

Shaping Executive Minds in Africa

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)





INTRODUCTION

The world of work has been constantly evolving since the beginning of human civilization, with new technologies and societal changes shaping the way we work and interact with each other. However, in the last few decades, technological advancements have significantly accelerated this process of change, transforming virtually every aspect of how we live, interact and work.

Themes like automation and artificial intelligence, cloud computing and virtual reality is no longer merely concepts discussed in technical meetings, but aspects that managers from all backgrounds working in every economic sector is confronted with. Technology has enabled businesses to automate routine tasks, improve communication and collaboration, and streamline workflows. This has led to a dramatic increase in productivity and efficiency but has also raised concerns about job displacement and the future of work.

Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has further accelerated the adoption of new technologies and transformed the way we work, with remote work becoming the norm for many industries. This shift has brought new opportunities for flexibility and work-life balance, but also raised new challenges related to social isolation and burnout. The challenge for individuals and organizations alike will be to adapt and embrace these changes, and remain agile in the face of constant change.

Developing responsible managers who lead with integrity is critical within this context. By coaching and mentoring to those we lead, setting clear expectations, encouraging open communication, serving as role models, and recognizing and rewarding ethical behaviour, organizations can create a culture of responsible leadership that benefits both the organization and society as a whole.

The internationally accredited MBA programme of the NWU Business School, comprises a rigorous curriculum that equips our students with the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to lead and succeed in this business environment.

Our MBA programme is designed for professionals seeking to advance their careers and acquire new skills that will enable them to take on leadership roles in their organizations. We offer a flexible programme that allows students to balance their roles at work and home while embarking on the daunting journey of obtaining an MBA qualification. Our staff members are experienced professionals in their fields, and they bring their expertise and industry connections into the classroom to ensure that our students receive a practical, relevant, and up-to-date education.

Throughout the programme, students will engage in a variety of learning activities, including case studies, group projects and practical exercises. They will also have access to a range of support services, including career coaching, networking opportunities, and mentorship programmes, to help them achieve their professional goals.

At the NWU Business School, we are committed to providing our students with a world-class education that prepares them for success in the global business landscape. We invite you to join us and take the first step toward a brighter future.





A WORD FROM THE CHIEF DIRECTOR

The new normal is not just a reality; it's an opportunity to lead in a way that will help our people and our planet thrive. The traditional models for how we work are becoming outdated, and there aren't any easy answers on how to get on course. Leaders in business must be prepared to lead their teams through this rapidly evolving context of work.

At NWU Business School we believe that the best leaders are those who can adapt quickly enough to keep themselves and their teams focused on creating positive change while remaining profitable. The ability to adapt quickly in response to changing circumstances is an important skill for leaders because it enables them to be flexible when faced with new challenges and opportunities for growth within their organisations and industries.

This calls on leaders to have an innovative mindset and to be willing to embrace uncertainty, rather than shy away from it - which is exactly why we offer a Master of Business Administration (MBA) where delegates are encouraged not only learn how businesses work but also how they could be working better! An MBA qualification will equip you with the skills and knowledge to become a successful leader in today's changing business environment.

At NWU Business School we understand that your life doesn't stop when you start studying for an MBA - our flexible approach means that we encourage students to balance their studies with professional or personal commitments. You'll be given support when needed, but also encouraged to explore new possibilities and expand your horizons. And our AMBA accreditation means that your degree will open doors for you wherever you go.

An MBA is more than just an educational programme, it's a personal leadership journey that will help you achieve your goals and create long-lasting change in your life and career. When you complete the programme, you'll walk away with real-world skills on how to build lasting relationships, communicate better and make better decisions under pressure.



Sincerely,

Prof Joseph Sekhampu
Chief Director



A WORD FROM OUR PROGRAMME LEADER

I am thrilled to introduce you to the NWU Business School's MBA programme! As the programme leader, I can tell you that this is a rigorous, engaging, and innovative programme designed specifically for professionals like you. As a mid-career engineer with management responsibilities and ambitious career aspirations, I can identify with many of the typical candidates considering an MBA, and I am confident that this programme will exceed your expectations.

Our MBA programme offers a challenging and stimulating learning environment that is focused on shaping the minds of business leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in today's rapidly changing business landscape. We take a holistic approach to education, focusing not only on business theory but also on practical skills such as communication, critical thinking, and leadership.

Two of the key features of our MBA programme are our emphasis on experiential learning and individual coaching. We believe that the best way to learn is by doing, which is why we offer a range of hands-on learning opportunities such as consulting projects, case studies, and simulations. These experiences will challenge you to think creatively, work collaboratively, and apply your knowledge to real-world business problems.

Our MBA programme is designed to meet the needs of busy professionals like you. We offer our degree in part-time mode, and our curriculum is delivered through a blend of online and on-campus classes. This means you can continue working while pursuing your degree, making it easier to balance your professional and personal responsibilities.

As a graduate of the NWU Business School's MBA programme, you will join a powerful network of business leaders and alumni. Our alumni are successful professionals who are making an impact in their industries and communities, and we are proud to have them as part of our community.

I encourage you to explore our MBA programme in more detail and discover for yourself why the NWU Business School is the right choice for you. Our dedicated support team is here to help answer any questions you may have, and we look forward to welcoming you to our programme soon!



Sincerely,

Prof Leenta Grobler
MBA Programme Leader



Why should I enrol for an MBA qualification?

There are several reasons why a professional may decide to study towards an MBA qualification, some of the reasons listed by our alumni include:



CAREER ADVANCEMENT: An MBA qualification can provide professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to advance their management careers. It can equip them with a broader business perspective, enhance their leadership abilities, and improve their communication & problem-solving skills.



INCREASED EARNING POTENTIAL: An MBA qualification can also increase earning potential for some professionals. According to research, MBA graduates tend to earn more than those with only a bachelor's degree.



ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITIES: Our MBA qualification can prepare you to start your own business or take on entrepreneurial roles within your organisation. It can provide you with the skills and knowledge to identify opportunities, manage risks, and create successful ventures.



NETWORK EXPANSION: An MBA qualification can also expand your professional network with likeminded professionals. By connecting with fellow students, alumni, and industry leaders, we aim to providing students with valuable networking opportunities.



INTERNATIONAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES: An MBA qualification from an internationally accredited business school can also open international career opportunities for individuals. It can provide them with a globally recognized qualification that can help them stand out in a competitive job market.

Overall, an MBA qualification can equip you with the necessary skills, knowledge, and network to advance your career, increase your earning potential, pursue entrepreneurial opportunities, and explore international career opportunities.



Why complete my MBA @ NWU Business School?

1

Our history: The NWU Business School has been delivering MBA graduates since 1979, through a dynamic integrative learning experience, competitively priced, to a selected and defined market.

2

Our International Accreditations from 3 prestigious international accreditation bodies: As the first Business School in Africa to obtain accreditation from BGA, we also boast accreditation from AMBA and AABS, in addition to being members of AACSB, PRME & SABSA.

3

We embrace the needs of the small business sector through an entrepreneurial focus in a developing country context.

4

With our emphasis on strategic and critical thinking, our students are exposed to personal coaching, leadership programmes, and thought leadership events with prominent speakers at our Pitso's, ThinkTanks and Fireside Chats.

5

We made a definite decision to expand our footprint in Africa - hence we focus on our local challenges & opportunities, while learning from and contributing to the global debate.

6

Since the pandemic, more emphasis than ever needs to be placed on the economic recovery of the country. In this regard we are actively working towards finding solutions for issues related to corruption and integrity studies.

7

Our commitment to community service through service-learning initiatives. We have assisted more than 250 organisations with sustainable management skills and systems over the last seven years.

8

In all our programmes we have a strong focus on the integration of learning content into a single cross-functional application in the capstone Company Project.

9

Our semi-rural location - close enough to the city, yet far enough to unplug from the hustle & bustle and focus on your studies at any of our offices in Vanderbijlpark, Potchefstroom or Mahikeng

Our MBA Qualification at a glance

The MBA qualification is regarded as the flagship of business training worldwide and at the NWU Business School, we aim to provide just that, a qualification that is accredited and will provide the tools to succeed in the business and management environment.

9

Qualification level:
Our MBA is presented at NQF level 9



Duration of study:
2-Year Qualification



Mode of Delivery:
Part-time qualification delivered on a contact basis in a Blended Modality.



Language of Tuition:
English



Sites of delivery:
Study Schools and Workshops are presented in-person at suitable venues close to our campuses in North-West and Gauteng. This is complemented by synchronous remote sessions that you can join from your laptop or tablet in the comfort of your office or home.

210

Credit load:
The professional MBA programme consists of 210 SAQA credits.



Time-requirement:
The programme will require 2100 hours over two years to complete but relies heavily on self-directed learning from the individual. Hence, for every 1 hour spent in class, the individual will need to spend about 4 hours on related activities, which include reading, group work and assignments.



Activities related to learning:
Activities include lectures & guest lectures, panel discussions on current events impacting business in South Africa, service & work-integrated learning in assignments, syndicate groupwork, self-study supported by the online Learning Management System (eFundi), and a formal research project.



Assessment:
Assignments mostly involves application of theoretical concepts to practice within the context of the individual or group, but also include tests and exams written either on campus or online.



Groupwork:
As with most MBA programmes world-wide, groupwork forms a substantial part of the academic programme. Guided by experts in organisational behaviour, groups are formed during the study school with the goal of maximising group diversity in terms of backgrounds, skills and strengths to simulate a realistic work situation to enhance learning.



Our Staff:
The skills and experience of our knowledgeable academic staff members are complemented by local and international experts from both academia and industry during workshops, guest lectures and various other Business School related events.



International MBA Tour:
Since the tour is not compulsory, the fee of the International Tour is not included in the total programme fees for the MBA. The cost of the tour amounts to US\$4500. This is linked to the rand-dollar exchange rate.



Study materials:
Study fees do not include books or access to online libraries.



Travel and accommodation:
Students are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements and costs if and where applicable.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The admission process for the MBA programme adheres to rigorous criteria aligned with accredited business schools and industry best practices. Prospective MBA applicants must meet all the following minimum requirements.

◆ Academic Qualification:

One or more of the following post-school qualifications:

- A recognized 4-year professional degree qualification at NQF-level 8; OR
- An honours degree at NQF level 8 OR
- A Post-Graduate Diploma (PGDip) at NQF level 8.

For international qualifications, verification by the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA) is mandatory.

Please note that the verification process is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

◆ Additional Requirements:

- At least 3 years of relevant full-time working experience, preferably on managerial level; AND
- Satisfactory selection test results in a formally recognised Business School admission test (TTS, GMAT, NMAT, etc.); AND
- An essay that showcase the following: your motivation for pursuing an MBA and your work experience; AND
- A comprehensive CV; AND
- A successful interview with a panel of NWU Business School staff.

The Business School reserves the sole and unfettered discretionary right to admission to the MBA programme. While the minimum requirements outlined earlier serve as a baseline, admission decisions are made after considering various factors. These factors include operational and capacity considerations, financial aspects, quality assurances, teaching and learning policies, as well as any other relevant matters that may impact the admission process.

This discretionary right allows the Business School to ensure that the programme maintains its high standards and aligns with its resources and capabilities. It enables the school to evaluate applicants holistically and make informed decisions that support the overall integrity and quality of the MBA programme.

The Business School is committed to upholding the best interests of its students and maintaining a conducive learning environment. Through careful evaluation and consideration of these factors, the Business School strives to admit students who have the potential to succeed in the programme and contribute positively to the academic community.

APPLICATION PROCESS

BEFORE YOUR START

On the online application system, you will be required to upload several documents in addition to completing the online form. Hence, ensure that you have the following on hand:

- A comprehensive CV,
- An essay that showcase the following: your motivation for pursuing an MBA and your work experience,
- Electronic copy of your ID document,
- Electronic copy of your Academic record,
- Electronic copy of your degree certificate(s).

STEP 1

Browse to the following [link](#) complete an application form and submit your documents. Should you require more detailed instructions on how to apply, please visit this website [link](#).

STEP 2

Applicants will be notified regarding their application status after the initial screening. Applicants who pass the screening phase will be contacted with relevant details to complete the required selection test.

STEP 3

If a candidate achieves the threshold result in the TTS/GMAT test, they will be invited for an interview with a panel, who will make a final decision regarding the admission status of the candidate.

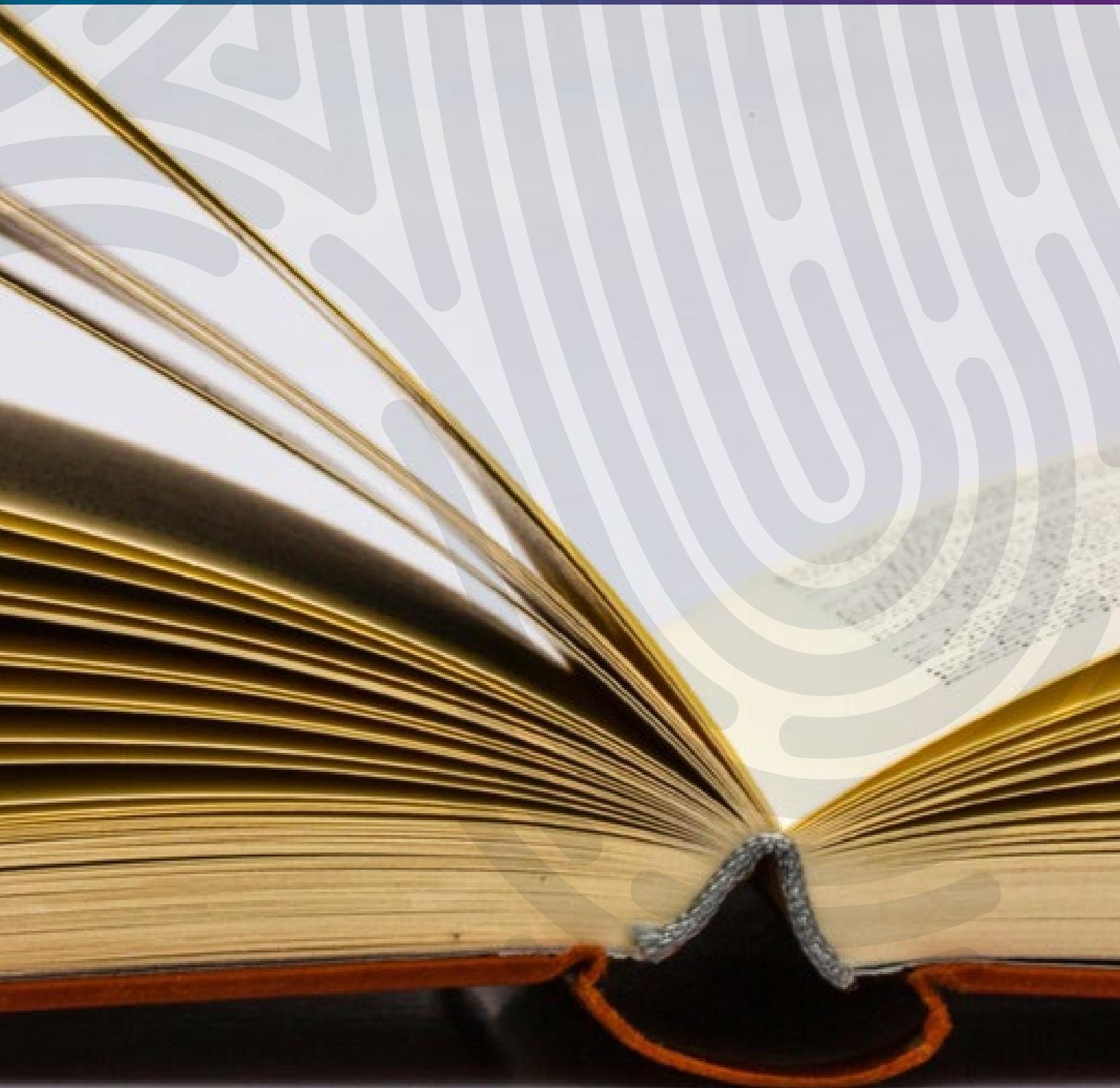
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please note that the selection panel can only process complete application packs where all the relevant support material was included and interviews can only take place once the selection test was written. The outcome of the selection process will be communicated within 30 days of the interview.

APPLICATION DATES

Applications open on 1 April 2024 and will remain open until 31 October 2024.

CURRICULUM 2025



MBA YEAR 1

Module Code	Semester 1 Course Title	Cr.	Module Code	Semester 2 Course Title	Cr.
MBAA 815	Executive Economics	12	MBAB 825	Operations Management	12
MBAA 816	Leadership	12	MBAB 823	Managerial Accounting	12
MBAA 817	Corporate Governance & Ethics	12	MBAB 826	Marketing Management	12
Total 1st Semester Credits		36	Total 2nd Semester Credits		36
MBAA874	Research Methodology				12
Total credits for year 1					84

MBA YEAR 2

Module Code	Semester 1 Course Title	Cr.	Module Code	Semester 2 Course Title	Cr.
MBAC 811	Strategic Management	12	<i>One Elective of:</i>		
MBAC 816	Managing the Digital Economy	12	MBAD 829	International Business	12
MBAC 813	Financial Management	12	MBAD 828	Organisational Behaviour & Change	12
MBAC 817	Entrepreneurship	12			
Total 1st Semester Credits		48	Total 2nd Semester Credits		12
MBAD 874	Company Project (Capstone Module)				12
MBAC 873	Mini-Dissertation				54
Total credits for year 2					126
Total credits for the qualification					210



Study schools & Workshops

All students are required to travel to the Study Schools and Workshops twice per semester (four times in total during the year), and students will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation during the required weeks.

Study Schools will run full day from Monday to Saturday (ending after lunch) with speakers and networking events happening during the evenings. The idea will be for students, lecturers and speakers to spend as much face-to-face time together during these weeks for optimal facetime and relationship building.

Workshops will be shorter sprints (always over a long weekend) where focussed attention will be placed on either the research component of the qualification (including phase- and method-specific research training, active engagement with supervisors and focused writing time) or topics that are complimentary to the formal curriculum that will enable us to be responsive to changing world of work.

MBA Research days

It is compulsory for students to also attend one designated online MBA research day per semester. The purpose is to equip and empower students to complete their research projects successfully.

TIMETABLE 2025

The timetable for the 2025 MBA year will be published on the [website](#) as dates become available but is subject to minor changes. Students will be informed of any changes well in advance.

CONTACT

General

mba@nwu.ac.za

Elma Senekal

elma.senekal@nwu.ac.za - 018 299 1379

Laurette Strauss

Laurette.strauss@nwu.ac.za - 018 285 2820

Chrisna Lloyd

Chrisna.lloyd@nwu.ac.za - 018 285 2759



ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY AT NWU BUSINESS SCHOOL

At NWU Business School, we leverage our eFundi platform to create a dynamic, interactive learning environment. This platform provides course materials, formative and summative assessments (including online tests and quizzes), and opportunities for discussion. Consistent internet access is vital for your educational journey with us.

Our course materials often link to additional resources such as downloadable documents, external websites, and videos. Reliable internet access is not just important but essential for efficient communication, learning, and academic success.

You will need continuous online access to study, engage with provided resources, complete individual or group activities, submit assignments, and receive feedback. Additionally, we conduct summative assessments (exams) and selected formative assessments remotely using an online proctoring tool. For these remotely proctored exams, you need to have your own device (laptop, Mac, or desktop) with a stable internet connection.

Furthermore, to foster a more interactive and engaging learning environment, we've implemented a camera-on policy during our synchronous online sessions. This means you will also need a webcam and microphone to participate in these sessions.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE PARTICIPATION

To successfully participate in your program, you should have:

- Reliable broadband (high-speed) internet access.
- A modern web browser such as Firefox, Chrome, or Edge.
- Microsoft Office suite for Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- A PDF Viewer and the ability to complete and sign documents electronically.
- The ability to scan and upload documents.
- An email account and a cellphone for notifications and communication.
- A webcam and microphone to participate in synchronous online sessions.

Ensuring you meet these minimum technology requirements will pave the way for a smooth and efficient learning experience during your studies at NWU Business School.

Your active participation in our online sessions, enabled by your webcam and microphone, will contribute significantly to the overall interactive and collaborative learning environment we strive to create.

 **NWU**

BUSINESS SCHOOL



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