

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

PGDip in Business Administration (Business Studies) (07220112)

Department Gordon Institute of Business Science

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 120

NQF level 08

Admission requirements

1. Relevant bachelor's (or equivalent) degree
2. An admissions examination may be required

Other programme-specific information

Refer to General Academic Regulations G16-G29.

Refer to the GIBS student guidelines and regulations.

The Dean may authorise matters not provided for in the General Academic Regulations or in the GIBS regulations

Examinations and pass requirements

1. The minimum pass mark for each prescribed module is 50%, provided that a subminimum of 45% has been obtained in the examination or an examined component
2. A candidate who has failed more than two modules may not continue with his/her studies for the diploma, except with the approval of the Dean.

Refer to the GIBS student guidelines and regulations.

General information

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to



contact their faculties if they have any questions.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Business dynamics in context 792 (GIA 792)

Module credits	8.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	24 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module helps students to understand the value of a research-focused approach to business in an era of rapid social and technological changes, globalisation and “big data”. This model reviews some of the basic elements of research, conceptualised as a systematic engagement with evidence and prior knowledge, and will require of students to start applying that understanding to current dynamics in the business context.

Principles of quantitative research 793 (GIA 793)

Module credits	16.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	24 Hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module aims to expose students to a number of key topics related to quantitative research methodology with the purpose of equipping students with the ability and skills to successfully execute a quantitative research project. More specifically the module intends to provide students with an understanding of the philosophies underlying quantitative research, a selection of research methods used to collect primary data for a quantitative research study and also to ensure that they are able to draw a sample to collect quantitative data from respondents. The module also attempts to equip students with the ability to develop a conceptual model in order to illustrate the proposed relationships between variables.

Principles of qualitative research 794 (GIA 794)

Module credits	16.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	24 Hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module aims: to expose students to some of the underlying philosophy of qualitative research and why this is relevant for research in Africa; to help students understand the difference between quantitative research and qualitative research; and to provide guidelines for conducting research using i) grounded theory ii) case study methods iii) narrative research. By the end of the module, students will: i) have an appreciation of the richness of qualitative research methodology, and will be better able to assess whether a qualitative research method is appropriate for their own research, ii) receive broad guidelines how to conduct rigorous qualitative research employing case study, grounded theory methods or narrative research, and iii) have practice designing and performing a qualitative research study.

Research design 795 (GIA 795)

Module credits	16.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	24 Hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module helps students to conceptualise a research design. It covers how the choice of a research design relates to the chosen analytic method (Qualitative Research, Quantitative Research or Mixed Methods). Students are expected to relate the research question to the research design and to justify the selection of a given design for a given problem. The objectives of the module are to help students: make informed decisions about their research design; and understand the implications of selecting a given research design in particular around the research questions that can be answered.

Thematic studies module 1 796 (GIA 796)

Module credits	14.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	24 Hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English



Department Gordon Institute of Business Science

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module aims to guide students to read existing research and especially theories in an appreciative manner. They need to identify the main theories explaining a real-world phenomenon of their choice, and to explain how the theories have been used.

Thematic studies module 2 797 (GIA 797)

Module credits 14.00

NQF Level 08

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 24 Hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Gordon Institute of Business Science

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module aims to guide students to read existing literature and especially theories in a critical manner. They need to highlight the 'blind spots' of the main theories that have been used to explain their chosen phenomenon, and to explain how alternative perspectives may help better explain it.

Thematic studies module 3 798 (GIA 798)

Module credits 14.00

NQF Level 08

Prerequisites No prerequisite.

Contact time 24 Hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Gordon Institute of Business Science

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module aims to guide students to develop their own conceptual models. They need to integrate existing literature with their own critical understanding, and to propose an alternative framework for making sense of a phenomenon they have observed.

Integrative research 799 (GIA 799)

Module credits 22.00

NQF Level 08

Prerequisites No prerequisites.



Contact time	24 Hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Gordon Institute of Business Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module aims to help researchers and students make the transition from the classroom to research in the 'real world'. The emphasis is on demonstrating how business dynamics are better understood with the use of theory or models, measurement concepts and methods, qualitative and quantitative modes of observation, identifying causes, the logic of control variables, and the design of experiments and quasiexperiments. Students will also be required to communicate these complex ideas in a language that is deemed credible by scholars, but nonetheless accessible to business audiences.

Regulations and rules

The regulations and rules for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations.

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