



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

MBA

DEGREE

APPRENTICESHIP

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AWARD-WINNING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

Manchester Metropolitan University is one of the most popular universities in the UK, currently educating over 34,000 students. The University takes its responsibility for creating work-ready graduates very seriously and maintains close industry and business links.

Our Degree Apprenticeships are practice-focussed. They equip our apprentices with the skills to ensure they are ready to take on the industrial challenges of tomorrow and make their mark. We develop our programmes in partnership with employers, to meet the needs of industry and individuals.

As pioneers of Degree Apprenticeships, we have become industry leaders, allowing us to build unrivalled partnerships with some of the UK's largest employers and innovative SMEs.

Our Business School became triple accredited when it received the EQUIS accreditation in December 2019. Triple accreditation is associated with business schools who concurrently hold EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA accreditations. The awarding of these three accreditations is testament to our high standards of excellence in teaching and research.

ALMOST
1/10
UK DEGREE APPRENTICES
ARE AT MANCHESTER
METROPOLITAN
UNIVERSITY

94%
1ST OR 2.1
DEGREES 2019/20

1,500
DEGREE
APPRENTICES
On 13 Apprenticeship Programmes

300+
EMPLOYERS

OFSTED
OUTSTANDING
PROVIDER 2018
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

25+
APPRENTICES
RECOGNISED AT
REGIONAL AND
NATIONAL AWARDS

**TOP UNIVERSITY
IN THE UK**
FOR DEGREE
APPRENTICESHIPS
Rate My Apprenticeship
Awards 2019

AAC AWARDS 2020
**DIGITAL
PROVIDER OF
THE YEAR**

ABOUT THE MBA APPRENTICESHIP

Manchester Metropolitan is one of the UK's leading providers of management Degree Apprenticeships, creating industry-relevant programmes, that are designed in close collaboration with employers.

The MBA Degree Apprenticeship is an engaging, high-level management programme designed to provide the required skills and knowledge to ambitious business professionals, looking to increase their business credibility.

DEVELOPMENT

Aligned to the Level 7 Senior Leader apprenticeship standard, the programme has been developed by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI), the University, and a group of 30 leading employers. On this Apprenticeship, employers are able to embed strategic business capabilities within their workforce, and develop and retain talented leaders.

The MBA Degree Apprenticeship can accelerate career development and enhance organisational performance by expanding knowledge and understanding of strategic management, finance, marketing, human resource management and international business.

THE PROGRAMME

The programme combines face-to-face learning blocks with online support systems and gives apprentices access to some of the country's leading academic professionals. The taught units are complemented by behaviour-building residential weekends, one-to-one business coaching, and masterclasses delivered by industry experts.

The MBA Degree Apprenticeship is a programme that will stretch and challenge apprentices, and help them to develop a new way of thinking about strategic challenges and the opportunities presented by a globalising world economy.



OUR RESEARCH CENTRES

We seek to spark innovation in teaching, research and knowledge exchange that can really make a difference.

Our research centres are action-orientated and entrepreneurial as well as scholarly. They are passionate about working with a wide range of stakeholders to build a useful evidence base and facilitating practitioners to use that evidence to build a sustainable future.

OUR ACCREDITATIONS

The MBA Apprenticeship is studied at the Manchester Metropolitan Business School – a triple accredited Faculty, EQUIS, AMBA and AACSB accreditation. These accreditations mean the MBA Degree Apprenticeship is internationally recognised for its quality and standing.

EQUIS

The leading international system of quality assessment
EQUIS accreditation benchmarks Manchester Metropolitan Business School against international standards for education, research, ethics, responsibility and sustainability and engagement with practice.

AACSB

The hallmark of excellence in business education
AACSB accreditation is an internationally recognised and prestigious hallmark that accredits the top tier of global business schools. Awarded to Manchester Metropolitan in 2016, the accreditation demonstrates that the Business School has achieved the hallmark of excellence in 15 global standards, placing it among the world's elite for its degree programmes, research, business engagement and innovation.

The standards of education delivered at Manchester Metropolitan Business School have been rigorously assessed, approved and accredited by AACSB International.

AMBA

The seal of approval

The MBA is now the most widely recognised general management qualification in the world.

Our MBA programme is accredited by the Association of MBAs (AMBA) – a significant benchmark of quality awarded to just 47 of the 120 MBA programmes available in Britain.

Our MBA Degree Apprenticeship is the first of its kind to be accredited by the AMBA in the UK.



FEATURES AND BENEFITS OF THE MBA APPRENTICESHIP

An MBA is an internationally-recognised strategic leadership award and acknowledged as the gold standard for senior and director-level executive education. The UK has long held a reputation for producing and nurturing some of the world's best business brains and dynamic entrepreneurs. We are proud to be supporting the next generation through our MBA Degree Apprenticeship.

HELPING TO SUSTAIN COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Organisations that are striving for sustainable competitive advantage are continuously analysing their own productivity, strategies and practices to ensure continuous development. Success is often measured with a balanced scorecard approach – not only appraising the financial results but balancing this with the customer perspective of the company, the views of internal stakeholders, and the importance of driving innovation and learning in order to continuously develop.

PROVIDING CONTINUOUS LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Without exception, successful organisations acknowledge that continuous learning and development is beneficial to both individuals and organisations. The MBA Degree Apprenticeship is an exciting opportunity to gain a respected MBA, while being supported by an employer and funded by the apprenticeship levy.

BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS

The programme develops an individual's competencies and leadership skills, which ultimately equip the organisation with more confident and broad-minded managers who can lead teams more proficiently.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Each apprentice receives complimentary membership of business networks (AMBA and CMI), enabling them to develop links with decision-makers within other organisations.

IMPROVED EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT AND RETENTION

As the MBA participant is an employee, the programme offers the opportunity for assignments to be based on current organisational issues. Relevant concepts and theories can then be applied to, for example, the areas of Human Resource Management, Finance or Operations Management.

This formal learning is combined with informal activities including management development weekends and complimentary access to masterclasses with world-renowned speakers. These activities are integral to the successful completion of the portfolio and prepare the apprentices to demonstrate the skills and behaviours required to achieve the end-point assessment.

LEVERAGING THE FINAL PROJECT TO BENEFIT YOUR BUSINESS

The final element of the MBA takes the form of a work-based project. This is focussed on resolving robust issues within the participant's own organisation. This is where a tangible return on investment is most visible, with businesses acquiring new innovative solutions from within their own workforce, without the cost or necessity of outside consultants. This will be a capability that can be utilised time and again, adding long-term business value.

ALUMNI RELATIONS

On completion of the programme graduates will become members of our Alumni Association, which will offer opportunities for continuous learning and networking, as well as entitlement to a range of alumni benefits.

The MBA Degree Apprenticeship is phenomenal. I literally have lightbulb moments all over the place. Every single piece of work is implemented straight back into the business, which is completely invaluable.

The tutors are really knowledgeable in their subjects and with each unit I'm forced to focus on the business rather than just on the day-to-day tasks, which is brilliant.

As a result of the leadership unit, I made some staffing changes within the business and have already seen improvements in sales and employee engagement.

Frances McDonnell
ArtGraphics



SUPPORT FROM MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN

In order to create an environment where apprentices will be able to achieve successful outcomes, both academically and within their organisations, the University has put in place a wide range of support.

APPRENTICES

Dedicated Skills Coach

A dedicated Apprenticeships Skills Coach can assist with study skills, advise on University regulations and procedures, and provide pastoral support.

Functional Skills

Provision of functional skills if required.

Personal Learning Plan

Additional learning support requirements identified and met through a Personal Learning Plan.

Executive Business Coaching

Access to a professional business coach throughout the programme. Coaching is a valued approach to individual development and is becoming a well-established practice in business to enhance leadership and business practice. One-to-one coaching focuses on personal development and maximising organisational impact.

MBA Teaching Team

A dedicated teaching team blend understanding of the latest business research and management models with examples of how they can be applied to the workplace. All of our staff have been business practitioners and many still provide consultancy services. Our staff are available face-to-face, via email, and by phone, so apprentices can contact them when they need to, wherever they are.

University Facilities

Full access to University services – including disability services, wellbeing, the library, IT services and university sports facilities.

Management Development Residentials

A three-day residential takes place early in the programme. This enables apprentices to achieve a number of learning objectives, get involved in team building opportunities, find out more about their studies, and meet fellow learners.

A second, more reflective residential weekend takes place in year two. This focuses on challenging strategic business perspectives through a business simulation exercise and incorporates elements of experiential learning.

Online Study Environment

Study materials can be accessed 24/7 via our online study environment, Moodle. Our programme is designed to support learners who live and work outside of the north-west. Moodle enables apprentices to access reading lists, download journal articles, contribute to online discussion groups, email tutors, listen to podcasts and submit assignments.

University Library

The main University Library is located on the All Saints Campus and is open 24/7 during the academic year.

The Library provides access to a wide range of books, texts, journals, and business information and statistics. It also runs a number of workshops for mature students on study and research skills.

Many of the Library's resources are available online. For example, apprentices can search the library catalogue, renew and reserve books, and download journal articles and research information.

EMPLOYERS, LINE MANAGERS AND MENTORS

Apprenticeships Team Support

The Manchester Met Apprenticeships Team is available to support employers throughout the apprenticeships process, including:

- + Holding meetings with staff and managers to understand operational challenges and training needs.
- + A dedicated account manager, providing a single point of contact with the University.
- + Providing support to identify internal talent.
- + Working in partnership to tailor content and delivery.
- + Sending regular reports of attendance and apprentice progress.

Progress Reviews

Line managers and mentors are supported through regular progress reviews to set, monitor and evaluate objectives and targets.



PROGRAMME DELIVERY AND STRUCTURE

The Manchester Met MBA Degree Apprenticeship is a great opportunity for aspirational senior managers to push themselves to the next level. Our engaging course can be tailored to suit individual goals, with flexible assessments and an in-depth negotiated work-based project that can be based on your organisation's needs.

Our MBA programme is AMBA-accredited – an internationally-recognised classification for the quality of our provision. The programme provides the commercial and personal knowledge to support apprentices to achieve enhanced career progression, and drive strategic innovation and change.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

All successful apprentices will receive the Masters of Business Administration (MBA), an accredited degree from Manchester Metropolitan. They will also receive the Level 7 Senior Leader Apprenticeship upon completion of the end-point assessment.

The course is taught over 27 months. Each unit is delivered in a three-day block on campus, during which apprentices will benefit from the latest academic and practitioner presentations, and masterclasses by University staff and industry guest speakers. In addition to the taught element of the programme, there are also two residential weekends over the two years.

Apprentices will be allocated an executive business coach and receive six coaching sessions throughout the programme.

ASSESSMENT

The assessment for each unit is designed to enable apprentices to apply the academic theory to their own organisation and role. They are encouraged to conduct research into their organisation, so that they can contextualise their learning in the classroom.

The MBA Degree Apprenticeship includes a range of assessment types, from essays to group or individual presentations, and business reports.

YEAR 1 UNITS

Personal Reflective Leadership

This unit will help apprentices to explore leadership through a critically reflective lens, enabling them to analyse their personal approach to being a leader and their practice of leadership.

Leading, Managing And Developing People

This unit introduces the fundamental theoretical concepts of people management. Motivation, commitment and engagement theories are explored, as well as the link between employee attitudes and behaviour. The role of HR strategies and processes in achieving positive employee and organisational outcomes is analysed.

Operations Management

This unit explores world-class operations management including strategy, system and process design, resource planning and control, and principles of operational improvement. Specialist external speakers will provide context on how these principles are changing in a digital world and how operations management is being reshaped by revised possibilities in relation to the speed, accuracy, productivity and convenience that digital operations offer.

Strategic Marketing

This unit introduces the fundamentals of strategic marketing including: making sense of the external environment, analysing the wants and needs of customers through marketing research, the importance of relationships and planning for effective exchange processes, exploiting digital technology, and customer engagements.

MBA DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP UNIT SUMMARIES

YEAR 2 UNITS

Accounting & Financial Management

This unit will investigate and introduce the theories, concepts and application of financial accounting, including management accounting, finance, and financial risk management. It explores how managers can integrate accounting and financial information in different business functions to inform organisational decision-making.

Global Economic Environment

This unit explores the key issues presented by the globalising world economy. The key drivers of globalisation will be analysed, looking at cross-border trade and investment within the context of global and regional institutional and financial frameworks. This unit looks at why some countries grow more quickly than others and how the global economic environment can be navigated effectively.

Strategic Management

This practical unit is designed to help students understand, formulate and implement forward-thinking strategy at company and business unit organisational level. Students will develop detailed situational analysis and apply strategic theory to influence the internal and external activities of strategy implementation.

Executive Business Project

The MBA Executive Business Project will deliver a substantial piece of work of approximately 15,000 words that aligns to the particular business context of each participant. The project will address a business issue agreed between the apprentice, the manager or mentor and a University tutor, and retains significant flexibility to be tailored to an area of strategic importance.

The report should be holistic in nature and call upon the theories explored within the other units of the programme, and cover all the stages of a project – from scoping through to evaluation. Each apprentice is supported by a University supervisor, who will be able to provide academic guidance throughout their project.

ONGOING

Apprenticeship Portfolio

This blended unit will ensure that apprentices capture the knowledge, skills and behaviours developed on the programme in a single cumulative portfolio directly contributing to the end-point assessment. Commencing from day one and running throughout the programme, this unit enables apprentices to reflect, plan and evaluate their development. A university team member will also conduct periodic visits to the student in their workplace to assess how they are applying their personal and academic learning to their job role.

END-POINT ASSESSMENT

The end-point assessment for the programme will include the presentation of the work-based project and an independent professional discussion to review the completed portfolio.

CREDITS

All units are 15 credits except for the Executive Business Project, which is 60 credits.



FROM AN APPRENTICE'S POINT OF VIEW

Andrew Goodwin is now in the second year of his MBA Degree Apprenticeship, and is National Bunker Manager at Certas Energy.

BROADENING HORIZONS

Formal education stopped for me at A-levels, so gaining a degree felt like the missing piece in the puzzle. In April 2017, I was invited to join a leadership initiative at Certas Energy called 'Inspire'. We were given mentors and encouraged to think about our goals for the future. Two of my senior managers had MBAs and, as my line manager also pointed out, a formal qualification was the only thing missing from my CV.

The Masters Apprenticeship stood out to me because I felt it would broaden my horizons and allow me to progress to another level. The practical element of being able to study for such a qualification and apply the learning immediately to work was also really appealing.

The accreditation was also important to me. Not only will I receive an AMBA accredited degree, but also formal chartership for continued professional development from the CMI. I'm married with a young son, so this opportunity came at a time where it made sense professionally, but I could also commit to it from a family point of view as well.

A WELCOME CHALLENGE

I was expecting the MBA Degree Apprenticeship to be challenging and it is not letting me down in that regard, but overall it has been really good. Continued professional development is the best thing I have gained from the course so far.

UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

The resources are excellent and I've felt supported by my tutors and fellow students. What I particularly like is that there has been a good balance between information delivered by the University and the space to study at an executive level for myself.

This has allowed me to dive deeper into the aspects of the course I am interested in and apply what makes most sense to the business through work-based projects.

LINKING THEORY AND PRACTICE

I have been able to link all of the theory directly to our business, which has been invaluable; and wherever possible I have conducted interviews with the subject specialists to find out more about individual areas within the business. For example, after completing the Leading, Managing and Developing People unit, I returned to the business and interviewed our Apprenticeship Manager and HR Manager. I could see where the theory had been implemented in previous projects and gained a better understanding as a result.

We have a large-scale expansion project on the horizon, with significant investment implications. The MBA has given credibility to my decisions and helped me grow both personally and professionally.

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

I consider this to be one of the most unique opportunities currently available in the education marketplace in the UK today and I would thoroughly recommend the course to someone of an equivalent level. You won't regret it, it will open up new doors and help you fulfil your dreams.



“I have been able to link all of the theory directly to our business, which has been invaluable. Sharing challenges and best practice amongst the group has also broadened my horizons and diversified my perspective.”

Andrew Goodwin
Certas Energy



MBA

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The course is designed with professionals in mind, and this is reflected in our entry requirements. All applicants for the MBA Degree Apprenticeship need to be employed with a supporting organisation in order to be eligible.

We welcome applicants who meet the criteria outlined below:

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry criteria 1a

- + At least 3 years management experience
- + A good degree (minimum 2:2) in any subject from a recognised university
- + An equivalent academic or professional qualification

or

Entry criteria 1b

There are a limited number of places for people without a university degree. We may also consider candidates with:

- + Significant management experience (ideally 10 years or more)
- + A substantial record of achievement in business and leadership

and

Entry criteria 2

All applicants for the MBA Degree Apprenticeship need to be employed by an organisation who has confirmed they will support their participation in the programme.

Supporting references

We ask applicants to provide at least one employer reference to support their application, covering the last three years. Additional employer references or personal references can be provided to support the application.

Level 2 English and Maths requirements

All applicants for the MBA Degree Apprenticeship must be able to evidence GCSE English Language and maths passes at grades A*-C, or commit to completing Functional Skills Level 2 in addition to the programme. This is provided at no additional cost.

HOW TO APPLY

Once an employer has confirmed that they will support their apprentice(s) on the programme, we will issue an application pack to interested applicants which includes the necessary forms and guidance.

The application form enables us to build up a picture of the candidate, their experience and the knowledge and skill areas they are looking to develop.

We recommend that a CV is included, with a complete work history and that the personal statement is used to highlight management strengths and work achievements.

INTERVIEW

As part of the application process we endeavour to meet all candidates. Where possible, this will take place in person but if they are unable to attend, we can arrange for this to take place via Skype or telephone.

The purpose of this meeting is to find out more about their work experience, current training and qualifications, and motivations for doing an MBA. This is an informal discussion and is a great opportunity to ask any questions about the course.

At Fujitsu we are committed to the continuing development of our employees and recognise the value the Senior Leadership MBA apprenticeship delivers to our organisation.

Our Apprentices bring their learning back into the business on a regular basis, ensuring that the benefits of their new skills and behaviours are immediately felt within the organisation.

We have already seen the benefits of the MBA, including improved stakeholder management and utilisation of active listening to improve communication at all levels. We look forward to seeing what further benefits the programme can bring to both the individuals and to the business.

Sherrie Warrington
Apprenticeship Levy Consultant
Fujitsu



Get in touch

If you think the programme could work for your organisation, please get in touch. We will be happy to provide further information or guide you through the next steps. Just contact us using the details below.

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 Manchester Met Business School