University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

MPhil International Business (Coursework) (07254015)

Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	180

Other programme-specific information

- Refer to General Regulation G.55.
- NB: All modules are compulsory. Candidates must pass all the modules, including the dissertation, to qualify for the MPhil degree

Examinations and pass requirements

- The minimum pass mark for each prescribed course is 50%, provided that a subminimum of 45% has been obtained in the examined component.
- A candidate who has failed more than two core courses may not continue with his studies for the degree, except with the approval of the Dean.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 180

Core modules

Competitive global business strategy 850 (GIF 850)

Module credits	15.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

This module will prepare students for the global environment by examining what makes countries and companies competitive globally. Students will be helped to draw on their entire experience to develop the critical ability to identify factors that enhance and restrain competitiveness. Special attention will be given to the relative competitiveness of South Africa and the countries and regions to be visited, with special reference to the industries that will be studied.

States and markets in the global political economy 851 (GIF 851)

Module credits	15.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

International business is subject to many international laws and regulations. This module deals with the international regulatory bodies such as the WTO, UN and international agreements governing cross-border trade and investment. This module will also deal with legislation and regulations governing financial transactions or investment.

International business and emerging markets 852 (GIF 852)

Module credits	15.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science

Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The rationale for the module is that all businesses are increasingly exposed to the global context, whether in terms of their competitors, their markets or their supply chains. As such, it is incumbent upon all managers to have an appreciation of the opportunities and threats that exist in doing business on an international scale. To operate effectively in a global context, managers need to be able to evaluate differences between countries in terms of issues such as economic policy, cluster development, industry structure, and the impact of these differences on firm behaviour. This module aims to provide students with the skills necessary to develop global business strategies and meet the challenges entailed.

Managing the multinational corporation 853 (GIF 853)

Module credits	15.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Operating across geographic and cultural boundaries is a reality in today’s globalised world, and this module explains how to manage the multinational to support the achievement of strategic objectives in the international environment. This module deals with how line managers should engage with people, both employees and consumers/clients from different countries and cultures to achieve optimal performance. It uses a holistic approach and therefore includes operational or strategic elements that may need to be changed in response to employee and customer/client needs.

Research methodology 855 (GIF 855)

Module credits	15.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

In this module students will be equipped to execute their research project. The module will focus on formulation of a research question, population and sampling concerns, the use of literature reviews, various qualitative and quantitative research methodologies including documentary research, surveys, questionnaire design and interviewing techniques. The analysis of data and research report writing will also be covered. The research report will serve as a means for the students to deepen their insight into the market that they are preparing to enter or to help them understand a key relationship affecting their business. As such the module will prepare a student to do research that is of both practical and intellectual value.

Mini-dissertation: International business 860 (GIF 860)

Module credits	81.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Students must submit a mini-dissertation on an approved topic.

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The General Regulations (G Regulations) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the General Rules section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.