideas.

The MBA Real Estate Program’s extensive curriculum builds on the MBA core curriculum and fosters sophistication in critical thinking and complex problem solving. As students move through the Program, within the School’s renowned Finance & Economics academic division, they study core concepts and cutting-edge cases that provide a foundation for an analytical approach to decision-making. The full-time faculty has refined the focus and impact of individual courses over decades of teaching excellence, and the curriculum is continually fine-tuned to keep pace with the industry’s evolving demands. "Real estate is not just finance or economics, design, politics, but all those factors," explains Professor Lynne B. Sagalyn.

The broad set of course offerings within the Business School and across the University available to our students serves to reinforce and expand our MBA students’ academic reach. It prepares graduates for achievement in the industry and leadership.

Among our most valuable teaching tools is our real estate teaching cases. A defining feature of our curriculum, our nearly 100 case studies explore key topics in real estate and showcase pioneering deals among industry leaders. Part of the distinguished Columbia CaseWorks, our real estate cases are increasingly being adopted for use by other universities.

Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate

Beyond the classroom, the Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate provides a coveted platform for sharing expertise and strengthening networks through stimulating exchange among industry leaders, alumni, faculty, and fellow students. The Center is a vital resource, offering more than 40 annual programs, bookended by the Real Estate Symposium in the fall and the Real Estate Alumni Reception in the spring, both of which are produced in partnership with the Real Estate Circle, a growing community of our alumni. The Center promotes its activities and events, as well as the MBA Real Estate faculty’s intellectual leadership, and the MBA Real Estate Program.

Ideas at Work

Our world-class faculty, doctoral students and researchers’ scholarship inform the curriculum insights that go beyond textbooks and are exclusive to the MBA Real Estate Program. "Research is especially relevant because it offers models for how to make sense of the real estate marketplace from a broader perspective, thereby answering tangible questions relevant to the profession," explains Professor Christopher J. Mayer, Paul Milstein Professor of Real Estate and Co-Director, Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate at Columbia Business School.

Columbia Business School’s thought leadership has gained the attention of the media and policymakers alike. Areas of research include real estate and business cycles, commercial real estate lending and securitization, option theory applied to real estate decision making, public-private partnerships, urban development politics, REITS, demographics, and housing policy.

The Columbia Real Estate Association (REA) is among the most active, connected student-run clubs on campus. As a resource for Columbia Business School students pursuing a career in real estate, the club organizes events, study tours, and speaking engagements with industry and alumni. The REA’s mentoring program seeks to give members the access, knowledge, and experience that will support their pursuit of a successful career. REA membership is exclusive to current students of Columbia Business School.