

Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) – Awarded by the University of Gloucestershire

Via Level 8 Doctoral Diploma in Research



Welcome to the DBA Programme

Advance your expertise with a globally recognised Doctor of Business Administration from the University of Gloucestershire. Year 1 is delivered by London Examinations Board (LEB) via a Level 8 Doctoral Diploma in Research. This guarantees entry to year 2 of the University's DBA. This pathway allows professionals to deepen their research proficiency and leadership insight. It empowers you to influence business strategy and innovation at the highest level. You'll develop skills in business through an in-depth research project on a topic of your choice and the development of advanced academic skills. You'll cover a wide range of research topics, from consumer behaviour to management accounting, or leadership to production control. The key is that you are able to develop doctoral work that has relevance to theory and practice.

About the University of Gloucestershire

The University of Gloucestershire is a well-established public university in Gloucestershire, England. It has a rich history that spans nearly two centuries. With its long-standing heritage, the University of Gloucestershire has built a reputation for delivering high-quality education and fostering a supportive learning environment. The university offers a broad range of programmes, including 120 undergraduate courses and over 60 postgraduate courses spread across eight Academic Schools. These programmes are designed to cater to diverse student interests and career aspirations, providing both academic rigour and practical learning opportunities. As a public university, the University of Gloucestershire is committed to maintaining the highest standards of education. Its accreditation by key educational bodies ensures that students receive internationally recognised qualifications that are valued by employers and industries worldwide.

The university places a strong emphasis on employability, integrating work-based learning and real-world experiences into its curriculum to prepare students for successful careers.

The University's DBA is ranked 21st overall in the European Economic Committee's Global DBA Rankings 2023.

About London Examinations Board

London Examinations Board (LEB) is a UK-based organisation registered with the UK Register of Learning Providers (UKPRN 10043715). Our headquarters is in Hertfordshire, England with additional regional offices in Asia. LEB achieved in 2021 the UK's most prestigious business award - Queen's Awards for Enterprise. It is a Royal Seal of approval for winning UK companies. LEB is dedicated to promoting superior internationally recognised programmes that meet the highest standards of education. Our commitment to excellence ensures that our programmes not only enhance the skills and knowledge of our learners but also significantly boosts their career prospects.



DBA Programme Highlights

This DBA programme starts with a pre-thesis modular phase – Level 8 Doctoral Diploma in Research – designed to meet rigorous academic and professional standards aligned with level 8 qualifications on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) and the European Qualifications Framework. This diploma is delivered and awarded by LEB and serves as the foundational phase of your doctoral journey. On successfully completing the Level 8 Doctoral Diploma in Research, you are academically guaranteed entry to the DBA. LEB will register you as a year two DBA student with the University of Gloucestershire. This stage comprises advanced doctoral research culminating in a formal thesis submission and viva voce that leads to the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) award conferred by the University of Gloucestershire. The entire programme can be completed within 24 to 30 months, depending on your pace. In summary, this DBA pathway is a collaborative arrangement between the London Examinations Board and the University of Gloucestershire, offering a flexible and globally respected doctoral achievement.

Who Should Enrol?

This DBA is ideal for:

- Executives aiming to deepen their strategic and analytical capabilities.
- Researchers and academics targeting doctoral-level achievements.
- Professionals seeking impactful career advancement through scholarly credentials.

Programme Structure

Level 8 Doctoral Diploma in Research Modules

Undertaking and Writing a Critical Literature Review

Gain essential skills in conducting comprehensive and critical literature reviews. Learn to identify relevant research, evaluate its quality, synthesize findings, and contribute to the existing body of knowledge. Delve into various aspects of literature reviewing, searching databases, developing research questions, analysing methodologies, and writing clear and concise reviews.

Research Methodologies

Gain a robust understanding of research philosophies, methodologies, and paradigms. This module covers both quantitative and qualitative approaches, guiding you to develop sound research questions and select appropriate strategies to investigate complex problems in business and management.

Advanced Research Methods and Analysis

Gain comprehensive understanding of the specific tools, software and techniques used to collect, analyse and present data within the framework of research methodology. Explore various quantitative and qualitative data collection methods, data analysis techniques, and the ethical considerations involved in research.

Academic Research Writing

Develop essential skills to produce high-quality academic writing, including research papers, dissertations, and scholarly articles. Learn the conventions of academic writing, develop critical thinking and analysis skills, and master the art of effective communication.

Reflective Research Skills and Professional Development Portfolio

Gain skills for self-reflection, professional development, and lifelong learning. Explore the importance of self-awareness, critical reflection, and continuous learning in the context of the research preparation journey. Develop a professional development portfolio to document and track your growth as a researcher.

Key Features of the DBA

Doctoral-Level Qualification

Develop and refine a range of skills across research, academic practice, project management and critical analysis to equip you for your future. Whether it's contributing to ground-breaking academic research or applying problem-solving skills in the workplace, you'll be ready to take on your next challenge..

Advanced Research Proficiency

Gain mastery in both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, equipping you with the analytical tools to investigate complex business challenges and contribute new knowledge to the field.

Executive-Level Thinking

Develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and strategic decision-making abilities that transcend operational management, preparing you for high-impact roles in academia, consultancy, or executive leadership.

Flexible Study

Choose from fully online or blended learning formats, enabling you to integrate your doctoral studies with professional responsibilities and life commitments.

Real-World Relevance

Apply advanced research techniques and scholarly insights to real business environments, culminating in a dissertation that delivers actionable value to industry or academia.



Assessment

Assessment Instruments

Module	Assessment	Grade Weighting
Undertaking and Writing a Critical Literature Review	6,000 – 6,500 words Literature Review	100%
Research Methodologies	Critical Evaluation of Research Methodologies Assignment 1 – 3,000 – 3,250 words	50 %
	Assignment 2 – 3,000 – 3,250	50 %
Advanced Research Methods and Analysis	6,000 – 6,5000 words Advanced Data Analysis Report	100%
Academic Research Writing	6,000 – 6,500 words Research Proposal	100%
Reflective Research Skill and Professional Development Portfolio	Assignment 1: 1,500 – 2,000 words Research Learning and development reflection.	30%
	Assignment 2: 1,500 – 2,000 words Self-Assessment and Development Plan.	40%
	Assignment 3: 1,500 – 2,000 words Professional Development Activities	30%

Teaching Philosophy & Delivery Modes

Philosophy:

- Emphasis on independent learning, critical thinking, and practical application.
- Hybrid teaching with expert-guided workshops, forums, and real-world case studies.

Modes of Delivery:

Blended Learning mode – Each taught Module should have a total of 8 hours of face-to-face lectures and be supported by self-study using the Online Learning Resources and online interactions with the Module Leader.

Fully Online mode – Each taught Module should have a total of 8 hours of asynchronous classes. There will be a Programme Tutor to answer any questions or queries. This will be supported by self-study using Online Learning Resources. Pre-recorded video lectures for each module will be provided.



Admission Requirements

Academic:

Master's degree or equivalent

Professional:

Minimum 2 years post-qualification experience

Language:

IELTS 6.5 overall (6.0 writing, 5.5 other components)



Completion Timeline & Contact Information

Completion Time:

- Level 8 Diploma: 10 – 12 months
- DBA (Top-Up): Additional 12–15 months (or as per UOG schedule)



Contact Us



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