MBA
Master of Business Administration

www.wbs.ac.za
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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

As one of the oldest business schools in South Africa, Wits Business School has graduated thousands of successful business leaders.

The reputation of the school is built on over fifty years of academic excellence, and we are proud to be a part of Wits University, ranked the top research institution on the continent. At Wits Business School you will enjoy not only a sense of heritage on our beautiful campus, but cutting-edge curricula and top level teaching. Most of our faculty have their PhDs and bring to the classroom up-to-date and contextually relevant industry knowledge.

We are also extremely proud of our global network of successful alumni - ranging from CEOs of major corporates through to social entrepreneurs who are making an impact on our changing world.

We are pleased that you are considering joining this special group of game-changers.

Dr Sibusiso Sibisi
Director and Head of School

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

WBS is definitely the right choice if you are looking for a well-established school with a reputation for academic and teaching excellence.

As you are probably aware, an MBA demands utmost focus and the challenge of finding that elusive balance between study, work and family commitments. At WBS you will be rewarded with a stimulating and interactive classroom experience, and up-to-date, globally-focused course material to equip you for the future world of work. You will broaden your horizons and make lifelong friends and business networks.

Over and above this is our global study tour programme, a compulsory part of the MBA and an exciting way to gain international exposure. Our partnerships with many top-tier business schools around the world open up further opportunities for exchange programmes. The world is your oyster!

We hope to welcome you soon to Wits Business School.

Dr Renee Horne
MBA and International Programmes Director
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

You can apply to do your MBA at WBS if:

• You have an Honours Degree (NQF level 8)

• Minimum 4 years work experience (two years managerial or senior position)

• A level of competence in Maths equivalent to the South African Matriculation Certificate

• You are proficient in English.

• You have completed and achieved an acceptable level in either the GMAT, NMAT or the APIIL test.

• You have a SAQA Evaluation Certificate (applicable to International qualifications).

CLASS OPTIONS/STUDY FORMATS

CLASS OPTIONS

The WBS MBA can be completed in the following formats:

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<th>CLASS OPTIONS</th>
<th>January intake</th>
<th>Study Format</th>
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<td>Part Time (2 years)</td>
<td>Weekday class</td>
<td>Two Weekday evenings (17h30 – 21h00) and occasional Saturday classes as required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part Time (2 years)</td>
<td>Saturday class</td>
<td>Saturday classes (8h00 – 16h30) and occasional Weekday classes as required.</td>
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**THE CURRICULUM**

Wits Business School’s MBA curriculum reflects the changing business landscape in Africa to provide students with a globally relevant management degree. The intention is to develop a new generation of business leaders who are equipped to do business in Africa and beyond.

**There are four components of the WBS MBA:**

- Core courses
- Elective courses
- Independent study
- Global study tour

**COURSES ELECTIVES**

The MBA consists of **12 core courses** and a choice of **3 electives**.

**CORE COURSES:**

1. Management and Financial Accounting and Finance
2. Economics for Business
3. Technology and Operations Management
4. Strategy
5. Organisational Design & Development and People Management
6. Critical Enquiry Skills
7. Business, Society and Collective Action
8. Marketing in a Connected World
9. Finance and Investment Decisions
10. Entrepreneurship and Innovation
11. Business Integration
12. Case Competition

**ELECTIVES: Students to select 3 (from any of the following 5 areas of study)**

- Dynamic Economies and Innovation
- Managing for Sustainability
- Finance
- Leading Organisations in a Complex Environment
- General Management

**The curriculum revolves around five key themes:**

1. **Context in Africa**
2. **Context in South Africa**
3. **Sustainability**
4. **Entrepreneurial Action**
5. **Critical Engagement**

**Note:** Electives are run full day weekdays and/or weekend depending on your selection and they are subject to availability.
INDEPENDENT STUDY

The independent study portion of the MBA comprises:

LEADERSHIP QUEST:

The Leadership Quest is an ongoing, independent study component of the MBA with a focus on individual leadership development and capability. It requires the student to research the topic of effective leadership to determine the kind of leader they want to become.

APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT:

Students choose one out of four major projects:

- a consulting project;
- a social entrepreneurship project;
- a business venture proposal, or
- a research report.

GLOBAL STUDY TOUR (COMPULSORY)

Our MBA provides the best of local and international study opportunities. The global study tour is an integral part of the MBA curriculum and is designed to expose students to best practice learnings from complex international markets. Recent countries visited include China, USA, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, India, Vietnam, Thailand and Mauritius. There is also the option of a local study tour which includes visits to Durban, Cape Town and Botswana.
MBA FEES

Fees for the MBA for 2019 are quoted as **R238 070***

*Please note: Fee is subject to review in 2020.

The estimated costs for International Study Tours is between **$4500 - $5500** and for the local option approximately **R35 000**.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Only online applications are accepted. Complete an online application at [www.wbs.ac.za](http://www.wbs.ac.za) and click on **online applications** on the top right hand corner and follow the links.

- Required documents at application stage are on the Checklist.

- Shortlisted applicants may sit for one of the three admission test; GMAT, NMAT or psychometric test (APIL). The **shortlisted candidates will receive confirmation/invite from the school to write the (APIL) test**

- Shortlisted RPL applicants will be required to take only the NMAT test. Both the GMAT and NMAT require extensive preparation and information on these could be found on www.gmat.com; www.nmat.org.in/africa

- Applicants may be required to attend an interview

CHECKLIST

- Online application form
- Curriculum Vitae
- Certified copies of academic transcripts and degree certificate(s)
- SAQA evaluation certificate (International qualifications only)
- Proof of English language proficiency (If English was not used as a medium of study)
- Non-refundable application fee of **R200**
- WBS admission tests (at a cost of R950)

ENQUIRIES:

MBA Applications: +27 (0) 861 000 927 or admissions.wbs@wits.ac.za.

INTAKES

**January Intake:**
Open March/April & Close 31 October 2019

**Mid-Year Intake:**
Open January/February
FACTS ABOUT WITS BUSINESS SCHOOL

The MBA programme at WBS is intense and demanding, and at the same time a rewarding, enriching and a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

OUR TEACHING METHOD

Our teaching method is interactive and collaborative. Our classrooms are designed to stimulate discussion between lecturers and students. We make extensive use of the case study method, using local and international cases that bring real-world business challenges into the classroom.

WBS was the first business school in South Africa to establish its own Case Centre, which has developed over 200 case studies.

CASE CENTRE

WBS was the first business school in South Africa to establish its own Case Centre, which has developed over 200 case studies, most of which focus on South African organisations. Our cases include companies such as FNB, Nando’s, Discovery Health, Capitec Bank, Montecasino, Sasol, Young Designers Emporium, Tashas, Massmart and many others. The cases cover all aspects of business and explore Strategy, Marketing, Organisational Design and Development, Entrepreneurship and Finance and Innovation.

ELECTIVES AT INTERNATIONAL PARTNER SCHOOLS

WBS has partnerships with a number of international business schools and our students can complete their electives at business schools such as Duke, Warwick and Kelley to name but a few. For many students, this option is the highlight of their MBA and allows them to have the perfect mix of local and international business knowledge.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Our reputation for teaching excellence is enhanced by a number of visiting/adjunct professors from other business schools around the world. We also have a number of part-time lecturers who work in organisations and then bring their up-to-the-minute, practical knowledge into the classroom. In addition, in order to keep students abreast of current business trends, most modules include guest lecturers to add an extra dimension to the learning experience.

RESEARCH

As part of Wits University, one of the highest ranked universities in the world in terms of research output, WBS boasts the highest number of PhDs of any business school faculty in South Africa. Our professors and lecturers all have their areas of research and publish regularly. Besides the faculty research output, a number of outstanding MBA student research reports are published in leading academic journals.

ACCREDITATIONS

The WBS MBA is accredited by the London based Association of MBAs (AMBA). WBS is a founding member of the South African Business School Association (SABSA) and is a member of the Association of African Business Schools (AABS). We are also proud to be the only African business school to be a member of the Partnership in International Management (PIM), a network of 60 leading business schools around the world.

As part of Wits University, one of the highest ranked universities in the world in terms of research output, WBS boasts the highest number of PhDs of any business school faculty in South Africa. Our professors and lecturers all have their areas of research and publish regularly. Besides the faculty research output, a number of outstanding MBA student research reports are published in leading academic journals.
INDIVIDUAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND COACHING

WBS has played a pivotal role in the career development for thousands of students. Our Career Management Centre offers experienced one-on-one coaching, career advice and counselling, employment consultation, CV formulation and critique, mock interviews and career workshops and fairs, among many other services.

ALUMNI NETWORK

WBS is proud of its extensive network of alumni around the world. Many of our graduates hold senior management positions in organisations both locally and abroad. WBS has also graduated the most MBAs in Africa and is ranked 32 out of 17,000 universities internationally in the employment of alumni in top executive positions. Our active Alumni Office arranges several networking events for alumni, with guest speakers, throughout the year.

PUBLIC DISCOURSE

Hosting a number of topical events every year, WBS is continually building on its reputation as a centre for discourse, debate and discussion. Our public lectures attract this country's foremost thought leaders, academics, businesspeople and experts in their field, who lead panel discussions on business-relevant issues facing South Africa and the rest of the continent.

LINKS TO WITS

WBS is the Graduate School of Business Administration of the University of the Witwatersrand ('Wits'). Wits is ranked as the top research university in Africa. Wits is renowned for the quality and volume of its research output, boasting 26 A-rated researchers. Wits has produced 4 Nobel Prize winners and 91 prestigious Rhodes scholars.

LOCATION

WBS is situated on its own beautiful campus in Parktown, Johannesburg with easy access to highways and public transport.
FACILITIES, RESOURCES & SERVICES

Food and Coffee

Our on-site canteen serves a wide variety of delicious meals and snacks, including home-made cakes and cappuccinos to fuel the academic debate! Opposite the School is ‘Mike’s Kitchen’ restaurant, a historical landmark and popular meeting place for students and businesspeople.

ICT Facilities

WBS has a well-equipped computer laboratory and Wi-Fi is available throughout the campus. Students have access to our e-learning platform, Sakai, and there are numerous printers available for students’ use.

Library

Our comfortable and well-stocked library, known as the WBS Management Library, holds over 15,000 volumes of books and collections, and subscribes to over 200 database journals. The library not only services the day-to-day research and information needs of students, but also acts as a management research archival repository for Wits University, holding a reserve of over 45 years of MBA and other management discipline research theses.
When I think of the WBS MBA, I can't help but think of the quote by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. “A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions.” Embarking on the MBA journey is an enriching experience that grows and empowers you by pushing you out of your comfort zone and shows you just how capable you truly are. The course content is not just theoretical but provides real world case studies, and as a result from day one you are forced to approach the content as you would if you were a decision maker within your organization. As the Wits MBA is arguably the most respected in Africa, your experience is further enriched by the individuals from all walks of life across the globe that you will meet and create lifelong connections with. You will have access to and engage with subject matter experts that are not just academics but are industry and corporate giants and this lends credence to the claim that Wits gives you the edge!

- Zukhanye N. Kwinana, MBA (2015/2016)

With my career spanning many years in technology, I was always intimidated by the business world. The Wits MBA gave me a good overview of the business world, thereby helping me make better informed contribution and decisions at work and in my personal life. This overview has enabled me to identify business areas that I felt I needed to explore further. My research project, with the help of a supervisor that deemed my successful completion as a key deliverable on his part, turned out to be a consolidated application of the material covered throughout the program.

- Tshego Mogashwa, MBA (2015/2016)