
University of Pretoria Yearbook 2017

MBA Full-time (07254009)

Duration of study 1 year

Total credits 180

Programme information

See General Regulation G.31.

The Dean has the right of authorisation regarding matters not provided for in the General Regulations or the GIBS regulations.

Prescribed modules, LEAD 1 and 2, a compulsory research project (which has to be completed in the final year of study) and a compulsory international tour are required.

The language of tuition for the MBA is English.

In the event of deferral of studies due to extenuating circumstances, a student must complete the degree one year after the graduation of his/her cohort class. Failure to complete the degree within this period will disqualify a student from further registration. Any student who fails more than two core modules will be deregistered from the programme.

Admission requirements

1. A bachelor's degree, or an equivalent qualification is required for admission to the MBA degree studies.
2. A pass in Mathematics at Grade 12-level or another qualification in Mathematics or Statistics or Mathematical Statistics deemed adequate by the Dean of the Institute.
3. Work experience deemed adequate and applicable by the Dean of the Institute.
4. The Dean of the Institute may set additional admission requirements.
5. Candidates will be subjected to a selection process.

Other programme-specific information

Potential electives

GIA 804 Contemporary issues in governance 804

GIA 807 Advanced valuation techniques 807

GIA 810 Contemporary issues in ethics 810

GIA 811 Contemporary issues in information and knowledge management 811

GIA 812 Contemporary issues in finance 812

GIA 813 Contemporary issues in investment 813

GIA 814 Contemporary issues in organisational development 814

GIA 815 Contemporary issues in strategy 815

GIA 816 Contemporary issues in stakeholder management 816

GIA 817 Contemporary issues in innovation 817



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- GIA 819 Contemporary issues in leadership 819
 - GIA 821 Contemporary issues in general management 821
 - GIA 822 Contemporary issues in the environment of business 822
 - GIA 823 Contemporary issues in organisational behaviour 823
 - GIA 826 Project and Infrastructure Finance 826
 - GIA 827 Reputation management 827
 - GIA 829 Competition and regulation 829
 - GIA 832 Microfinance and inclusive banking 832
 - GIA 834 Ethics and leadership 834
 - GIA 835 Competitiveness of South Africa Inc. in the global economy 835
 - GIA 837 Strategic change in the South African context 837
 - GIA 838 Business law 838
 - GIA 842 Sports marketing 842
 - GIA 844 Financial derivatives 844
 - GIA 847 Black economic empowerment 847
 - GIA 848 Competitive intelligence 848
 - GIA 850 International business strategy 850
 - GIA 879 Imagination for the business mind 879
 - GIA 886 Contemporary issues in dynamic markets 886
 - GIA 889 Professional management consulting 889
 - GIA 891 Contemporary issues in global business 891
 - GIA 897 Macroeconomic forces and micro economic consequences 897
 - GIA 890 Advocacy as a critical skill 890
 - GIB 800 Creative and innovative thinking 800
 - GIB 801 Managing human capital 801
 - GIB 802 Financial modelling 802
 - GIB 803 Mergers and acquisitions 803
 - GIB 804 Building brands 804
 - GIB 805 Expert negotiator 805
 - GIB 806 Strategy in private equity 806
 - GIB 807 Information and knowledge management 807
 - GIB 808 Strategy and general management 808
 - GIB 809 Investment finance 809
 - GIB 810 Operationalising strategy 810
 - GIB 818 Strategic finance and value creation 818
 - GIB 820 Competitiveness and economic development 820
 - GIB 826 Institutional money management 826
 - GIB 828 Technology and emerging markets 828
 - GIB 830 Strategy and technology 830
 - GIB 831 Business opportunities and innovations in Africa 831
 - GIB 833 Economics of organisational strategy 833
 - GIB 836 Scenario planning and strategic thinking 836
 - GIB 839 Innovating business at the base 839
 - GIB 840 Woman in leadership 840
 - GIB 841 Consumer behaviour in dynamic markets 841
 - GIB 843 Effective execution and project management 843



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- GIB 845 Understanding dynamic markets 845
 - GIB 846 Innovation for future fitness (sustainability) 846
 - GIB 849 Business connectedness in Southern Africa 849
 - GIB 851 Leader as Coach 851
 - GIB 853 Corporate governance 853
 - GIB 855 Customer centric strategy 855
 - GIB 856 Multinational enterprise business strategy 856
 - GIB 883 Contemporary issues in personal effectiveness 883
 - GIB 885 Managing information systems and big data 885
 - GIB 886 Contemporary issues in research 886
 - GIC 802 Digital marketing 802
 - GIC 805 Geopolitics and grand strategy 805
 - GIC 806 The lean start-up 806
 - GIC 807 Services marketing 807
 - GIC 808 Marketing metrics 808
 - GIC 810 Doing business in India 810
 - GIC 811 Leading through storytelling 811
 - GIC 814 The moral leader 814
 - GIC 819 Understanding business in China 819
 - GIC 820 Advanced manufacturing -Supply chain management 820
 - GIC 821 African industrialisation 821
 - GIC 822 Industrial and trade policy in support of industrialisation 822
 - GIC 823 Manufacturing and the environment 823
 - GIC 824 The future of manufacturing - Quo Vadis 824
 - GID 802 Supply chain and logistics 802
 - GID 804 Contemporary issues in sustainability 804
 - GID 806 Contemporary issues in African management 806
 - GID 807 Sustainable business 807
 - GID 808 International elective 808
 - GID 809 International elective 809
 - GID 810 International elective 810
 - GID 811 International elective 811
 - GID 812 International elective 812
 - GID 819 Global economic governance and business diplomacy 819
 - GID 821 Sales leadership 821
 - GID 823 Strategy and execution 823
 - GID 850 Personal leadership development 850
 - GID 851 Advanced entrepreneurship 851
 - GID 852 Strategy renewal 852
 - GID 853 Sales and business development 853
 - GID 854 Strategic leadership decision-making 854
 - GID 856 Business valuation and deal structure 856
 - GID 857 Corporate entrepreneurship and innovation 857
 - GID 858 Dealing with change and change immunity 858
 - GID 879 Developing markets 879
 - GID 889 Ethics and financial reporting 889



GID 898 Managing in frontier and emerging markets 898
GIE 815 Contemporary issues in entrepreneurship 815
GIE 817 Contemporary issues in marketing 817
GIE 818 Contemporary issues in human resources 818
GIE 829 Persuasion – the art and science of influence 829
GIE 880 Contemporary issues in supply chain management 880

Examinations and pass requirements

- i. The minimum pass mark for each module is 50%, provided that a subminimum of 45% has been obtained in the examination. The minimum pass mark for the research project is 50%.
- ii. A candidate who has failed more than two core modules may not continue his studies for the MBA degree, except with the approval of the Dean of the Institute. Such a student may appeal the decision with the GIBS Academic Committee. If the Academic Committee rules in favour of re-admission of the student for the next academic year due to extenuating circumstances, the student may be granted credits for modules.
- iii. Should a candidate fail an elective module, he/she may repeat the elective module or an equivalent as determined by the Dean of the Institute.
- iv. Full attendance, and completion and assessment of all requirements, are necessary for the Global module and Business strategy courses.



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 124

Core modules

Business analysis and communication 856 (GIA 856)

Module content:

This module is designed to enable students to analyse business problems, derive appropriate solutions, and communicate them effectively. There are two parts to it:

Part A deals with the written analysis of business cases. Through classroom instruction and individual feedback, students learn to analyse a business case, generate and review solutions, and prepare a clear, logical written summary of their analysis. The skills learnt include the cognitive skills of analysing, evaluating and synthesising complex material, and the communication skills of presenting findings in oral and written English.

Part B applies the same skills to the analysis and solution of an actual business situation. Students are required to conduct research into a problem posed in a company. They analyse the problem, conduct the appropriate research in the industry, apply the models and techniques covered in their MBA core courses, and prepare a consulting report for presentation to management and faculty.

Module credits	0.00
Contact time	Twenty four hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Integrative business research report 872 (GIA 872)

Module content:

Knowledge creation is a hallmark of a master's degree and the integrative business research project provides you with an opportunity to apply theories and concepts that you have learned in the core modules to a business problem and also to gain experience in planning and implementing a complex research project. It thus serves as a capstone of the MBA learning experience.

Module credits	60.00
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Global module 873 (GIA 873)

Module content:



*Attendance module only

Available from the relevant international institution.

Module credits	0.00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Entrepreneurship 852 (GIB 852)

Module content:

This course is based on the premise that everyone has the capacity to succeed in an entrepreneurial setting, although some people may have a greater propensity to succeed than others. The intention of this course is to demystify the phenomenon broadly referred to as entrepreneurship; to make it easily understood as a business concept, readily accessible as a career option and practically applicable as a style of management. The course provides a broad perspective on entrepreneurship and its strategic importance and social relevance. It also provides an understanding of and approach to managing the issues involved in pursuing an entrepreneurial career path. It integrates different aspects of the MBA in developing a business plan for a potential entrepreneurial idea, and thus provides a practical application of concepts dealt with in other MBA courses.

Module credits	5.00
Contact time	12 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Corporate strategy 854 (GIB 854)

Module content:

The course will introduce students to different challenges faced by the CEO in strategy formulation and implementation. The purpose of the course is to create a deep appreciation of the basic concepts in strategy and their application in real situations both at corporate and business unit levels. The objectives of the course are to provide an understanding of: the determinants of and processes in the formulation and implementation of strategy; an integrated view of the different themes and concepts in strategy and their relevance in different contexts; an integrated view of all the functional areas of management; and the current strategic concerns of South African and International companies in the contexts of significant changes in the business environment. Topics included are corporate strategy, business and competitive strategy, core competencies, strategic intent, growth and diversification models and interface between strategy and leadership.

Module credits	9.00
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S



Period of presentation Semester 1

Applied decision making 860 (GIB 860)

Module content:

This course is based on a comprehensive business simulation. Your group will run a company in competition with others, and apply all the disciplines of management to make it successful. You will be required to reflect on the progress of the simulation and draw conclusions about managing the whole enterprise.

Module credits 9.00

Contact time 28 contact hours per 3 week cycle

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Academic organisation Gordon Institute of Business S

Period of presentation Semester 2

Global business strategy 861 (GIB 861)

Module content:

This module will prepare students for the global elective by examining what makes countries and companies competitive globally. The concepts introduced at the beginning of the first year in the competitive organisation as part of the orientation programme will be re-visited and students will be helped to draw on their entire MBA experience to develop the critical ability to identify factors that enhance and restrain competitiveness. Special attention is 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.

Module credits 0.00

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Academic organisation Gordon Institute of Business S

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Leadership and corporate accountability 843 (GID 843)

Module content:

This course examines the often conflicting ethical, social and economic responsibilities of business leaders operating in a dynamic market. The aim of the course is to equip business leaders for the dilemmas and decisions that they face because of the dynamic and complex environment they operate in. The course reviews leadership styles and ethical principles and how these impact the quality of difficult decisions. Also covered are the governance principles and processes required to develop the desired culture of responsibility and appropriate conduct in a business.

Module credits 9.00

Contact time 24 Hours



Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Innovation and design 844 (GID 844)

Module content:

This course is designed to provide insight into the role of Innovation and Design and an understanding of how this is achieved in practice. The course covers the types, drivers, challenges and strategies of innovation, open and closed innovation, the connection between innovation and customer value, strategy, strategic capability and execution, the theory of innovation science, the practice of Innovation in action, how to build an appropriate innovation portfolio, and the challenges of innovation within an existing operation.

Module credits	5.00
Contact time	12 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Dynamics of competitiveness 845 (GID 845)

Module content:

This course focuses on knowing oneself and the impact of one's history or background on business effectiveness in the environment in which the students are or will be working. This course is designed around a road trip undertaken by all students at the end of year one, and provides them with an opportunity to analyse the current dynamics, challenges, social and political nuances and the history of the area they visit. By immersing the students in the culture and history of the places they visit, this experiential approach is designed to illustrate how history shapes peoples' outlook and the way they feel, think and act, enabling them to comprehend what has made South Africa what it is today. The analytic framework is the political economy of business, economic inclusion and connectivity between the South African economy and the region, the continent and the world. Emphasis will be placed on the businesses driving the economic and social dynamics of the locations which are visited.

Module credits	9.00
Contact time	24 Hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Environment of business 846 (GID 846)

Module content:



The subject of business valuation is central to leadership. The major learning objectives of this course will be to make students familiar with valuation methods so that they feel confident making effective financial decisions. Specific outcomes include: analysing historical performance and benchmarking; forecasting drivers of performance and cash flows; effective business modelling and spreadsheet design; estimating the cost of capital; evaluating optimal capital structure and funding decisions; alternative valuation methods (APV, WACC, Multiples); estimating synergies in mergers and acquisitions; negotiating the sale or purchase of a business; deal terms and structuring options for business transactions; leveraged and management buy-outs.

Module credits	9.00
Contact time	24 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Business analysis and research methodology 881 (GNM 881)

Module content:

In this module students will be equipped to execute their Integrative business research project. Each student's Integrative business research report will be focused on a key relationship or research question that relates directly to their new business idea. 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 students to deepen their insights 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.

Module credits	9.00
Contact time	28 contact hours per 3 week cycle
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Academic organisation	Gordon Institute of Business S
Period of presentation	Semester 1

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 each student to familiarise himself or herself 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.