

Your 2024/2025

MBA Prospectus



Welcome to one of the world's leading business schools



Prof Siv Vangen
Head of The Open University
Business School

Political instability and ongoing wars, economic uncertainty, rapidly developing generative AI, climate emergency, inequality and social injustice – it has never been clearer that management and leadership challenges are complex and multifaceted. Shaping the future direction of organisations and staying consistent with the UN Sustainable Development Goals requires interdisciplinary skills, analytical thinking and ethical management from individuals who are both excellent leaders and collaborators.

Our graduates will understand the theory of management and business, and how to apply this in the real world. And they will be able to spot and respond to new threats and opportunities, create and realise the conditions for workforce wellbeing, sustainable development, and productivity in society.

The University's vast experience of developing study programmes enables us to offer a flexible, cutting-edge MBA that is uniquely placed to help you transform your professional opportunities and contribute to organisational success.

The Business School retains AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS triple accreditation, awarded by the world's leading international management education associations to fewer than 1% of business schools globally.

In the last Research Excellence Framework exercise, 75% of the submitted outputs and 92% of the impact case studies were rated as *internationally excellent* or *world-leading*, which positions us ahead of some more well-known research-intensive Russell Group universities.

Working alongside businesses, our alumni and our students, we deliver a practice-based MBA programme that builds executive business skills while you remain in the workplace (whether that is in an office, or in your own home, or both). This ensures you are able to critically assess and apply new knowledge and skills and means that we can support you in taking the next step in your career.

Our unique learning method is recognised by employers who can see the impact of learning on the performance of those studying with us, while also helping to retain valued and skilled individuals.

We are proud of the achievements of over 28,500 MBA alumni in more than 100 countries who continue to make positive contributions to their organisations, and to wider society.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Siv Vangen'.

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For over 40 years, The Open University Business School has delivered world-class education that empowers people to achieve their full potential and enables businesses to make the most of their staff.

Our globally-endorsed MBA offers:

- **Elite status**

We're accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), EFMD Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) and the Association of MBAs (AMBA). Fewer than 120 business schools in the world hold the 'triple crown' of triple-accredited status. Study your MBA with us and discover why we are the most popular choice in this exclusive group in the UK.

- **Applied learning**

Our practise-based MBA is designed for working managers who aspire to higher leadership positions. You and your organisation will benefit from your studies straight away because what you learn today, you'll implement in your workplace tomorrow, creating immediate impact.

- **Exceptional flexibility**

The Open University Business School comes to you. The unique way you'll learn allows you to access your studies anytime, anywhere – on your laptop or mobile device, at home, at work or on the go – so you don't need to put your life on hold.

- **Real-world expertise**

Our MBA tutors are practising experts in their fields, bringing a wealth of industry and sector experience to your learning.

- **Outstanding value**

Our highly rated MBA is competitively priced – making studying with us more affordable than you might think. And we offer the option to 'pay as you go' in monthly instalments.



Fewer than 1% of all business schools globally are triple accredited.



Why choose us?

More than 2,600 students in 70 countries around the world are studying their MBA with The Open University (OU). Here's why:



Award-winning and award-worthy

The Times Higher Education shortlisted us for its 'Business School of the Year' award in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017, and the OU was **shortlisted in the 'University of the Year' category** in 2021. We won The Guardian's Business Partnership Award in 2017, and were commended finalists in the MBA Innovation Award category in the AMBA Excellence Awards.



Global learning opportunity

By learning with students from other nations and cultures, you'll have access to a diverse student network of professionals with whom **you'll share best practices and understanding for a truly global learning experience.**



Influential alumni network

More than **28,500 MBA alumni representing over 100 countries** make up our impressive and influential alumni network. When you graduate, you'll be part of it.



Distance learning expertise

We bring university to our students, wherever they are, and we've been doing it for over 50 years. **Our resources are designed and built for distance learning**, and we have decades of experience helping people fit study around increasingly busy lives.



Highly-reputed students

In 2023 and 2019, OU students were selected as part of AACSB's Class of Influential Leaders, and previous students have won the **International AMBA 'Student of the year'**.



I chose to study with the OU Business School because I needed a lot of flexibility. The subjects and modules I took were really useful for my work. The impact of my studies was significant, the main thing they have given me is confidence.



Thomas Vogt, MBA



Mission, vision, values

Our mission

Providing world-class open education and research which empowers individuals, organisations and society to influence future global development and deliver just outcomes.

Our vision

To empower all professionals who strive to solve complex, critical problems by continuously learning, improving practice, supporting diversity, creating knowledge and innovating for responsible growth. Our global community will deliver social mobility and create a sustainable future.

Inclusive

We play a unique role in society making higher education open to all.

We promote social justice through the development of knowledge and skills.

Innovative

We lead the learning revolution, placing innovation at the heart of our teaching and research.

We continuously seek new and better ways to inspire and enable learning.

We create world-class research and teaching.

Responsive

We respond to the needs of individuals and employers, and the communities in which they live and work.

We are dedicated to supporting our students' learning success.



Our approach

Centred on your student experience, our practice-based teaching model is a highly effective professional development method that allows you to acquire new skills – without taking you away from your workplace.

When you study with us, your learning isn't limited to what happens at tutorials or our residential schools. Your workplace becomes a vital part of your study.

We focus on using practical examples and assignments that directly relate to your working life, and we encourage you to include and engage your workplace in your studies.



The MBA gave me a real sense of confidence. Understanding the business-related aspects of setting up a company, such as marketing and finance, was hugely valuable. I was more empowered to tackle challenges and overcome hurdles.



Jamie Campbell, MBA

The MBA that fits around you

One of the many benefits of studying for an MBA with The Open University Business School is our flexibility: with us, you can fit your studies around your life – not the other way around. And we're flexible on several levels.

Flexible structure

Our MBA can be completed in just two years, although you can take up to seven years to complete your studies.

Our flexible structure enables you to take study breaks between modules and fit your MBA around your work, family and other commitments.

Flexible location

If your job requires travel, you can take your studies with you wherever you go. Simply access your MBA virtual learning platform from anywhere in the world.

Flexible access

All of our learning materials are compatible with mobile devices, enabling you to study wherever and whenever you wish.

Flexible payment

The modular structure of our MBA programme allows a great deal of financial flexibility for what is a significant investment.

Find out more about fees and funding on pages 20–21.

Flexible support

Studying with The Open University Business School is more sociable than you might think. As well as a range of support from our tutors, there's always someone to talk to in our lively online forums.



The flexibility of the OU was important, as you really can fit your studies around your life. The fact that you can take up to seven years to finish the MBA was vital to me.



Maria Chenoweth, MBA

MBA programme structure

Programme overview

The emphasis for your learning is directly rooted in management practice. The 'master' in the degree title denotes your 'mastery' of the art and science of management.

To achieve this level of capability, the general MBA programme concentrates on themes of strategic analysis, interdisciplinary skills, intellectual stimulation and critical engagement.

Core disciplines that you'll study include strategic management, human resource management, organisational behaviour, accounting and finance, marketing, operations and supply chain management.

25% of the programme consists of elective modules and microcredentials. This enables you to select the curriculum to suit your needs.

Earn qualifications en route

As you progress towards your MBA, you'll obtain these other qualifications:

- **Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration**, after completing the first two compulsory modules (60 credits).
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration**, after completing 120 credits.

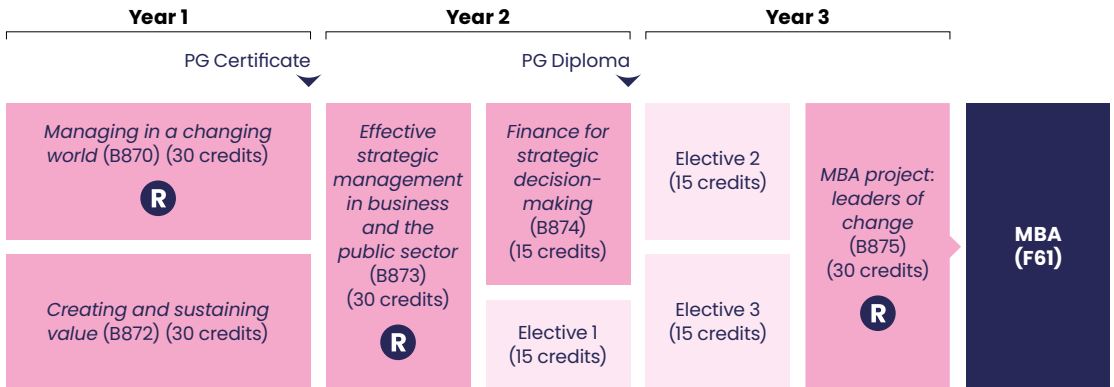
When you've completed 180 credits of study, you'll be awarded the MBA.

Start dates

Our MBA starts in May and November each year and is designed to take between 18 months and seven years to complete. You'll need to register for your module at least one month before you start. Examples of the three-year and two-year models are shown below and top right.

The three-year MBA

To complete your MBA in three years you'll need to spend approximately 12–14 hours a week on your studies.



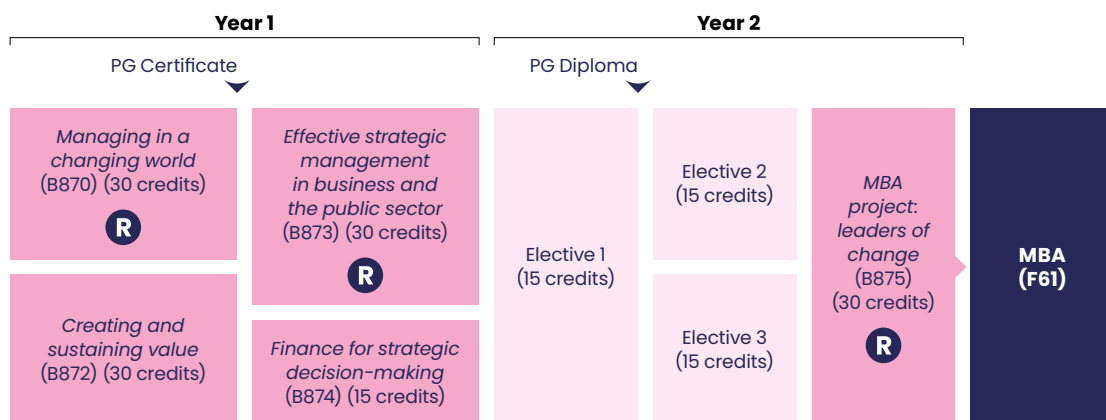
Includes residential school

Compulsory module

Elective module/microcredential

The two-year MBA

You can complete the MBA within two years. This more intensive route will be suitable if you can devote 20–25 hours a week to your studies.



R Includes residential school ■ Compulsory module ■ Elective module/microcredential

Elective modules and microcredentials

These offer you the opportunity to personalise your MBA to match your career aspirations and expectations.

You'll study 45 credits from the following modules:

30-credit modules:

- *Business, human rights law and corporate social responsibility* (W822)

15-credit modules:

- *Contemporary issues in organisations* (BB853)
- *Entrepreneurship in context* (BB851)
- *Leadership and management of public services* (BB852)
- *Supply chain management* (BB849)
- *Sustainable creative management* (BB842)

15-credit microcredentials:

- *Management of change: organisation development and design* (BZFM802)
- *Management of uncertainty: leadership, decisions and action* (BZFM801)

These professional development courses are hosted on FutureLearn.

For more information on these modules and microcredentials, see pages 10–13.

For the most up-to-date information on the modules and microcredentials available, visit openuniversity.co.uk/mba.

More online

Find out more about our MBA from our lecturers and students.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/ou-mba

MBA modules

Compulsory modules

Managing in a changing world (B870)

This module will encourage you to develop, as well as challenge, your current knowledge and skills in order to deal with contemporary and rapidly changing areas of management and marketing. Using both independent and collaborative approaches to learning, the module will enable you to integrate and understand ways of managing these core business functions in the face of globalisation, technological advancements and recent economic, social and political upheavals.

Creating and sustaining value (B872)

In this module you'll critically explore the diverse ways organisations create, sustain and expand value, with particular reference to the roles of the finance, operations and business intelligence functions. It provides the latest theories of value creation, allowing you to practically engage with them across several business functions and a range of organisations. By examining the operations and finance functions, you'll uncover the link between decision making and performance. Business intelligence is used to demonstrate how managers can enhance a firm's value using data and analytics. The module also considers not just economic value creation, but also the creation and destruction of social and environmental value.

Effective strategic management in business and the public sector (B873)

This module will provide you with the necessary tools to become an effective strategic decision-maker. You'll learn about the analysis of the organisational environment, decision-making processes and implementation of preferred choices. The materials include a blend of profit, non-profit and public-sector cases and examples relevant to and set in international contexts. This will allow you to assess the nuances of strategic management across different organisational and geographical settings. Last but not least, the module will support the development of soft skills, which you will require both to progress in the qualification and succeed in the workplace.



Finance for strategic decision-making (B874)

In this module you'll consider a range of ways that managers may use financial information for making optimal decisions.

This begins with considering the external financial pressures on companies from investors and markets. Next, you'll examine a number of techniques of varying sophistication, alongside a number of hands-on activities. Finally, you'll move on from the basic considerations and take into account that neither individuals nor businesses operate in isolation. Instead all our decisions are impacted by interactions with others. This leads us to a discussion of Game Theory and other behavioural aspects of finance.

MBA project: leaders of change (B875)

This project is an integral part of the MBA and an ideal opportunity to link theory and practice. It will enable you to apply core aspects of what you've learnt to your organisation and effectively play the role of a consultant addressing a specific business issue or challenge. The module takes you three stages to delivery. Beginning with scouting, you'll work with your colleagues to explore a range of potential projects in your organisation or others and prepare three proposals to discuss with your tutor, selecting the best to take forward. You'll then clearly define the scope and objectives of the project and the module concludes with planning the implementation of your ideas and realising the aims of the project.

This module is studied last to complete your MBA.

Meet one of our experts

Kevin Amor is a Teaching Fellow in the Department for Accounting and Finance, and Chair of *Finance for strategic decision-making* (B874).

As Course Chair, Kevin has moved the course away from corporate finance 101 to more of a toolbox for managers which

aims to help students learn how to use finance and other data to make optimal decisions.

Kevin has been a tutor on the MBA programme for over 12 years and has run management programmes around the world for companies such as Unilever, BP, Shell, British Airways and Kraft Foods.



Elective modules

Business, human rights law and corporate social responsibility (W822)

This interdisciplinary module considers how business increasingly conducts its operations with responsibility to its stakeholders and the wider society. It takes a socio-legal approach when examining how this expectation is being framed in terms of corporate social responsibility and human rights and the challenges of a globalised world. The module is diverse and wide-ranging, considering the development and application of these concepts in very different business contexts such as the development of international labour standards, criminal liability (corruption and corporate manslaughter), branding and marketing, charitable foundations and a range of specialist industries through the use of case studies.

Contemporary issues in organisations (BB853)

The module will help you become a knowledge leader within your organisation by demonstrating that you're ahead of current organisational and business challenges. By defining contemporary organisational challenges, as influenced by technological change, internationalisation, complexity and ethics, you'll develop key skills of planning and communication within and across organisations. You'll become more adept at leading transition to green ways of working; acting strategically in a multinational business environment; and taking smart decisions that will enhance performance. The module also gives you the opportunity to design a game concept that will enhance your strategic and communication skills.

Entrepreneurship in context (BB851)

Social and commercial enterprises play an important role in today's society, often in partnership with larger corporations and public sector organisations. This module provides rich, experience-based insights into the distinctive challenges of creating and developing entrepreneurial ventures. You'll also develop a deeper, more critical, understanding of entrepreneurial practices by connecting your experiences to relevant concepts and research evidence. As a result, you'll be better placed to develop your own venture, engage with other entrepreneurial organisations, and take part in wider debates about entrepreneurship in the twenty-first century.

Leadership and management of public services (BB852)

This module offers a holistic knowledge of leadership and management in today's business environment, with a focus on public and voluntary sectors. Public services are those run by government agencies and voluntary sector organisations. While some of their operations differ from private commercial organisations, this does not mean that efficient operation, effective leadership and a strong strategic focus are not just as important. If you have a public or non-profit-driven background this module will have particular appeal. However, the content offers up-to-date business information that is applicable to all sectors – private, public and not-for-profit.

Supply chain management (BB849)

Supply chain networks are recognised as the organisational form that assures business sustainability through supply continuity. Supply chain management is a fundamental skill in today's competitive business environment, and organisations that excel in this function see the benefit in their performance. This module will provide you with an in-depth insight into supply chain theory, design, management and best practice, taking into account issues such as ethics, environmental sustainability and risk management. This will enable you to question and reflect upon your own organisation and its role in the supply chain.

Sustainable creative management (BB842)

This module considers how managers create innovative and sustainable ways of doing things. The approach combines conceptual models with practical examples and cross-cultural comparisons. After assessing ways in which theories about perception and creativity could help us organise more effectively, attention turns to creating promising possibilities in an increasingly interconnected world. If we can create what's needed, without being too wrong too often, we could amplify our ability to do things better.



Elective microcredentials

Management of change: organisation development and design (BZFM802)

Starting with an introduction to organisational development and the impact of artificial intelligence (AI), you'll learn how to design a people-centred strategy for change as well as implementing professional strategies to address the challenges of developing organisations and teams in changing environments. You'll also develop your understanding of the relationship between organisational change, redesign, and organisational development and effectiveness, from both an individual perspective and on a wider strategic level.

This microcredential is delivered on FutureLearn.

Management of uncertainty: leadership decisions and action (BZFM801)

There is increasing awareness that agility and innovation in the face of uncertainty and the unexpected are vital capabilities. This microcredential will provide you with the insights to lead, make timely decisions, and take effective action. You'll discover new ways of engaging with and thinking critically about how uncertainties are distributed in societies and organisations. This will help you develop greater resilience and grow your own capacity for leadership.

This microcredential is delivered on FutureLearn.

MBA (Technology Management)

If you're looking for an MBA with a focus on the management of technology and technological innovation, then this qualification is for you.

After studying the first two modules in the standard MBA, you'll begin to focus on technology management by:

- discovering the importance of strategically planning and managing resources to deliver technological innovation, which is central to the successful operation of any organisation
- examining innovation from a management perspective, enabling you to understand how to contribute to the process and management of technological innovation.

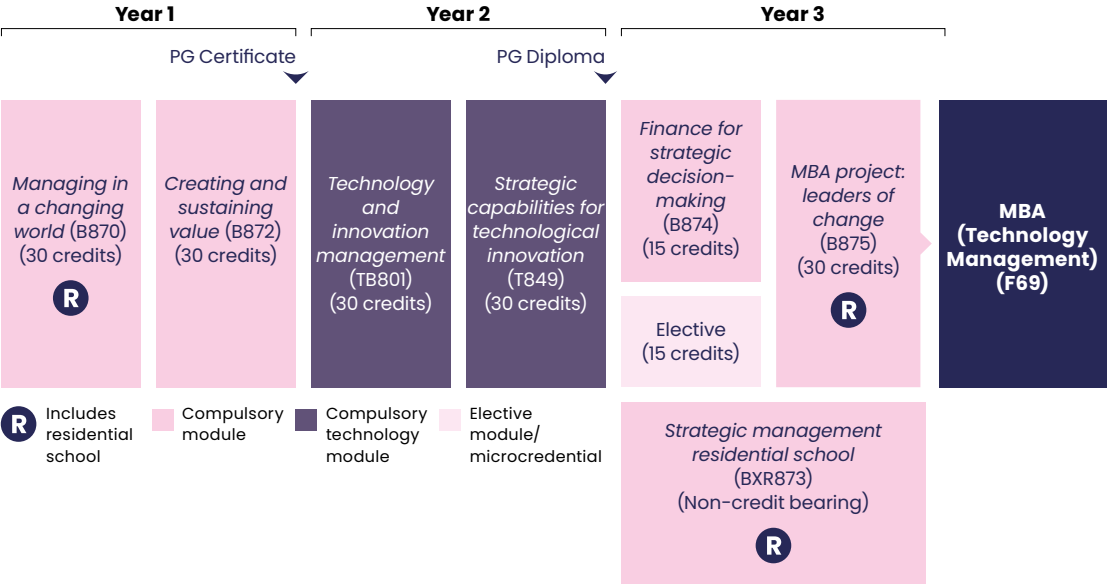
This specialist MBA lets you choose from a broader range of elective modules and microcredentials with the addition of options that have a greater connection to technology management.

These include making environmental management decisions; systems thinking in practice; and managing technological projects.

You will also have the opportunity to develop your ability to apply strategy-related concepts to real-life case studies, especially those revolving around the analysis of the external and internal environment of organisations and in strategic decision-making.

For more information on the MBA (Technology Management), go to openuniversity.co.uk/tech-mgmt.

A typical three-year study pathway would be:



Entry requirements

There are three routes into our MBA programme. Each has an academic requirement, a work experience requirement and a language competency requirement. You'll be required to show how you meet these requirements. This will include your CV and proof of qualifications, including English translations of non-UK degrees.

You'll be eligible for our MBA by satisfying the academic, work experience and language requirements of one of the following routes:

Route 1: Bachelors degree with Honours

Academic requirement

You'll need to have a bachelors degree with honours awarded by a UK university or equivalent

Route 2: Bachelors degree without Honours

Academic requirement

You'll need to have a bachelors degree without honours awarded by a UK university or equivalent and you'll need to have completed **either** the discontinued OU module *Managing 1: organisations and people* (B628) **or** three of our undergraduate-level Business Management microcredentials **or** the GMAT examination, and achieved a result of 640 or higher

Route 3: No Bachelors degree

Academic requirement

If you don't have a bachelors degree you'll need to have completed **either** the discontinued OU Professional Certificate in Management (S01) **or** six of our undergraduate-level Business Management microcredentials

Work experience requirement

Have gained a minimum of three years' experience in a managerial, technical or professional role

Language requirement

If English isn't your first language, a capability equivalent to an IELTS score of 6.5 is required

Evaluation of the evidence you provide to show how you meet the requirements for entry

Acceptance onto the MBA programme

If you would like to discuss making an application, or have non-UK qualifications, and require further information, please call The Open University Business School information line on +44 (0)300 303 7222. Lines are open (UK time): Monday to Friday 08:00 to 17:30.



Your learning, our support

We believe that our levels of support set us apart from other flexible learning programmes.

As an Open University MBA student, you'll be supported before your studies even start, right through to graduation and beyond.

Pre-study induction

If you haven't studied for years, or you're new to flexible learning, don't worry; we'll guide you through a comprehensive online induction.

As well as giving you a detailed overview of our MBA programme, your induction will offer guidance on:

- time management
- how to use the virtual learning platform
- study and critical thinking skills.

Learning materials

All of our modules employ a blend of learning styles, with innovative and inspiring materials that bring your learning to life.

As well as study books, you'll learn through podcasts, simulations, downloads and our interactive virtual learning environment – all of which are designed to support and inspire you in your learning.

We're at the forefront of using technology to enhance teaching and learning. Our study materials are informed by rigorous academic research and alumni and employer feedback. Moreover, everything you need is included in our fees.

About tutor groups

As soon as you join our MBA programme you'll be allocated to a group ranging from 16 to 20 students. You'll stay with these students for your first module, and a tutor will support the group and facilitate your learning.

As you progress through the MBA programme, you'll have opportunities to work with a range of different students and tutors.

The tutor and tutor groups will be your principal source of support throughout your learning journey.

About your tutors

Our dedicated teaching support and modest tutor-student ratio of around 1:20 means you'll benefit from individualised and intensive support and guidance.

Your tutor will mark all of your assignments for a particular module and provide comprehensive feedback to help you improve as you progress through the programme.

Residential schools

The residential schools are immersive experiences, bringing together students from around the world. These face-to-face events take place in a variety of locations, across two to three days. They are also available online.

Working with live case studies, you'll accrue a wealth of real-world experience. The concentrated sessions will help you to work, network and learn alongside other students, in an international context.

Tutorial events

In addition to our residential schools you'll be able to attend further tutorials. These sessions provide an opportunity to work through and clarify your study material.

Student support teams

Our Student Support Teams offer highly personalised study support and maximise your likelihood of successfully meeting your study goals.

The teams also offer academic pastoral support – not only responding to your queries, but also offering guidance on matters such as module selection, exams and assessments.

Interactive support

There'll always be someone to connect with via our lively vibrant online platforms:

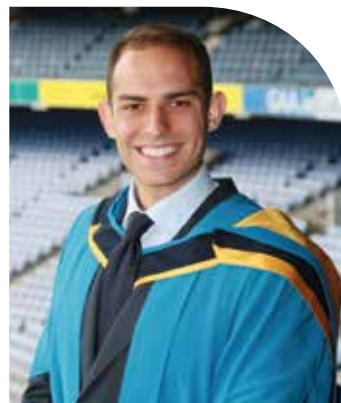
- **Welcome forums**
These forums are suitable for the initial stage of your study. Use them to connect with peers in other tutor groups who are working on the same module.
- **Tutor forums**
Engage with your tutor and the other students in your group, in our tutor-moderated forums.
- **Online rooms**
Book virtual rooms in which to study with your peers.

Online library and other resources

To help you research and complete your assignments, you'll enjoy free access to The Open University's extensive online library. Browse thousands of online journals, ebooks, databases and multimedia resources.

Worldwide alumni community

The Open University Business School is home to more than 28,500 MBA alumni representing over 100 countries. Enjoy access to one of the world's largest networks of MBA graduates via our online groups, professional bodies, events and webinars.



My time with the OU was so much more than an academic journey. Studying for an MBA enables you to look at everything from another perspective and with a critical eye. This new viewpoint means you can "think outside the box" which is a great skill to have.

Sergio Alejandro Morales, MBA

A global alumni and careers network

Our MBA is your passport to a diverse, active business network. As an MBA graduate, you'll automatically become a member of our worldwide alumni community.

Our Alumni and Careers Network is a diverse global community with more than 95,000 Business School members; more than 28,500 of these have MBAs. It exists to connect you to fellow managers and leaders worldwide, throughout your career. The network is open to you as soon as you hold a professional business and management qualification from The Open University Business School.

Our aim is to provide a service that you can continue to draw on throughout your professional life, whether you're looking to progress within your organisation, change careers, become an entrepreneur or return to study.

Careers and professional development

We offer a variety of services to support you at different stages of your career and across various sectors, industries and functions. Through our website you'll find:

- **free** webinars and a webinar library on career support and progression.

- **free** access to current international recruiter guides.
- **free** access to a personal career development programme: *The Career Maximiser*, developed by MBA career specialists, *Career Farm*.
- **free** access to our online library resources.
- **discounted** membership of professional bodies.
- **discounted study**, to the value of £250, towards another Open University Business School module (15 credits minimum).

Alumni events

We offer a variety of face-to-face, online, networking and learning and development events, led by our own academics, tutors, alumni and other professionals within our network. At a local level, alumni volunteers organise additional informal networking events.

Our alumni engagement programme brings the latest academic and practitioner thinking and best practice to you through online and face-to-face events, as well as an open access blog and insight into practising managers' views on current global themes.

For more information, go to openuniversity.co.uk/oubs-alumni.

Alumni Council

The Alumni Council is a representative body, drawn from a wide cross-section of OU Business School alumni. The Council meets regularly with senior management of the School and the Stakeholder and Alumni Engagement team to discuss the future direction of the School, with particular emphasis on alumni relations.

Networking

Ours is among the largest, most experienced and most diverse group of MBA alumni in Europe, so we're confident that your connections will be valuable, and your networking will always be inspiring. This includes a group on LinkedIn which you'll be able to join.

Industry networks

As an MBA student or graduate, you'll be able to benefit from our industry connections too:



- **Global Business School Network**

There are only ten UK business schools in the Global Business School Network, a growing network of more than 147 business schools across six continents working to improve management education in the developing world.



- **Chartered Management Institute**

Our Alumni and Careers Network partners with the Chartered Management Institute (CMI).

The CMI is the UK's only chartered professional body dedicated to promoting the highest standards in management and leadership excellence. We offer two membership packages, both of which are designed to support career and personal development.



- **Institute of Directors**

Founded in 1903, the Institute of Directors is the UK's longest-running organisation for professional leaders. As an MBA graduate, you'll be able to join the Institute at a preferential rate. You'll enjoy a range of benefits and business services, as well as opportunities to connect with the Institute's members.



- **The Institute of Leadership**

This world-renowned specialist membership body raises professional standards of more than 52,000 leaders, managers, coaches and mentors. It delivers world-class leadership tools and resources to help you unlock individual and business potential. If you want to fine tune your leadership and management skills, build your confidence and learn more from other great leaders, become a member. Its mission is to inspire great leadership, everywhere.



Completing my MBA enabled me to change my life, and it gave me the competence and confidence to start my own successful business. It's opened up many doors for me, particularly in the Middle East.

Rachel Blackburn, MBA

Fees and funding

Our MBA makes a top-tier, triple-accredited qualification accessible to you. When compared to the UK’s other triple-accredited business schools, we believe you won’t find better value for money than The Open University MBA.

Fees

Unlike many business schools, our fee includes: the cost of books and study materials; accommodation and meals at residential schools; access to a bespoke elearning environment and project supervision; and examination fees.

The approximate fee range for our MBA is as follows:

Region	Approximate fee range ¹
United Kingdom and Ireland	£17,500–£20,160
Rest of the world	£21,430–£24,440

¹ 2024–2025 prices. Fees typically increase annually. For further information about our fee policy, visit openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules.

Our fee range explained

Module prices are reviewed annually and may vary as you progress in your studies.

The total cost of your MBA will depend on which modules you study and assumes that you’ll pass each module at the first attempt.

Pay module by module

Unlike many other MBA providers, we don’t require a single bulk payment in advance. With The Open University MBA, you’ll only pay for the modules you’re studying at any one time. This enables you to spread the cost of the MBA for the duration of your studies.

If you wish to, you can pay your fees by debit/credit card or by bank transfer, or with an Open University Student Budget Account (OUSBA) (see opposite).

Funding for students in the UK

You could apply for funding to help towards the cost of studying your MBA.

England

You could be eligible for a maintenance loan of up to £12,471 from Student Finance England if you:

- are under 60 years old and are resident in England
- are studying a masters degree which can be completed in no more than three years (excluding study breaks)
- don’t currently have a masters degree or equivalent
- study the MBA from the beginning.

Wales

You could receive a loan up to a total of £18,950 over the duration of your MBA from the Welsh Government if you:

- are aged under 60 years old and are resident in Wales
- study a masters degree which can be completed in no more than three years (excluding study breaks)
- don’t currently have a masters degree or higher qualification.

Scotland

If you are resident in Scotland, you could be eligible for a fee loan of up to £7,000 towards your fees from the Student Awards Agency Scotland.

Northern Ireland

If you are resident in Northern Ireland, you could be eligible for a fee loan of up to £6,500 towards your fees from Student Finance Northern Ireland.

For more information on postgraduate loans go to openuniversity.co.uk/pg-fees.



Self-funded study

If you're not eligible for loan or grant funding, or you live outside the UK, we offer a range of other funding options.

Open University Student Budget Accounts Ltd (OUSBA)

When you enrol with us, you'll be offered the opportunity to pay your fees through a loan from OUSBA¹. OUSBA will pay your fees to The Open University, and you repay OUSBA either in a single sum or in monthly instalments.

You can repay OUSBA at any time before the course begins. In this case, there's no interest.

Alternatively, you can repay OUSBA in monthly instalments payable over up to a year. In this case, interest does apply. The interest rate is fixed for the duration of the course (current representative APR of 5.1%).

As a responsible lender every application made to OUSBA undergoes a credit and affordability check.

Find out more about OUSBA at openuniversity.co.uk/ousba.

¹ Restrictions apply, go to openuniversity.co.uk/ousba-res for more information.

Card payments

Pay for each module with a debit or credit card in one quick, simple payment.

Mixed payments

Combine your payment options to fund your studies the way you want.

Employer sponsorship

40% of our MBA students have gained financial support from their employer, as well as help with managing their study commitments.

If your MBA studies will benefit your workplace, your employer might be willing to sponsor your studies.

The Crowther Fund (Open University graduates only)

The Crowther Fund was introduced as a tribute to the late Lord Crowther, who was the University's first chancellor. The fund is intended to help Open University graduates build upon their degrees – either by formal study or research, or by broadening their experience through a period of voluntary work.

The fund is open to all Open University graduates who hold an honours degree, regardless of financial circumstances. The application closing date is 28 February each year.

For further information please email ou-crowther-fund@open.ac.uk.

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Disabled Veterans' Scholarship Fund (UK only)

If you've been injured or disabled in, or as a result of, military service, you could be eligible for one of 50 scholarships offered every year.

To be eligible, you'll need to meet all of the following criteria:

- Starting OU study for the first time in academic year 2024/25.
- Be ordinarily resident in the UK and eligible for a UK fee.
- Disabled as a result of, or in, military service.

Applications close at midnight on 10 July 2024.

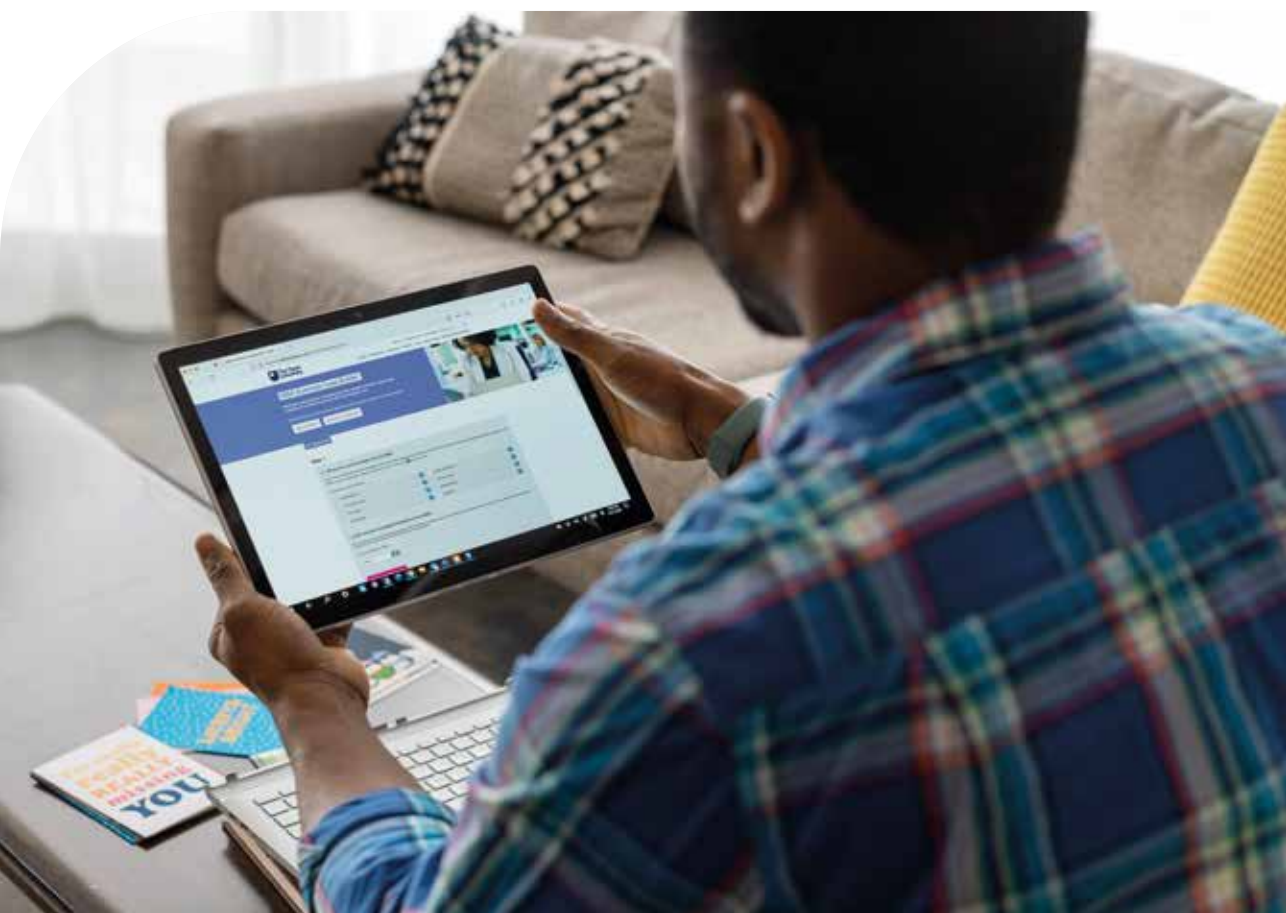
For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/veterans.

Credit for previous study

If you've studied at higher education level before, your previous studies could count towards your Open University qualification – saving you time and money. At The Open University, we call this system 'credit transfer'.

Of the 180 credits required for the MBA, up to 30 credits of study can be awarded against modules (with the exception of the final dissertation module) in recognition of relevant previous study elsewhere.

For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/credit-transfer.



Develop your staff with The Open University MBA

At The Open University, we're not only academic experts. For more than 50 years, we've worked with organisations to understand their business challenges, and provide outstanding learning and development solutions.

In fact, 80% of FTSE 100 companies have sponsored their staff to study with The Open University. So if you're an employer looking to retrain or upskill your staff, look no further.

We introduce employees to the latest business thinking and enable them to apply these ideas to their workplace. Organisations see an immediate return on their investment.

Geographically dispersed organisations are especially drawn to our ability to deliver the same learning across multiple locations throughout the country or around the world.

Why is our MBA so popular with employers?

- The programme offers a mobile and flexible route for developing managers and leaders, and gives them access to one of the world's largest communities of management learners

and practitioners with more than 28,500 alumni from more than 100 countries.

- The programme draws on daily management activity so that what your staff learn today, they can apply tomorrow – giving you and your organisation an immediate return on your investment.
- It crosses geographical, cultural and sector boundaries – offering equal relevance to the private, public and third sectors.
- It develops not only the managerial capabilities of staff but also valuable talents such as effective prioritisation, teamworking, commitment and personal motivation.

If you're an employer and you'd like to learn more about training your staff with The Open University – and the benefits of sponsoring employees to study with us – please go to openuniversity.co.uk/mba-employers.



The OU, and the MBA, have definitely changed me as a person. They've made me question things at work so much more. It has really helped my career and given me a lot more commerciality than many of my colleagues.

Andy Vanburen, MBA

Our Award-winning alumni

Here's a few examples of the awards and recognition that our alumni have achieved.



Celia was our inspirational Alumni of the Year 2022 winner and won the 'Inspirational Woman of the Year Award' at the Women in Rail Awards.



My MBA opened so many doors for me, giving me the opportunity to progress in my career and be able to support my family, as well as giving me a much-needed boost of confidence in my own abilities.

Celia Morris, MBA



James was highly commended in the AMBA Student of the Year category in the AMBA and BGA Excellence Awards for 2024.



My MBA has played a huge part in my career and as well as providing me with the knowledge that I can draw on in a range of different scenarios, it has also changed the way I think about business and management.

James Boyce, MBA





Zoë was selected as part of the 2023 Class of Influential Leaders from AACSB, the world's largest business education alliance.



I was employed full-time and unable to take a year off to study, but the OU's MBA is part-time meaning it could be slotted in around my regular life commitments. I felt that my OU journey took me to new places and stretched learning muscles that I didn't know I had.



Zoë André-Lawson, MBA



Tillmann has won a trio of awards including the OU's Student and Alumni Achievement Award, the Global Disability Leadership Award from Pfizer and recognition as an Influential Leader from AACSB.



The MBA at the OU was one of the best things I have done in my life. After I completed the course, I started a new job with Pfizer. So the OU opened a new door for me.



Tillmann Henssler, MBA

Other qualifications that might interest you

The Open University Business School also has a range of postgraduate qualifications in finance and human resource management.

MSc in Finance

You'll gain a thorough grounding in areas such as mergers and acquisitions, the financing of companies and organisations, financial markets, valuation, financial decision-making and reporting.

It will develop your ability to apply statistical and econometric techniques, and equip you with knowledge of the fundamentals of Islamic finance, ethics and corporate governance. You can also specialise in derivatives and financial risk management, or in investment and portfolio management.

You'll develop research skills and techniques by completing a dissertation on a finance topic that is relevant to your career development or interests.

Professional recognition

This MSc has been accepted into the CFA Institute's University Affiliation Program, which means this programme incorporates at least 70% of the CFA Program Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK).



CFA Institute

For more information on the MSc in Finance, go to openuniversity.co.uk/f67.

We also offer a Postgraduate Diploma (E83) and Postgraduate Certificate in Finance (K24). For more information, go to openuniversity.co.uk/pg.

MSc in Human Resource Management

This MSc provides an in-depth understanding of human resource (HR) management within an organisational context.

You'll learn about the role of the HR professional, the nature of professionalism and approaches to addressing ethical dilemmas, EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion), and sustainable HR management.

You'll develop the people management skills that are essential for HR work such as selection and appraisal interviewing, delivering training, managing performance, and organisational development.

You'll also gain the skills needed to work at a strategic level in an organisation in relation to issues. This includes employee engagement, learning and development, and change management issues.

Professional recognition

This qualification provides a route to professional membership of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD).

CIPD

Approved centre

For more information on the MSc in Human Resource Management, go to openuniversity.co.uk/f93.

We also offer a Postgraduate Diploma (E87) and Postgraduate Certificate in Human Resource Management (K41). For more information, go to openuniversity.co.uk/pg.



I owe everything to The Open University for the doors it has opened. You can realise your potential like I did. Whatever your age, whatever your background.



Gordon MacKay, MBA



Get in touch

You can speak to our friendly advisers and register for our MBA in the following ways:

- online at openuniversity.co.uk/study-mba
- call The Open University Business School information line on **+44 (0)300 303 7222**. Lines are open (UK time): Monday to Friday 08:00 to 17:30.

Calls are charged at the UK local rate when calling from a UK mobile phone or landline.

International students

For students outside of the UK and the Republic of Ireland please call **+44 300 303 0266**.

We have made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information in this prospectus is accurate at the time of publication.

However, we shall be entitled, if we consider it reasonably necessary (including in order to manage resources and improve student experience) to make changes, including to the availability of modules and qualifications, to qualification structure and to our regulations, policies and procedures. For current information, please refer to our online prospectus at openuniversity.co.uk/courses. If you require further information about the circumstances in which we may make changes, please contact us or refer to the Academic Regulations on our website at openuniversity.co.uk/academic-regulations.



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