

Integrated Executive DBA

Traditionally successful senior managers and executives in private or the public sectors did not hold a master's degree or a doctorate. Instead they would progress upwards in the same organisation. However today, Chief Executive Officers are generally well-educated professionals. Globally, majority of CEOs hold at least a bachelor's degree; 64% hold at least a master's degree or equivalent (including MBAs); and 10% hold a doctorate degree, including the Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA).

With a DBA, there is an understanding that the candidate has already been successful in management (in either the private or public sector) and now seeks a new intellectual challenge. These people are often interested in management research and may have a practical research question in mind; for example, a specific problem generated from the work environment. By studying this theme at doctorate level, it could provide benefits to their companies.

With the Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA), you are recognised as being both a prominent practitioner in your field and also as a management researcher, who, after completing the programme is entitled to the title of doctor.

Unique to the University of Gloucestershire is an Integrated Executive DBA programme. The course combines the opportunity for senior business executives to attain a professional doctorate by offering a potential progression route from an MBA Master's Stage Award.

What is the Integrated Executive DBA programme?

The programme is a dual degree after you complete the entire programme. Initially, if successful you will gain the MBA Master's Stage Award, and then potentially the Professional Doctorate (DBA). Alongside the programme are additional bridging workshops and seminars that have been designed specifically to assist the candidate to be able to conduct academic research, write academically and prepare them for the DBA.

The programme in more detail

The MBA Master's Stage Award course enables candidates to top-up their existing qualification(s) to a full MBA degree by dissertation, typically through six months of full-time study or 12 months of part-time study, and permit them to potentially progress on the DBA. The MBA Master's Stage Award is available either online through a series of professional crafted recorded workshops, or alternatively attending our three day MBA Master's Stage Award research seminars.

On completion of the MBA Master's Stage Award and approval of a research proposal, the DBA programme commences with a pre-thesis modular element which lasts, on average, 12 to 18 months, after which you present your formal research plan for an area focused on a topic of your choice. You then enter the thesis phase. At the conclusion of the professional *din viva voce*.

For those interested in the Integrated Executive DBA programme, you need to have at least:

- a 2.2 honours degree or equivalent in a relevant subject. However, consideration will consider a comparable professional or postgraduate qualification(s)
- you need to have a minimum of five years' management experience; however, applications will be considered on an individual basis.