

Overview

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| Programme Code | 32255 |
| Programme Title | Doctor of Business Administration |
| Awarding Institution | Liverpool John Moores University |
| Programme Type | Professional Doctorate |
| Language of Programme | All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English |
| Programme Leader | Hannah Wilson |
| Link Tutor(s) | |

Awards

| Award Type | Award Description | Award Learning Outcomes |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Target Award | Doctor of Business Administration - DB | See Learning Outcomes Below |

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| Alternate Award Names | |
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External Benchmarks

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| Subject Benchmark Statement | |
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Programme Offering(s)

| Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery | Intake Month | Teaching Institution | Programme Length |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Part-Time, Face to Face | April | LJMU Taught | 4 Years |
| Part-Time, Face to Face | February | LJMU Taught | 4 Years |
| Part-Time, Face to Face | January | LJMU Taught | 4 Years |
| Part-Time, Face to Face | March | LJMU Taught | 4 Years |

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to:

Make a significant contribution to the enhancement of an occupational or professional area through the application, development and testing of theoretical frameworks.

Enable the candidate to evidence that, through their studies and by applying and testing existing and new theories, they have made a significant contribution to improvements or changes in their organisation or working practices, which can be applied elsewhere.

Contribute to research in new areas and to collaborate further with employers; so that the candidate and University is engaging in an exchange of knowledge and practice at the highest level.

Enhance the candidate's personal and professional capabilities for the future, to enable them to lead innovation within their organisation.

Learning Outcomes

| Code | Description |
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| PLO1 | Display a systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of their academic discipline or area of professional practice relevant to their workplace. |
| PLO2 | Make informed judgements on complex issues in specialist fields, often in the absence of complete data |
| PLO3 | Communicate their ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences |
| PLO4 | Critically reflect on personal, work-based, theoretical and research practice experiences that contribute to the creation of new knowledge |

| Code | Description |
|-------------|--|
| PLO5 | Collect, record and interpret qualitative and/or quantitative data and demonstrate advanced academic enquiry. |
| PLO6 | Present final thesis clearly and concisely at a level that aligns to the Institutions doctoral regulations |
| PLO7 | Recognise and describe problems relevant to the workplace and propose innovative solutions with the potential to create new knowledge. |
| PLO8 | Display a critical understanding of complex and specialised research knowledge and skills through the development of research proposals that demonstrate a) the potential for the creation of new knowledge at the forefront of their academic discipline or their area of professional practice b) the use of appropriate techniques/methodologies in their research. |
| PLO9 | Conceptualise, design, and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline or area of professional practice, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems. |
| PLO10 | Critically appraise research methods for their appropriateness to the area of enquiry |
| PLO11 | Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and largely autonomous initiative in complex organisations. |
| PLO12 | Demonstrate the creation and interpretation of new knowledge of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication |
| PLO13 | Provide implications for the further development of their specific professional practice in relation to their own work, its context, and the form future development would take. |
| PLO14 | Apply and develop appropriate techniques/methods in research and scholarship |

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

The programme has 2 levels: Masters and Doctoral, with a total of 540 credits. The Masters level (FHEQ Level 7) comprises 180 credits.

Applicants may only join the programme at the Doctoral level (FHEQ Level 8) and must have 180 credits at FHEQ Level 7 from a Masters degree in an appropriate business and management discipline (normally an MBA), demonstrating that the student has:

a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the business and management discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.

a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship.

originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the business and management discipline.

conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the business and management discipline; and to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

Applicants will be required to make a claim for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) at FHEQ Level 7 (up to 180-credits) with their qualification assessed against the above Learning Outcomes.

The Doctoral phase comprises 360 FHEQ Level 8 credits, all of which must be completed successfully to obtain the award of Doctorate in Business Administration. The level 8 credits will take a minimum of 3 years to complete.

Students must also complete the Doctoral Skills Programme in order to gain the award and evidence this in 8406BLWDB.

This programme specification is applicable to students registered from September 2022 onwards. Existing students will follow the programme specification provided upon initial registration to the programme.

| Programme Structure - 360 credit points | |
|--|-------------|
| Level 8 - 360 credit points | |
| Level 8 Core - 360 credit points | CORE |
| [MODULE] 8400BLWDB Research Planning Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 8401BLWDB Reflective Research Strategy Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 8402BLWDB Literature Review Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 8403BLWDB Research Methodology Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 8404BLWDB Research Enquiry and Analysis Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 8405BLWDB Final Thesis Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 8406BLWDB Reflective Research Portfolio Approved 2022.01 - 40 credit points | |

Module specifications may be accessed at <https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Approved variance from Academic Framework Regulations

Variance

However, as the Doctor of Business Administration is a Professional Doctorate, this award operates within the university's Academic Regulations for Research Degrees <https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/the-doctoral-academy/academic-regulations-for-research-degrees>

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Face-to-face workshops, asynchronous online learning, action learning sets, and self-directed study. Coursework (Learning Agreement, research proposal, interim literature review, interim methodology, interim data collection and analysis, final thesis submission, portfolio of critical reflection, seminar presentation), examination (viva voce by external and internal examiners).

Opportunities for work related learning

Candidates are typically senior professionals who seek the qualification as a means of career development or professional extension. They will be required to show evidence that, through their studies and by applying and testing existing and new theories, they have made a significant contribution to improvements or changes in their organisation or working practices, which can be applied elsewhere. The programme will thus be defined by a partnership of the University, the candidate and their employer. Each partner will benefit in different ways: The programme will enable the University to contribute to research in new areas and to collaborate further with employers; in so doing we shall be engaging in an exchange of knowledge and practice at the highest level. This transfer of knowledge will be used to enhance curriculum at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and help meet the identified needs of the diverse community which we seek to serve. The benefits to candidates will be in terms of formal recognition and accreditation of their professional development; and a raised profile within their profession both within, and perhaps beyond, their organisation as a result of the outcomes of successful project work. Their activities can also be expected to enhance their personal and professional capabilities for the future. Employers benefit from being involved in the project planning process and the implementation of project outcomes within their organisations, together with the opportunity to collaborate with leading academics.

Entry Requirements

| Type | Description |
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| Postgraduate degree (required for research programmes) | A master's degree in the area of business and/or management |
| Other international requirements | LJMU welcomes applications from international candidates. Most of the studying and learning will be undertaken via distance learning in your home country and there are only a small number of residential days in Liverpool required. |

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| IELTS | In addition to the outlined entry requirements for home applicants, you will be expected to demonstrate a good level of English language competence, for example an IELTS score of 6.5 (with no single component below 6.0) or equivalent. |
| Relevant work experience | At least two years of managerial or five years of other working experience |

Extra Entry Requirements

In order to make an application to the programme you need to provide the following documents via the online application:

Curriculum vitae

Master's certificate and transcript in the area of business and/or management – these must be official English translations

Evidence of at least two years of managerial or five years of other working experience – this can be e.g. a confirmation by your current employer or a reference letter from a former employer

An academic reference, which recommends you for the programme – this can be e.g. from your master's institution

An industry reference, which recommends you for the programme – this can be e.g. from your employer, from a client and/or professional body

Personal statement (max. 2,000 words) – this is not a full research proposal, but should address why you would like to do a DBA, why you think you are suitable for the programme and what you expect from the DBA. You should furthermore provide a brief outline of your research topic and its contribution to theory and practice, including:

title of your research

introduction of your research

literature review of current studies

research methods

contribution of your research.

How your application is considered:

The application is screened to ensure the candidate meets the entry requirements and has submitted all their supporting documents.

If the candidate meets the minimum entry requirements and all documents have been received, the application is passed to the appropriate academics within the School for consideration and to identify a suitable supervisory team.

The DBA Team and/or an appropriate academic member of staff will interview the applicant and make a decision following the interview. For applicants in the UK, they are invited to attend the interview in person at Liverpool Business School. For applicants based elsewhere, the interview will normally take place by telephone, Skype or Adobe Connect.