Programme Specification

Doctor of Business Administration [Frenchay]

Version: 2024-25, v1.0, 19 Oct 2023

Contents

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Doctor of Business Administration [Frenchay]

Highest award: DBA Doctor of Business Administration

Interim award: PGCert Management Research

Interim award: PGDip Management Research

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CBL Bristol Business School, College of Business and Law

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Modes of delivery: Distance with attendance

Entry requirements: The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions*:

Candidates have a Masters qualification or equivalent

English language with an IELTS score of 7 or above and evidence of working and/or study in an English-speaking environment

A hallmark of the learning environment on the DBA is that all students contribute to the pool of experience in which their collective learning is grounded. Students will be expected to demonstrate as part of the application process that they have sufficient

appropriate work experience for this purpose and that they have the ability to create impact within an organisation. It is unlikely that anyone with less than

two to three years' experience will be able to meet this requirement.

All shortlisted applicants for the DBA will be interviewed.

*Those without a Masters qualification but with significant work experience will be considered by the DBA programme director on an individual basis.

For implementation from: 01 September 2018

Programme code: N12W42

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in many specialist areas of management, dependent upon the project and optional modules selected.

The programme consists of two distinct parts and therefore two sets of learning outcomes. Part 1 is the taught phase of the programme preparing students to embark on their thesis research project. Learning outcomes of part 1 illustrate the core knowledge, skills and capabilities a DBA student will be able to demonstrate to successfully progress to part 2. The programme level outcomes are those demonstrated through successful completion of part 2.

Features of the programme: The programme as described is part-time. A full time option would require all four modules to be undertaken, either in the first year of study or during the first two years. Progression points for part 2 (years 3 and

onwards) would occur every 12 months for FT PGRs rather than at 18 month intervals for PT PGRs

Educational Aims: The Doctorate in Business Administration is designed to enhance executive level professional practice in business and management through the application, creation and evaluation of theoretical frameworks and research findings to increasingly complex real business issues. Its purpose is to provide a high-level set of learning opportunities combining structure, a community of practice and independent research in a practitioner context.

At the end of the programme graduates will be able to conduct independent and original research, applying the latest knowledge from academic journal articles and/or original thinking to novel context in order to address organizational issues. They will be able to demonstrate their work has impact on the organization.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1.   Create and interpret new knowledge, through original research, of a quality to extend the forefront of the discipline and/or demonstrate impact.

PO2.   Plan, manage and deliver projects, justifying appropriate methodological choices while recognising, evaluating and minimising the risks involved, the impact on the environment and with regards to sustainable business.

PO3.   Search for, discover, access, retrieve, sift, interpret, analyse, evaluate, synthesise, manage, conserve and communicate, from a range of sources, a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of business research.

PO4.   Critically review current thinking in business research and clearly articulate the connection between theory and business practice, articulating how philosophical, epistemological and ontological assumptions impact on the research process, application of research findings and the creation of knowledge.

PO5.   Make informed judgements, including reflective and reflexive practice, on complex issues in business research and be able to communicate their ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively.

PO6.   Exercise professional standards in research and research integrity, and engage in professional practice, including ethical, legal, and health and safety aspects

Assessment strategy: The programme consists of two parts. Part 1 is the taught phase of the programme preparing students to embark on their thesis research project. The four 30 credit modules must be completed and passed within part 1 before the student can progress to part 2 (research phase). Part 2 is the undertaking of the research project and production of a thesis. The programme will commence with an induction to studying with UWE and to the programme specifically. The taught modules will facilitate building cohort identity and peer support.

Students are supported and supervised from the start of their studies, with a Director of Studies appointed to guide them from their first day and be their first point of contact for the whole of their course. The Director of Studies will provide formative feedback on module work, guide the student in creating the doctoral development plan that captures their learning journey and will be part of their final submission, and guide them on capturing background data that will be used as a benchmark for evidence of impact due to changes they make.

Student support: The Director of Studies will assist in composing a supervisory team such that a second and sometimes third supervisor is in place as appropriate, usually from the beginning of Part 2. Where students are based overseas a geographically local second supervisor will normally be appointed as part of the supervisory team. The supervisory team will be reviewed by the Faculty Research Degrees Committee at the beginning of Part 2 (doctoral research phase) to ensure that it remains suitable to provide appropriate support to the student during the conduct of their independent

research project. The Director of Studies and supervisory team will carry out their role in accordance with PGR Academic Regulations and Procedures.

During the research phase (part 2) students will also be supported in the development of a range of transferable skills and researcher attributes via the UWE Graduate School Researcher Skills Development Workshop series. The workshop programme is designed to map closely to the skills and attributes contained within the national Vitae Researcher Development Framework. Running throughout the academic year these include workshops on IT software data management and referencing, academic writing skills, research governance and ethical research practice, undertaking the Progression Exam, preparing the Final Thesis, Perfect Posters and presentations etc.

The Graduate School also runs a Thesis Boot camp and a Residential course at Buckland Hall, Powys. All of these workshops and courses are free to UWE PGR students and are also a good way to meet other PGR students from all disciplines across UWE.
http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/research/postgraduateresearchstudy/skillsdevelopment.aspx

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1
Part 1:
Year 1 Skills Development
Students take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1

MBA/MSc modules m ay be taken as additional learning

Year 1 Compulsory Modules
Students take 60 credits from Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMCDNL-30-M	Research Principles and Practice Management 2023-24	30

UMCC64-30-M	Ways of Knowing: Research Methodologies 2023-24	30

Year 2
Part 1
Year 2
Students take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1

MBA/MSc modules m ay be taken as additional learning

Year 2 Compulsory Modules
Students take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMCDNM-30-M	C-Suite 2024-25	30
UMCC46-30-M	Discovery: Research Methods 2024-25	30

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

All aspects of PGR study at UWE including the requirements for progress review and final assessment processes are detailed in the online Graduate School Handbook.

UWE Academic Regulations and Procedures
NB. PGR Regulations and Procedures are detailed in the Graduate School Handbook:

The UWE Bristol Code of Good Research Conduct is used as central guiding document to specify the programme. The policy and code apply to all researchers conducting research at or under the auspices of UWE, Bristol. This includes academic staff, professional service staff, students and visiting researchers. For the purposes of PGR research the Director of Studies is the designated UWE Project Manager.

http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/research/researchgovernance/codeofgoodresearchconduct.aspx

QAA Doctoral Degree Characteristics
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Doctoral-Degree-Characteristics-15.pdf

Strategy 2020
The DBA aligns with all of the University Strategy priorities. Outstanding learning, through the use of the latest technology to enhance the learning experience and allow for remote study. Ready and able graduates, training managers in academic skills that are applicable to the workplace. Research with Impact, central to the DBA is the research project that must evidence impact on the organisation.
Strategic Partnerships, as the DBA allows closer links to be forged between academia and practice.

QAA UK Quality Code for HE
Framework for higher education qualifications (FHEQ) and particularly Chapter B11: Research Degrees

University policies

AACSB http://www.aacsb.edu/
The course was checked against AACSB Standards, though no specific guidance for Professional Doctorates is provided.

Part E: Regulations