MBA
Master of Business Administration

www.wbs.ac.za
Wits Business School has designed its new MBA curriculum to reflect the changing business landscape in Africa, and to provide our students with a globally relevant management degree at Master's level.

The intention of the WBS MBA 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:

- [4] Strategy
- [10] Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- [12] Case Competition

The curriculum revolves around five key themes:

01 Context in Africa
02 Context in South Africa
03 Sustainability
04 Entrepreneurial Action
05 Critical Engagement
(Students to select 3)

- Industry Foresight and Future Strategy
- Investment Analytics
- Negotiating Deep-rooted Conflict
- Business Venture Start-ups
- Business in Africa
- Strategic Brand Management
- Social Entrepreneurship Initiatives

GLOBAL STUDY TOUR

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.
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.

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### STUDY FORMATS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Format</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Full-time</strong></td>
<td>January intake (12 months)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Part-time</strong></td>
<td>January intake (18 months), two evenings per week or Saturday classes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Modular</strong></td>
<td>June intake. 5 Study blocks of approximately 10 days each, plus electives and the global study tour</td>
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"Our teaching method is interactive and collaborative. Our classrooms are designed to stimulate discussion between lecturers and students."
The MBA programme at WBS is intense and demanding, and at the same time a rewarding, enriching, 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.
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 AND 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.
YOU CAN APPLY TO DO YOUR MBA AT WBS IF:

- You have a four-year undergraduate or postgraduate degree or diploma.
- You have a minimum of three years' work experience (for the full-time programme) or four years' work experience (for the part-time programme).
- You have a level of competence in Mathematics equivalent to a South African matric certificate.
- You are proficient in English.
- You have completed and achieved an acceptable level in either the GMAT or the WBS admission tests.
- You have SAQA verification of your qualification if you are an international applicant.

HOW DO I APPLY?

- Only online applications are accepted. Please go to www.wbs.ac.za and click on online applications on the top right hand corner and follow the links.
- You will also need to complete and submit a Faculty of Management Part III form. Please go to: https://www.wits.ac.za/capture/form/PartIII.do
- Please ensure that all information uploaded is correct and that you have included everything required on the checklist (below).
- You will be required to write the WBS admission tests as part of the application process. Please book your test session via email at testbookings.wbs@wits.ac.za. For enquiries, please contact Helen Martins on 011-717-3928. For more information on the admission tests please visit our website: www.wbs.ac.za/academic-programmes/admissions-testing/.
- You will also be required to attend a group interview.
- If you are not able to come to WBS in person for the admission tests, please contact Helen Martins on 011-717-3928 for other options. Applicants may, if they wish, write the GMAT, a global standardised test for MBAs (for those applying to more than one school). Contact Justin Jacobs at Pearson VUE on +27 (0)11 784 3093, or alternatively, log onto www.mba.com to book your test.
WHAT WILL A WBS MBA COST ME?

Fees for the MBA (full-time and part-time) for 2017 are quoted as **R221 020.00***

*Please note:*
Fee is subject to review in January 2018.

The global study tour will cost you between approximately **R56 000** and **R67 000** (+ single supplement).

The local study tour option will cost approximately **R31 000** (+ single supplement).

ENQUIRIES:

**MBA Applications:** +27 (0) 861 000 927 or applications2017.wbs@wits.ac.za

**MBA Enquiries:** +27 (0) 11 717 3939. or kamo.nhlapo@wits.ac.za

Application deadlines:

**June 2017 intake:** 15 May, 2017 (modular format)

**January 2018 intake:** 30 September, 2017
[1] Do I have to write an entrance test?
Yes, all applicants are required to write the WBS admission tests. You will need to book for this, and pay a fee of R1 150. You will also be required to attend a group interview.

[2] When and how often are exams held?
Exams are held at the end of every quarter.

[3] I have completed my PDBA/PDM at WBS. Do I get credits towards my MBA?
Yes, you are able to obtain four credits if you complete your PDBA or PDM. Please note that certain conditions apply, and that the credits are valid for four (4) years.

[4] Do WBS MBA students receive coaching?
Yes. The MBA curriculum includes a leadership development coaching component.

[5] Does WBS have e-learning?
Currently WBS does not have e-learning and all our classes are conducted in a face-to-face, interactive environment. However, all our course material is supported by our e-learning platform, Sakai.

[6] How big are the classes?
Approximately 60 people. Syndicate groups comprise not more than seven students.

[7] How much of the programme is syndicate-based?
In most courses the syndicate component counts for 25% of the course mark.

[8] How much extra time is needed for assignments and preparation for class?
You will be expected to commit approximately 2 hours of preparation work for every hour of class. (This includes course reading and working on assignments.)

[9] How much does the global study tour cost, and is it compulsory?
Yes, it is compulsory, and will cost you approximately US$ 4,500.

[10] Do I get to choose the destination for my global study tour?
Yes, however, groups are limited to 20-25 people, destination choice is on a 'first come, first served' basis.

[11] Are study materials included in the price of the MBA?
No. You will have to purchase your own books and study materials.
While the full time MBA gave me the ability to take a step back and really understand, holistically, what goes into running a business, it did so much more than that. It gave me lifelong friends from all over world, refined critical thinking skills and access to incredible business resources in the form of panel discussions, thought and business leaders, personalised career management tools and mentors. But most importantly, the MBA put me on a path to maximising my personal growth. The syndicate work helped improve my group work skills, the Leadership Quest helped me discover how I can be the best and most authentic version of myself, and the international exchange helped me develop the independence and perseverance needed to pursue my passions. No-one can deny that doing the MBA is tough, but it was also one of the best years of my life.

- Elizabeth Grieve, MBA (2016/2017)

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)