



University of
Strathclyde
Business
School

The Strathclyde MBA



The Strathclyde MBA

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01

Founded in 1948, Strathclyde Business School (SBS) is an enterprising, pioneering institution of global standing.

We engage business minds, and pursue impact on the stakeholders we serve.

Our University's mission for over 200 years has been to be 'the place of useful learning'; an ethos which still drives the business school and distinguishes us from our competitors.

In 2016 SBS celebrated 50 years of our prestigious MBA programme.

Strathclyde Business School

– an overview

Excellence

SBS is part of the University of Strathclyde, a socially progressive and leading international technological institution.

Accreditation

Strathclyde is a triple accredited business school: one of 108 in the world (2021), and the first business school in Scotland to be triple accredited, holding accreditation from the international bodies, AMBA, AACSB and EQUIS.

Accreditation offers a very objective way of measuring a business school's credentials. For example, the quality of education on offer, the school's facilities, the student body and the faculty, can all be reviewed as part of an accreditation process.

AMBA – originating in the UK, the Association of MBAs is the only one of the 3 main bodies to accredit MBA courses rather than the host institutions. www.associationofmbas.com

AACSB – Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business is the USA's best known accreditation body. Despite a very American membership (few business schools outside the USA have this award), it remains the hallmark for any business school with world-class ambitions. www.aacsb.edu

EQUIS – the European Quality Improvement System is the newest of the big 3 accrediting bodies and has the smallest membership. It was formed to address the European problem of diverse national accreditation systems, and is gaining ground outside Europe. www.efmd.org

Accreditation in the UAE

In addition to triple accreditation, Strathclyde Business School (SBS) was Europe's first university faculty to be awarded a licence to operate an MBA programme in the United Arab Emirates. It was scrutinised by the deans of three top US Business Schools as part of the process carried out by the UAE Commission for Academic Accreditation. The licence establishes the school as an educational institution officially recognised by the UAE government.

Research excellence

Strathclyde has a reputation for research excellence. Strathclyde Business School has been recognised in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 for its world-leading research – with a GPA of 3.26, this positions SBS as the third-highest overall quality of all Scottish institutions as ranked by Times Higher Education (THE). SBS's exemplary research environment achieved particularly strong recognition having a rating of 75% 'conducive to producing research of world-leading quality and enabling outstanding impact'. With the remaining 25% rated as 'internationally excellence quality', this places SBS significantly above the sector average and makes it the second-highest environment quality profile in Scotland. In terms of scale and quality, the SBS submission has been ranked 16th in the UK on Research Power by THE and this makes it the second highest in Scotland.



Additionally, our departments have earned an impressive range of discipline-specific accreditations.

Accounting is fully accredited for entry to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS) as well as offering exemptions to other professional bodies, e.g. Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). The Department of Accounting and Finance has all four of its MSc programmes accredited by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA).

The Department of Work, Employment and Organisation is a CIPD Approved Centre, accredited to deliver programmes that meet the knowledge requirements for professional membership of CIPD. (CIPD is the professional association for HR professionals in the UK, with a membership of around 150,000).

Our Hospitality and Tourism Management degrees have been accredited by the Institute of Hospitality.

Pioneering

SBS was the first UK business school to offer:

- › A full-time 1-year MBA programme (1966)
- › A part-time MBA programme (1976)
- › A distance learning programme (1983)
- › A DBA (Doctor of Business Administration) programme (1988)

This pioneering spirit brought the Strathclyde MBA into many new countries via the establishment of international centres. These centres meant, for the first time, local managers could study for a UK MBA in their own country. This earned SBS the prestigious Queen's Award for Export Achievement in 1993.

We currently operate in a number of international Strathclyde MBA centres, with hundreds of students currently enrolled on the MBA around the world.



International

In addition to our international centres offering the MBA and other programmes, we have long-standing and established links with universities across the world. Our partner institutions include universities in Australia, Canada, Europe, Asia, and the USA.

We encourage students to gain international experience through links with overseas universities, and our international centres' network.

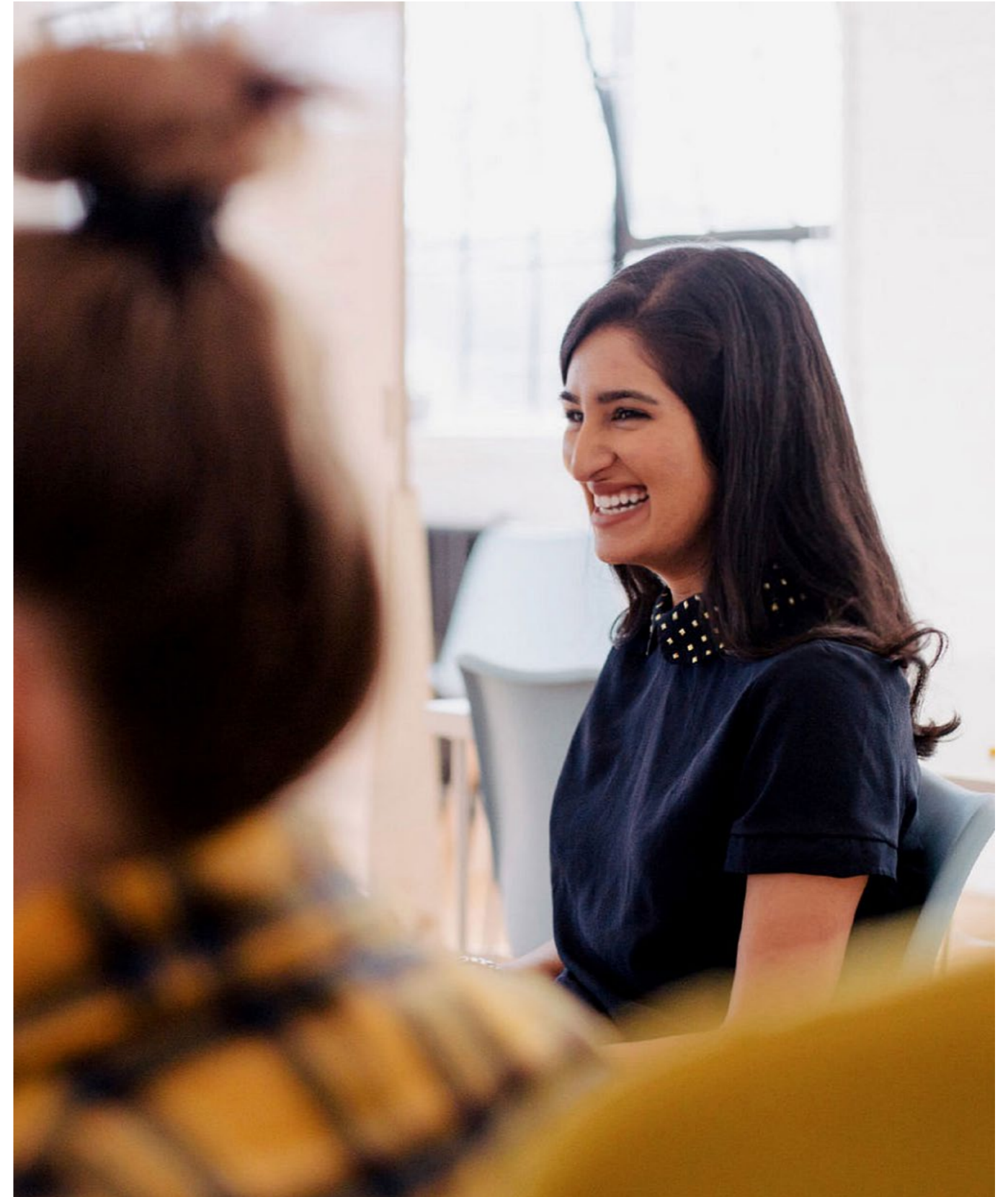
World-leading research is carried out by our academics in collaboration with numerous international partners. Many have visiting professorships or fellowships at prestigious overseas institutions. The business school offers consultancy through bespoke programmes, consultancy and knowledge exchange.

Innovative

Strathclyde Business School (SBS) is one of four faculties of the entrepreneurial and innovative University of Strathclyde. SBS is home to the Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship – endowed by Sir Tom Hunter. Students across the University can access the services of the Strathclyde Entrepreneurial Network (SEN) which supports students, graduates and postgraduates with interests in entrepreneurship and new venture creation, and supports academics and researchers in realising the value of their research through commercialisation and enterprise. MBA students have previously formed a sounding board for SEN, helping prepare select entrepreneurs to pitch their businesses at Strathclyde 100 events throughout the year where they can meet potential investors.

Strathclyde was the first business school in Scotland to be awarded the Small Business Charter Award for its work in supporting start-ups and small businesses. With 50 years' experience in developing the best MBA programme, SBS is a major innovator in the field of business and management.

Strathclyde Inspire, the University's Entrepreneurship Strategy 2020-25, is a statement of our ongoing commitment to be a world-leading enabler of entrepreneurship, and a globally-recognised provider of impactful entrepreneurship education and practice. Strathclyde Inspire supports and encourages entrepreneurship in all its forms. Help and support is available to anyone in the Strathclyde community who wants to explore their entrepreneurial potential, who has an idea for a business, or is considering commercialising their research.



Influential Research

Strathclyde Business School is highly rated for its research. The REF 2021 is a Government-led benchmarking exercise measuring the quality of research in higher education institutions.

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Research excellence is embedded throughout our departments.

Our research bolsters our reputation and also provides our students with access to internationally recognised faculty members at the forefront of their research fields, ensuring a world-class education throughout the business school.

SBS was given a Pioneering Institution award by RRBM (Responsible Research in Business Management) in 2021.



Engaging

Strathclyde Business School has a strong reputation for effective engagement with business, industry and the public sector and our vision is to attain the highest levels of knowledge exchange.

Knowledge exchange in the business and management field takes place through applied projects, consultancy and action research. SBS develops theory-led, policy-relevant research through collaboration and dialogue with a variety of organisations, government and trade unions. The business school hosts Strathclyde Executive Education and Development (SEED), which leads the Business Engagement theme within the University's new Technology Innovation Centre (TIC). Strathclyde has always had close links with industry and business but the university is taking partnership to a new level and helping Scotland's industries compete on the world stage: the TIC revolutionises the way researchers in academia and industry collaborate and innovate together – up to 1200 researchers, engineers and project managers from academia and industry will work side-by-side in a state of the art building in the heart of Glasgow.

Developed with industry, for industry, the Technology and Innovation Centre has already attracted major partners including Scottish and Southern Energy, the Weir Group, ScottishPower and several other major cross-sector industrial partners. The partnership will benefit from participation by large corporations and a large grouping of innovative SMEs.

SEED runs a number of bespoke executive education programmes and we have extensive experience in working with high profile organisations across various sectors.

For more information on SEED, please email exec.education@strath.ac.uk.

Another of the ways we engage with industry and business is through our international advisory board which comprises a mix of senior business people and industrialists. The board meets regularly to discuss and advise on the on-going development of SBS's corporate activities.

What is the Strathclyde MBA?

“By its very nature, the MBA is a generalist degree, it is intended to develop Managers into Business Leaders – and to be an effective leader, you need a solid overview of Business, something SBS has been offering since 1966.

“At Strathclyde, we are exceptionally proud to have delivered a renowned MBA programme since 1966. Over the years we have pioneered developments in the MBA, such as offering the first one-year full time MBA programme in the UK, the first part time route, and the first distance learning programme. As a world class business school in an international technological university, we continue to innovate with our MBA and other programmes to ensure they are completely relevant and impactful to today’s business world.”

Professor David Hillier
Associate Principal, Executive Dean
Strathclyde Business School



The Strathclyde MBA

What are the prime benefits?

Self-development

- › A broad understanding of business and management issues
- › Strategic orientation and the ability to successfully implement the strategies formulated
- › Development of management skills and techniques
- › Self-awareness as a manager and leader
- › Increased confidence in all areas of business

Career development

- › Enhanced promotion prospects
- › New career opportunities
- › Access to the extensive Strathclyde alumni network

In particular it:

- › Provides the skills required for progression to higher level policy-forming positions
- › Allows you to make successful career transitions
- › Facilitates the move from technical specialism to general management
- › Polishes the skills and enhances the abilities of people working for themselves or about to set up in business

What are the benefits for employers and sponsors?

Improved corporate performance

- › Improved leadership and critical thinking capabilities of key staff
- › Increased capability to exploit new ideas and technologies for organisational benefit
- › Developed ability to manage complex stakeholder needs
- › Enhanced capacity to manage change in a sustainable and responsible way

Human resource development

- › Greater ability to attract and retain high potential managers
- › Flexible approach to management education
- › Structured development of individual managers
- › Integral part of succession planning and development of tomorrow’s leaders

“I chose Strathclyde for my MBA for three reasons: first, Strathclyde has global presence with its international centres around the world – which meant there were opportunities for international networking. The second was that Strathclyde has a global reputation with an excellent faculty, outstanding staff and powerful research capabilities. Finally, the University is located in Glasgow which is a great city to study in.”

Daechuck Lee
Full time MBA



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The Strathclyde MBA – an overview

The Strathclyde MBA is not just a business programme: it is a stimulating, challenging, life-changing experience, which will make you question, re-think and re-evaluate how you do business.

The Strathclyde MBA is highly experiential and based on collaborative learning – students share their varied work experiences, knowledge, understanding and skills.

The MBA will shape and guide you as a reflective, open-thinking, adaptive learner. This is facilitated through enhanced understanding of the interplay of theory and practice in management.

The Strathclyde MBA



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What you will learn

Overview

The Strathclyde MBA programme structure has three distinct 'pillars' at its core – Responsible Leadership, Building Capabilities, and Strategy in Practice.

The pillars comprise a series of 10 and one 20 credit module(s) which clearly embrace the specific leadership challenges and responsibilities impacting business leaders. Our Building Capabilities module provides you with a solid foundation in the management of key functional areas found in today's business organisations. There are also a range of topical and relevant electives subjects on offer each year, so that you can tailor the MBA to your personal preferences and interests. Your MBA journey concludes with the capstone MBA project. You will be able to choose the MBA project that suits you best – you can opt for a research dissertation, entrepreneurial project or consultancy project.

Throughout your studies, module and programme level business engagement activities ensure that your MBA journey is a highly experiential one, and reflective of current issues impacting the business world. Read more on our industry engagement via our Global Practitioners and events on page 21.



Responsible Leadership

Strategic Leadership Development

Strategic Leadership Development is designed to be a reflective leadership journey for each MBA student, in which a personal portfolio is constructed to track and action-plan personal strategic leadership development outcomes arising from the MBA experience.

You will explore the trends and future directions of strategic leadership in organisations through expert speakers, cases, careers and development initiatives, industrial visits and engagement activities.

Learning objectives:

- › Understand multiple perspectives of what constitutes effective strategic leadership from practitioners across organisational type, history and international location
- › Explore and become conversant in methods, thinking and changes in cutting edge strategic leadership practice
- › Enhance your professional development network and practice engaging with a broad range of stakeholders interested in strategic leadership theory and practice
- › Identify effective strategic leadership practices for addressing organisational change risk management and sustainable performance outcomes in modern organisational contexts
- › Critique your strategic leadership identity based on self-reflection and observations gained from the MBA experiences and the views of those around you

Leading a Sustainable Organisation

This module will explore the nature of organisations from multiple perspectives and how to nurture a high-performance organisation by addressing structure and design, culture, politics and processes, organisational behaviour and the role of the workforce. Organisational studies, organisational behaviour and human resource management will be examined through the perspective of sustainability. You will consider the role of the leader in setting the vision, shaping the environment and supporting change. You will also explore how to create sustainable workplaces that attract and retain talent and ensure the health and wellbeing of employees.

Learning objectives:

- › Discuss the challenges in leading organisations that nurture employee health, wellbeing, commitment and high performance
- › Demonstrate awareness of key concepts, considerations and methods of managing organisations through understanding and application of theory in organisational studies, organisational behaviour and human resource
- › Critique contemporary perspectives on organisational design, culture, politics and processes, and the workforce
- › Examine theories and practical considerations relating to planned organisational change and what these mean across the four perspectives of organisational design, culture, politics and processes and the workforce
- › Understand where sustainable practice sits in relation to organisational design, culture, politics and processes and the workforce

Grand Challenges of Corporate Governance

This module takes a systems approach to corporate governance. It examines at an institutional level the culture, context and compliance to global and regional governance best practice and the benefits thereof. The module examines the key contemporary factors that are challenging boards of directors and the options for dealing with them to help create sustainable organisations that have a positive impact on shareholder and wider stakeholder groups.

You will be asked to critically analyse the implications for organisations of Governance 'grand challenges' – specifically related to risk, ethics, social and environmental impact, options for quantifying impact, sustainability, and globalisation.

Learning objectives:

- › Develop an understanding of the issues that organisations face when designing a corporate governance system
- › Critique the tools, principles and practices used to measure adherence to governance standards both externally mandated and internally agreed
- › Discuss the characteristics and role of governance in the life of an organisation, and the impact of governance philosophy/ approach on organisational culture, performance, ethics & sustainability
- › Critique an organisation's governance approach relative to expectations and measures particularly related to environmental and social impact
- › Critically analyse the standards, codes and measures that ensure boards and senior leaders are performing effectively

Strategy in Practice

Applied Strategic Management

Most strategic decisions are made in the face of uncertainty about the future. The class introduces ways of making decisions under uncertainty about the future business environment and evaluates and provides practical experience in scenario thinking as a team-based method.

This course presents the Intuitive Logics scenario method and gives students practical skills thereof. Developing the skills of scenario thinking is a strong underpinning practical part of the class.

Learning Objectives

- › Identify the key principles of scenario methods, specifically the Intuitive Logics method
- › Develop practical skills in the application of the Intuitive Logics scenario method
- › Appraise the domain of application of scenario methods
- › Develop a critical understanding of scenario methods
- › Review the process of anticipating the future in organisations

Digital Transformation and Technological Innovation

In this module you will examine the role of digital disruption, digital maturity and digital initiatives in shaping organisational outcomes. You will also learn how technological innovation can create value through digital transformation.

Learning objectives:

- › Develop an understanding of the organisational and institutional implications of digital disruption and digital technological innovation trends
- › Analyse an organisation's digital maturity and organisational readiness to engage in digital transformation and technological innovation
- › Demonstrate a capacity to innovate business processes, business models and operational approaches through the application of digital technologies and organisational change methods
- › Build a personal capacity in communicating with – and educating – others about digital transformation at strategic and operational levels, and with a variety of stakeholder groups
- › Demonstrate strategic decision-making, business planning and influencing skills in relation to identifying, appraising and recommending digital transformation and technological options

Economic Analysis for Strategists

Markets can often be highly complex and judgement can be clouded by this complexity. By taking an approach based on Microeconomic analysis, you will learn to undertake a rigorous and “emotionless” approach to analysing opportunities in existing and new markets, and the potential these hold.

This provides an alternative but complementary perspective on the assessment of business activity, looking externally, rather than internally, at the consequences which are influenced by the nature of demand and the behaviour of competitors.

Learning objectives:

- › Understand the key influences of profit in a business: production conditions on the supply side; and the nature of demand
- › Learn about a range of decisions businesses face in a market environment
- › Understand the impact of market structure and competition on profitability
- › Gain command of the issues associated with entering foreign markets
- › Appreciate the impact of competition policy on business activity
- › Develop an ability to apply this thinking to contemporary business issues



Building Capabilities

Entrepreneurial Thinking and Practice

This module will examine the entrepreneurial mindset and ways to bring creativity to bear in pursuit of new sources of value creation. You will compare attitudes and practices across national and organisational cultures.

Entrepreneurial Thinking and Practice is delivered on-line.

Learning objectives:

- › Differentiate between traits and mindsets and recognise the role of growth mindsets in entrepreneurial thinking and action
- › Consider ambiguity and uncertainty in the entrepreneurial journey and examine your personal responses to these conditions
- › Identify your personal frames of reference and appraise the impact of these on your creative thinking and action
- › Assess your ability to communicate with empathy and consider how to foster trust and psychological safety to support entrepreneurial thinking and practice for yourself and those around you
- › Reflect on your entrepreneurial skills, competencies and linked behaviours and how these have developed over the course of the class

Business Intelligence and Data Analytics

This module will teach methods for collecting data, how to conduct quantitative analysis and translate the outcomes into actionable insights that might inform business decision making, resource allocation and investment choices. You will consider a range of data from market, financial and customer analysis to operational performance factors, and learn how to present information in accessible formats for different audiences.

Learning objectives:

- › Appraise the value of data, information and access to methods of analysis for any organisation
- › Apply problem structuring to simple and complex organisational situations
- › Identify how best to source and manage data sets required to generate business intelligence
- › Create business intelligence insights via a transparent and reliable application of analytical methods
- › Critique the issues and practical challenges of working with data in a modern context and putting business analysis into practice

Marketing and Brand Management

In this module you will examine the concept of marketing and how it operates within consumer, business-to-business, service and public organisations. You will examine the underlying concepts and frameworks that help organisations to design appropriate strategies.

Learning objectives:

- › Understand the principles and practice of marketing in different business sectors: consumer, business-to-business and services
- › Evaluate theories of buyer behaviour and assess their relevance in different contexts: consumer, business-to-business, services, public and private sector
- › Discuss the central concepts, issues, and strategic value of branding across organisational settings, markets and territories
- › Examine the value-creating potential in areas such as product development, omni-channel management, communications and pricing strategy in an environment which recognises changes in technology, social media and a focus on long-term sustainability
- › Assess the challenges of managing the customer journey in the digital environment
- › Appraise the marketing and brand management approach of an organisation, and identify strategic marketing and branding initiatives to improve performance
- › Understand the relevant responses from marketing to the issues of corporate social responsibility and sustainability

Operations and Project Management

You will explore the principles of contemporary operations and project management in this module. In doing so, you will evaluate the inherent tension between managing ‘business as usual’ and change. You will also examine how these systems of management can contribute to the strategic success of their organisation.

Learning objectives:

- › Deploy Operations Management principles and techniques to support the delivery of the strategy of the organisation
- › Use Project Management principles and techniques to support the delivery of the strategy of the organisation
- › Explain how Project Management and Operations Management can be effectively integrated within organisations
- › Evaluate how the implementation of these systems of management might vary between new value creation and support of ongoing operational activity
- › Generate strategy from both operational and project perspectives

Accounting and Financial Management

This module will teach you the language and methods of managerial and financial accounting. You will learn about the key processes and criteria of financial decision making.

Learning objectives:

- › Demonstrate an ability to discuss, interpret and react to information in financial statements and reports
- › Explain key accounting and financial management concepts and how they can be applied in the evaluation of organisational financial performance
- › Appraise the strategic and operational value of accounting and finance functions to organisational leadership teams and performance
- › Critique the challenges of matching actual practice to ideal standards of ethics, audit activity, regulation and compliance in organisational governance, managerial behaviours and decision-making
- › Apply accounting and financial management, principles, concepts and methods in conducting a review of financial strategy, performance and governance for an organisation

Electives

A number of electives will be on offer each year, led by subject specialists from across the Business School which has a wide pool of academic experts offering a wide range of classes.

To reflect both the latest challenges facing business and the latest insights from our world-leading research, the range of electives is revised annually.

A highlight of the Strathclyde MBA calendar is the annual MBA Summer School which takes place in Glasgow over May and June. The Summer School is open to all study routes of the MBA who have reached elective study stage, and is a wonderful opportunity to study your elective choices alongside a group of like-minded international colleagues.



MBA Project

The capstone element of the Strathclyde MBA is the project, which will showcase your learning and allow you to examine an issue of your choice over an extended period of time.

You can opt to write a research dissertation, put together an entrepreneurial business plan or undertake a consultancy project.

The MBA project will enable you to put into practice the knowledge and skills you have developed throughout the MBA experience, and allow you to showcase the learning you have gained.

Option A Management Research Thesis

You will complete a traditional research project and identify implications for practice. Assessment for this option is based on a dissertation.

Option B Entrepreneurial Business Project

You will undertake an entrepreneurial project, leading to submission of a business plan as part of the final assessment.

Option C Consultancy Project

With this option, you will undertake a project that delivers potential elements such as operational cost improvement, enhanced customer experience or a transformed business model within an existing organisation. Assessment is based on an extensive client project report and final client presentation.

Corporate engagement

An important part of learning and application throughout your MBA will be through industry and external engagement. There are various ways in which you'll engage with industry while studying:

- > Module specific guest speakers
- > Client-based projects
- > Mini-consulting workshops with clients
- > Career and professional development panel discussions
- > Industry Engagement Annual Conference (run with Edinburgh University and University of Glasgow)
- > Networking
- > Site Visits

This industry engagement encourages your practical learning, builds your network with experts in the field, and allows you to make connections between the academic theory and the practical application.

“I had the great opportunity to talk to the MBA cohort about leadership and organisational culture. As is the case with Strathclyde, students came from diverse gender, countries, backgrounds, age, and industries. The discussion after my talk with the students was inspiring, and the enthusiasm that they demonstrated to learn and consciously leave a positive impact on the world was refreshing.”

Nada Khorchid
Full Time MBA 2017

Global Practitioners

At Strathclyde we recognise the pace of change in Higher Education has accelerated, disrupting traditional operating models and driving innovation in the design and experience of the learning journey.

In this shifting context, Strathclyde Business School has introduced the Global Practitioner initiative – this is an organisational innovation aimed at placing practical expertise and content relevance alongside academic knowledge and intellectual challenge at the heart of a high-quality, transformative student experience.

Bridging theory and practice, Global Practitioners play a crucial role in stimulating and facilitating learning for our MBA, executive education and specialist master's students. Our Global Practitioners are a new class of colleagues from a diverse range of industries and backgrounds, reflecting the broad nature of subjects addressed in our general management programmes and the rich variety of students and colleague profiles in our learning environment.

Thirty Global Practitioners have joined the business school to support development and delivery of the MBA and specialist master programmes from September 2022.



Career support

At Strathclyde we understand that career enhancement is one of the top reasons anyone chooses to study for an MBA. In recognition of this, we have integrated careers support throughout the MBA programme and continue that support after graduation.

We draw on our many years of experience and industry knowledge from the in-house team, supplemented by top consultants who are experts in their field, to offer dedicated careers planning and development for all our MBA cohorts and unlimited access once you join our alumni.

The career management journey

Our focus is on developing long-term career management skills. As part of our career development support we offer:

- > strategies to support self-awareness, personal skills development, competency audits, and professional development needs
- > advice on core career skills such as CV building, interviews, assessment centres, social media and online branding
- > one to one careers coaching

Our virtual careers community

All students and alumni become part of our global careers community through access to our Career Management Site, where there is a wealth of information and resources, alerts, and information on jobs and events.

Careers Post-Graduation – where our students go

Over the last three years, an average 92% of our full-time students had jobs or a job offer 3 – 6 months after November Graduation. Examples of companies hiring our students over the same period include:

- > Thermo Fisher, Accenture, JP Morgan and Strathclyde Business School in the UK
- > Samsung in SE Asia and Latin America
- > TATA, KPMG and Halliburton in India
- > Cognizant and Moody's in the US
- > Nova Asset Management and Pandora Jewellery in SE Asia





Our approach to learning

Undertaking the Strathclyde MBA is not simply about gaining an internationally recognised qualification, it is about joining a community of experienced executives who share a desire to develop their practice on a continuing basis.

We see our task as facilitating this development through and beyond the MBA. Our commitment to this approach is reflected not only in the course itself, but in the people we recruit, the approach to learning, the information resources and services available to you and the way we work with alumni. Wherever you undertake our MBA, Strathclyde academics lead your class giving you the opportunity to discuss issues and learn from their expertise.

Building a learning community

The foundation stone of our learning community are the people who join the course. In recruitment our guiding question is 'what does this person bring to our learning community?' The qualities we look for in candidates are experience and a hunger to explore existing practice.

An innovative approach to learning

We believe strongly that experienced managers deserve an approach to learning that reflects their skills and knowledge. This starts with the learning materials. While the standard textbooks we provide cover the generality of subjects, we also supply bespoke core learning materials targeted towards the needs of managers. These texts are written by the teams who deliver the course and draw upon their collective experience as managers and consultants. As a result these materials reflect the latest thinking while integrating across the course. All of our students will have an in-person experience with the Strathclyde MBA and our approach is to ensure that students make the most of these in-person sessions supplemented by additional virtual learning experiences.

All of our MBA study routes, wherever in the world you are based, are fully supported by a dedicated online learning resource. This virtual learning environment comprises web pages and tools that deliver learning materials and activities designed to enhance and support your learning. MBA students will engage with the learning material in advance of any in-person class by preparing in advance, making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the high quality digital learning material in advance of any classroom participation. Our focus is for you to use that learning in practice with your peers to maximise your learning. The MBA class sites will give you specific details about the class including assessment details, lecture notes, and further reading.

It also has discussion forums for you to interact with both your lecturers and your class-mates.

We also emphasise a learning process in our classes that maximises the opportunity to question and debate current thinking. Unlike other schools we do not over-emphasise the historical, paper-based, case study approach preferring, wherever possible, to concentrate on current issues facing organisations. This provides the basis for jointly exploring business issues both with your peers and with academics. No matter where in the world you undertake our MBA, Strathclyde academics will lead your class giving you the opportunity to discuss issues with them and learn from their expertise.



MBA study options

The Strathclyde MBA is a very flexible programme. We offer a variety of study routes, allowing you to choose a programme which suits both your work and/or personal circumstances.

Should your circumstances change during your study, or should you want to vary the way you complete your Strathclyde MBA, we also allow our course members the opportunity to transfer to a different study route, even if that means studying in a different country!

While each of our study routes has differences in how they are delivered, you can be assured that no matter where and how you study for your Strathclyde MBA, all students follow the same programme.

These alternative ways to study for your Strathclyde MBA are explained in greater detail on pages 26 – 33.



Full-time

📍 Glasgow

12 months intensive study in Glasgow

Strathclyde Executive MBA

📍 Glasgow

Weekend classes for 2 years, up to a maximum of 6 years

Strathclyde Executive MBA

📍 International

Study your MBA locally in Malaysia, Greece, Bahrain, UAE, Oman. Typically two years of study but can be up to a maximum of six.

The Strathclyde MBA

Full Time

The Full-time MBA – an international experience

If you choose to study your MBA full-time over 12 months you can expect a stimulating experience. Your year with us is an opportunity to stretch yourself to the maximum, to be challenged and inspired by the faculty and your colleagues and to make lasting friendships around the globe.

At the end of the year you will emerge a different person, confident in the knowledge that you have gained skills and abilities to help you realise your career aspirations. Studying full-time allows you the opportunity to focus on the course rather than trying to juggle study and work.

Special characteristics of the full-time programme

The full-time course is 12 months: ten months participating in classes, group-work and professional development processes, and two months completing the MBA project. The full-time course allows you to take time to embark on life planning and in many cases reinventing or re-planning your career. In the early stages of the course there are a number of classes designed to identify your personal strengths and weaknesses. This is critical as it ensures you use your assets to full advantage while strengthening your weaker areas. The course is intensive and relies heavily on teamwork throughout – encouraging co-operation rather than competition. Within teams, your own expertise and experience is an essential and a valued part of the distinctive character of the full-time MBA.

As the full time MBA route of study is normally undertaken by those individuals changing careers or considering starting up their own business, then the programme has a more formal, integrated careers and professional development programme. Details of this can be found on pages 22 – 23.

Benefits of the full-time programme

Since we require a minimum of three years' work experience (the average is over nine years) you will find that your classmates have a wealth of experience, a powerful resource that will prove invaluable. Students typically come from a wide variety of industries, public service and voluntary agencies. This means that a wide range of experienced professionals have developed their skills through the full time MBA. Typically this has included the accounting and financial managers, consultants, engineers, IT specialists, and marketing managers that you might meet on many MBA programmes, but also some people with very different perspectives, such as medical professionals, civil servants and military officers.

This professional diversity is complemented by a multicultural peer group; interaction between academic staff and class-mates is encouraged, making the overall MBA experience highly participative and engaging.

“When I was enquiring about the MBA programme, I felt they were a good fit with what I wanted... It really reframed my thinking on who I was and what I have done so far and what I wanted to do.”

Pilar Amieva
Full Time MBA

Profile

Full-time study



Madeleine Chadwick
Full-time MBA

Before the MBA, I worked as a senior research and development manager in the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) industry, developing and launching new products in the cosmetic and medical device field. I decided to do the MBA to pivot my career and broaden my business knowledge to enable the change. I chose Strathclyde as the positioning and content of the course was ideally suited to what I was looking for. I was also attracted by the dedicated career service and the opportunity to benefit from the strong links that Strathclyde has with businesses in Scotland.

I loved my MBA experience. It was such a privilege to take a year out to study, think, learn and develop. The diversity of people on the course was a real positive for me and I enjoyed the group assignments: they were challenging but proved to be a great learning experience and something of a differentiator for the Strathclyde MBA. It wasn't always easy, in fact it gave me some of my biggest challenges that year, but it also provided me with some of my greatest learning experiences.

I moved back to Scotland to do the MBA after 20 years away and so had no local network and limited knowledge of industry in Scotland. The industry speakers, careers fair and networking events were particularly useful and informative for me. I also enjoyed a lot of the broader opportunities through Strathclyde University and associated organisations and attended many talks and events.

I found Strathclyde provided strong support from both teaching and support staff with a variety of internal and external lecturers and types of courses and styles. The support staff were very helpful and always available. When you study a full time MBA it is somewhat all consuming, so it is important to have strong support. The MBA dedicated careers team were also a great support, there to help with careers choices as well as advice on CVs, job applications and interviews and I used the service frequently.

I would absolutely recommend the Strathclyde MBA – and have, in fact, done so. To anyone considering it, I would emphasize the hard work and commitment needed but highlight that it is worth it to get the best from the experience. It really did open a new world to me and allow me to achieve my objective of pivoting my career.

I joined the General Management Leadership Development Programme at Thermo Fisher Scientific after graduating. This is a programme for MBA graduates and I got this role as a direct result of the MBA. It is a two year programme where people rotate through different divisions and roles in the business. It is a great opportunity to continue to learn and apply the knowledge gained in the MBA. This is a change in career for me – both industry and role – and the MBA was very much part of allowing me to do this.

“I would absolutely recommend the Strathclyde MBA – and have, in fact, done so.”

The Strathclyde MBA

Executive MBA (part time)

Glasgow

Executive MBA (part time) Glasgow – a Scottish networking experience

We recognise that the commitments of working managers mean they require a programme that fits around their careers. Strathclyde's Executive MBA Glasgow is designed for busy executives who need to combine career and family commitments with the demands of MBA studies. The flexibility of the part-time approach enables most participants to graduate within two years. However, study may be spread over a longer period if necessary, to a maximum of six years.

Typically your studies will be made up of:

- › weekend intensive seminars delivered at the Business School in Glasgow, students can expect to attend around 7 or 8 of these scheduled classes per year if following a two-year timetable.
- › off-campus learning and support facilitated by our virtual learning environment.

You'll work in an international environment alongside like-minded classmates and be part of our long-established network of students and alumni from our international postgraduate centres.

A major strength of the Executive MBA lies in the immediacy of the relationship between managerial practice and the course. Students of the Executive MBA bring to their classes and groups the issues they deal with on a day-to-day basis and in-depth knowledge of current practice in their industry. Through the course materials and discussion with their peers they take back into their work situations insights that reflect the cross-disciplinary nature of the course and the contextual richness of those taking the MBA. This dynamic brings great value to course members and employers alike as new possibilities and ways of working are opened up at both an organisational and personal level.

Executive MBA study gives you the opportunity to get to know people from a broad spectrum – previously, the programme has had representatives from sectors such as financial services, oil, pharmaceuticals, IT and retail as well as public and not-for-profit organisations. This provides course members with the unique opportunity to establish a powerful network.

A highlight of the Strathclyde calendar is the annual MBA Summer School which takes place in Glasgow, typically over May and June. The summer school is open to all study routes of the MBA who have reached the elective stage of the programme. It's a great way to accelerate your studies and network with a large group of international colleagues.

There are two intakes per year for the Strathclyde Executive MBA in Glasgow, in October and April.



Profile

Executive MBA Glasgow



Mildred Zimunya
Part-time MBA

From day one of my part time MBA journey I have been constantly learning and applying my learning from the MBA programme.

What has been key in doing this MBA has been the emphasis on understanding others, understanding the environment and the application of learning through the use of live case study examples from the business world. I have changed a lot in how I work with people – I listen more, I have learnt what it is 'to be in the other persons shoes', I have learnt to be more analytical using the many theories and tools taught to understand my work environment.

As a manager I have acquired a huge insight into understanding management issues and the technical skills necessary to tackle them. The MBA programme has been very well rounded in offering organisational management techniques to make decisions that benefit organisations and foster growth. I have been given tools that have already helped me unlock the nuts and bolts of some of my own work issues to enhance service delivery.

Before the MBA my view of the Corporate Profit-focussed world versus the Third sector, not-for-profit environment was very narrow, it was skewed towards a view that these two entities were enemies of each other and what drove them was very different. However my view now is that organisations all want the same things and exist in more or less the same environments with similar challenges and needs around working with people, building successful businesses, sustainability and good leadership.

The electives I chose were very much informed by my learning experience and my curiosity in how to make work environments better for employees. I feel a motivated work force is a key ingredient in organisational success.

I chose the Developing Skills for Effective Management Consulting and through this I have learnt the importance of having the skills to listen, to explore issues that may be affecting an organisation, and to help organisations with the tools to solve their own issues and formulate winning strategies.

I also participated in the Leadership for Change and Innovation elective – this was about understanding leadership rather than being a leader. This is also in recognition that organisations are environments filled with creative and innovative individuals at any level and where organisations harness this resource they can think out of the box and find new and successful ideas within themselves to move their organisations forward.

These electives have reinforced the importance of acknowledging that employees often hold the keys to unlocking success and that it is important that organisations offer the right environment for this to happen.

The beauty of doing the Strathclyde MBA part time programme has been that I have been able to put into practice what I have learnt throughout my learning journey. I am definitely a more reflective person in my practice, I am much more confident in my view of management; I believe the skills I have gained have given me leadership skills applicable to any sector.

The mix of students from all business sectors and various nationalities has enriched my view of other cultures and broadened my understanding of the vital role culture plays in moving organisations forward.

I have certainly found SBS a 'place of useful learning' and will continue to actively participate as an alumna of Strathclyde Business School.

The Strathclyde MBA

Executive MBA

International

Strathclyde Executive MBA – International

The Strathclyde MBA has been available outside the UK since 1988, with thousands of course participants now graduated and thousands more currently studying in their own country. This success is due to the flexible learning delivery structure developed with local partners.

Our partnership agreements ensure that our international bases mirror the high standard of teaching facilities and resources you would expect in a leading business school. While we maintain full control of admissions, academic teaching and programme delivery, our partners provide full administrative support and are on hand to deal with your everyday needs as you progress through your studies.

The Strathclyde MBA has many study routes, but the executive MBA you study via one of our international centres is exactly the same programme as you would study in Glasgow, and the academics who deliver the core elements of the programme in your country also deliver the MBA in Glasgow.

The programme format is especially designed for busy executives who need to combine career and family commitments with the demands of MBA studies. The flexibility of the part-time approach enables participants to graduate within two years. However, study may be spread over a longer period if necessary, to a maximum of six.



Profile

Executive MBA

Dubai



Aida El Bouanani
Part-time MBA

I come from an engineering background and graduated in IT Engineering in 2010 in Morocco. However I never worked as an Engineer and joined the sales team in Procter & Gamble after my graduation. After four years, I had the opportunity to move to Dubai and join the sales team in General Mills in 2014.

Coming from an engineering background, most of my studies were around mathematics, physics and technical subjects. So when I started working in sales, I realised I was lacking the business acumen needed in order to progress in my career. I joined the MBA in order to get a holistic understanding of the corporate world and equip myself with the right tools to move to a senior leadership position.

During my research for the MBA, I attended various MBA fairs and did extensive research about the various MBA courses available in Dubai. I chose Strathclyde as it is the longest standing MBA in the UAE, and is the only one offering a triple accreditation – AMBA, EQUIS and AACSB. The Strathclyde MBA is also accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research in the UAE, and was the first international MBA in the UAE to have this accreditation. Strathclyde's MBA remains the only UAE government and triple internationally accredited UK MBA programme available in the UAE.

I also looked at the different rankings provided by the FT and the Economist and it was clear from there that Strathclyde had the best cost vs. ranking ratio and thus provided a better return on investment.

I enjoyed the variety of classes provided by the MBA. I had classes about marketing, operations management, human resources and finance. I also had the chance to be exposed to the strategy module and work on multiple case studies for different industries.

As part of the MBA, I had the opportunity to choose two electives in two different locations and I used this opportunity to travel to the Strathclyde campus in Glasgow to take one of the electives there. It was a great opportunity to meet with students from all over the world and exchange views on our experiences with the MBA and our future career perspectives.

The academic teaching at Strathclyde is very comprehensive as it covers diverse courses. Also, all the professors come from the Glasgow campus and this ensures consistency in the delivery of the courses between the different locations. On top of that, most of the local counsellors are alumni of the Dubai MBA itself which represents an opportunity to discuss with them the outcomes of the MBA and how to make the most out of it.

The MBA has been a life-changing experience and a great career accelerator for me. Strathclyde Business School curriculum is very challenging and will push you to give the best of yourself and get the maximum learning out of the MBA.

The Strathclyde Executive MBA is offered on a part-time basis through our international partnerships in:

Bahrain

Greece

Malaysia

Oman

UAE

We also offer the MBA with a specialism in Shipping at our centre in Greece.

Further details of the above centres are available on our website.

“I feel like the MBA is giving me a whole range of skills, knowledge and accumulated business acumen that will propel my career. The Strathclyde environment is one which is positive and supportive.”

Ryan Joshua Mahindapala
Executive MBA, Singapore



General information and admissions

Assignments

Assignments are clearly outlined in your course handbook and will be available on your digital learning environment.

How much does it cost?

Details of fees are available online and via our international centres.

How do I pay?

Sponsoring companies are asked to pay tuition fees at the beginning of each academic year.

If you are paying your own fees you might wish to take advantage of a scheme allowing you to pay by instalments. Prodigy finance offers loans to UK nationals and international students studying an MBA at Strathclyde Business School. Conditions apply for further information visit:

www.prodigyfinance.com

How do I raise the funds?

The Strathclyde MBA Programme is a well-recognised qualification among international, national and local employers. On average, 50% of course members on the part-time routes obtain full or partial sponsorship from their employer. For course members funding themselves, there are a number of ways of securing funding. Details of how to find out about available scholarships are shown below.

Association of Masters of Business Administration

Students are eligible to join AMBA after enrolment on an MBA course.

Scholarships and funding

Each year, the business school provides a range of scholarship opportunities for those students who are self-funding their MBA studies. Self-funding status means that fees are paid for by a student's own means. If a student is in receipt of funding or a scholarship from an organisation such as the British Council or a corporate body, then it is unlikely that they will be eligible for financial assistance via our scholarship schemes. For further details refer to:

www.strath.ac.uk/mba/scholarships/

For details of other funding opportunities please contact the MBA admissions office.

Accommodation

The University has a large student village with a variety of accommodation both on-campus and nearby. All successful applicants for the full-time programme will be sent on-campus accommodation details. Glasgow also has a large private rental sector. Our admissions team would be happy to provide you with further details.

Assessment

Your MBA studies are formally assessed using a variety of individual and group based methods – for example, individual portfolios, business reports, and presentations. Ultimately, depending on your choice of capstone project, your final assessment will be a significant piece of individual or small group work. You will also receive various types of feedback throughout your MBA studies. Details of the assessment type and the type of feedback you will receive will be shared in every module.

Flexibility of study choice

We offer you the flexibility of transferring between various study routes, and to undertake units or modules from different routes. For example, Executive MBA students can catch up with missed work by taking part in selected modules of the full time programme. Full time MBA students who miss out on elements of the programme for whatever reason can also take advantage of Executive MBA seminars.

Please note that course members wishing to take classes on routes other than the one they are registered for may be subject to additional fees. In addition, while we do our best to meet your requirements wherever possible, such requests are subject to availability.

Keeping you informed

Our comprehensive website at www.strath.ac.uk/mba/ provides additional information and should answer most of your questions.

If you would like to discuss the programme with a member of the admissions team or the MBA administrator, please contact us. We would be happy to show you around the school and introduce you to some of the faculty. SBS and our international partners regularly hold MBA information sessions at all our centres. In addition, we attend international recruitment events throughout the year.

For further details on any of the above, please contact the admissions team on:

T: +44 141 553 6118/9

E: sbs.admissions@strath.ac.uk

Course dates and applications:

Full-time MBA Glasgow

MBA programme starts during September and January

Executive MBA (part time) Glasgow

There are intakes in October and April

Strathclyde Executive MBA International

There are two intakes at each of our international centres in April and October

We advise you to apply as early as possible since places on most study routes are limited.





As you might expect, our selection process is designed to identify talented professionals from a wide range of academic, business and cultural backgrounds who might gain from, and contribute to, our learning community.

As a result, while there are formal requirements for entry listed below, our concern is with the potential of individual candidates, their interpersonal and teamworking qualities and the range and nature of their managerial experience.

In order to assess these skills we ask you to complete a number of essays outlining your experience and aspirations along with references supporting your work experience and academic record.

On the majority of study routes you will be expected to undergo a formal interview. We'd encourage you to contact the school or centre you are applying to and to ask as many questions as you need to clarify your decision.

Competence in English

The MBA programme is highly interactive and therefore requires a high level of competence in English speaking, writing, reading and understanding. A well balanced minimum score of 6.5 in IELTS or equivalent is required for those applicants whose first language is not English. We may consider applicants who fall slightly below these standards if they are willing to undertake pre-sessional study.

The application process

Applications should be made online at www.strath.ac.uk/mba/. Completed application forms are considered by the Admissions Committee as they are received. You are therefore encouraged to submit your application form and all the supporting documentation as soon as possible. Once all the requisite details are with us you should receive a decision within two weeks of application.

Qualifications and experience

For entry to the MBA programme:

- › A first degree is essential and applicants must be at least 24 years old, have a minimum of three years' postgraduate managerial/professional experience and be able to demonstrate career progression. Applicants without a first degree but who can demonstrate 10 years of appropriate experience will be considered.

“The Strathclyde MBA requires us to view the things that affect an organisation from different and various viewpoints.”

Atsushi Ikarashi
MBA Malaysia

Alumni engagement

Investing in an MBA goes beyond your academic studies. We want to ensure that you see a return on your investment that grows over time after graduation. With a dedicated member of staff on the MBA team working on external engagement as well as the central university alumni office, there are numerous ways to experience your alumni journey.

As an alumnus you will join an alumni base of MBA graduates spread across the world not to mention the wider University of Strathclyde alumni base of over 150,000 graduates.

Once registered, you can stay informed on current business issues, SBS news, alumni events via our website, and newsletters. This site also gives you access to a careers portal and a variety of business databases.

Within the MBA programme, you can get involved, give back, and continue your learning in the following ways:

- › Electives – MBA alumni are eligible to undertake one elective per year for three years after graduation, subject to availability
- › Guest speaking
- › Module design and feedback
- › Focus groups
- › Student projects/assignments
- › Mentoring training and opportunities
- › Panel discussions
- › Learning circles on areas of interest
- › Virtual events surrounding the latest topics





Further information

For general information on the Strathclyde MBA programme or any of our other programmes please contact us at:

Marketing and Student Recruitment
University of Strathclyde Business School
199 Cathedral Street
GLASGOW
G4 0QU

T: +44(0)141 553 6118/6119
E: sbs.admissions@strath.ac.uk

www.strath.ac.uk/mba

CONTACT US

For further information on the programme or any aspect of applying, please get in touch:

sbs.admissions@strath.ac.uk

+44 (0)141 553 6118 / 6119



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