

Business

Why study Business?



Business degrees focus on the practical and strategic skills needed to run a business. They develop key skills in planning, analysing, organising, managing, and are focussed on servicing the commercial needs of companies.

Studying Business at undergraduate level in the UK provides a versatile option for many students because of the many career pathways and opportunities for future study at a higher level which lead on from it. As a result, it is a popular choice for would-be entrepreneurs and aspiring business leaders.

A Business degree is ideally suited to hard working and ambitious individuals with a desire to develop their project management skills. The ability to communicate effectively is key to such a course and this will be honed to meet the professional demands of the sector. Working on individual projects or as a team, you will study business “best practice” within major corporations and small companies.



Business graduates are regarded as highly employable. Having developed a detailed understanding of the sector, you will be able to work under pressure, producing high quality reports, briefing colleagues and clients and working as part of a team. Much of this will be developed during the work placements offered by many course providers.

Some graduates will have undertaken the study of Business with the specific intention of starting their own business, the ultimate challenge for any practitioner as they will put into practice all the areas and concepts that have been studied during their degree.

General employability is also a consideration and Business graduates can successfully secure careers in broader fields such as professional consultancy, Human Resources, Finance, Marketing, Sales, and other managerial disciplines.

Why study in the UK?



Studying Business in the UK allows experience of working in a successful global facing market. And of course, the international language of business is English. UK courses are exceptionally well regarded because of the depth and scope of their study.

What grades do you need to get into Business at a UK University?

In the UK, Business and related courses can be accessed with a minimum of two A levels, but top universities will require 3 very good A Levels or a very strong IB performance. Most courses do not have specific A Level / IB subject requirements, however most courses will require 5 GCSEs at Grade 5 (or equivalent) including Maths and English.

What are the top UK universities for Business?

The following top British universities are internationally renowned for the study of Business.

- City, University of London, Bayes Business School
- Durham University Business School
- Imperial College Business School
- Kings College London, Kings Business School
- London School of Economics (LSE)
- University College London (UCL), UCL School of Management
- University of Bath, School of Management
- University of Leeds, Leeds University Business School
- University of Manchester, Alliance Business School
- University of Oxford, Saïd Business School
- University of St Andrews, School of Management
- University of Warwick, Warwick Business School (WBS).

What do UK Business courses look like?

Kings College London.

A great example of a top UK Business course is Kings College, London.

A-Level entry requirements are A*AA (A-level General Studies, Critical Thinking, Thinking Skills and Global Perspectives are not accepted). A Levels must include a grade A in a Humanities or Social Science subject (excluding Modern Languages).

International Baccalaureate entry requirement are 35 points including 766 at Higher Level. This must include a grade 6 in a Higher-Level Humanities or Social Science subject (excluding Modern Languages). The total point score of 35 includes TOK/EE. GCSE/IGCSE Mathematics requirement can be met via IB Standard Level/Middle Years grade 5, if not studied/studying at Higher Level.

Contextual offers are available to suitable candidates. GCSE Maths and English passes are required.

Kings is highly ranked, and their Business Management course provides a comprehensive and exciting approach to modern business studies. Students learn about the fundamentals of how businesses operate, and as they progress through the degree, they are introduced to the advanced concepts of many management disciplines. The course offers a range of topics to explore, including international business, finance, entrepreneurship, economics, marketing and many more.

Key benefits

- In the first year, students avoid the fatigue of eleven-week modules with unique, shorter eight-week modules, topped and tailed with immersive one-week modules designed to help students consolidate and reflect on learning across the entire term.
- The Kings research-led curriculum encourages critical analysis and debate on a wide range of contemporary management issues.
- Kings' graduates are highly employable, entering careers that include banking, consultancy, accountancy, marketing, advertising and management.
- Students gain valuable work experience in the third year, enhancing career prospects.

Course Aims

- The course is designed to introduce student's to a broad range of areas. From psychology and sociology to law and finance, students explore different disciplines to help them understand every aspect of business management.
- Research plays a vital role in the way students learn at King's. And this helps them develop vital analysis skills and understand the latest strategies for managing global businesses.
- And studying at Kings, students won't just learn about business – they are in the centre of a city with a thriving economy. There are always opportunities to learn more about the industry and meet people who know everything there is to know.

Special Features

- On this programme, students have the opportunity to apply to study abroad, supported by the Study Abroad Tutor and King's Global Mobility Office. Together with partner organisations around the world, students are supported in navigating your international,

educational journey, developing new skills and competences, and learning to apply different perspectives to your chosen discipline.

- There is also the option to spend the third year in a full-time year in industry or year in professional practice placement. The Kings Global Placements team will support students throughout your programme with advice and activities to help them discover their options, focus their placement search and take action to achieve the right placement

The University of Bath

Another example of a great UK Business provider is the University of Bath. Their course allows students to learn the practical, the analytical and the critical skills you need to become a business leader and to get real professional experience with two placements.

Entry requirements are A level - AAA - A*AB; International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme - 36 points. There are requirements for GCSE Maths and English.

This flexible business and management degree is very different. Students complete two six-month placements with separate companies rather than 12 months with one. Experience of two roles will help them decide on their future career direction and to expand their professional network. They will also work with businesses through applied research including the Final Year Project.

Course Summary

Year 1: Students study the fundamental subjects relevant to business and management including business and society, economics, data analysis and accounting. These core units will help them decide their path through the rest of the degree.

Year 2: Students experience the working world earlier than on most degrees with a six-month placement in the first semester. In the second semester, students can select from a range of optional units in areas like marketing and human resources and will do a research project on a topic of their choice.

Year 3: Students continue to customise their course with more optional units in areas like decision making, finance and consumer psychology. There are also opportunities to work with a charity or NGO on an entrepreneurship action project. Further practical work experience can be gained through a second six-month placement.

Year 4: These units allow students to explore areas of interest such as entrepreneurship and innovation, business and marketing in a digital world, behavioural finance, leading and managing change, and investment banking. For the Final Year Project, they work in groups to tackle a real business issue for a partner organisation.

There is also the opportunity for an international exchange, spending a studying abroad at a partner business schools.

Professional Development Programme: Students are also assisted with bespoke workshops to prepare and apply for their chosen career via the Professional Development Programme (PDP). This includes writing CVs, applications, job interviews and aptitude tests.

Critically, all of the courses are taught by experts in fields such as marketing, finance, strategy, accounting, economics and operations management.

Bath graduates have an excellent employment record. The average salary 15 months after the course for business and management graduates is £30,500 - that's £7,500 higher than the national average. Recent employers include Deloitte, PwC, BMW, Google and GlaxoSmithKline.

Leeds University

A-level requirements are: AAA. 5 GCSEs at grade C/4 or higher including Mathematics grade B/5 and English Language grade B/6 are also required.

International Baccalaureate Diploma requirements are: 35 points overall including 5 in Standard level Maths courses or 4 in Higher level Maths courses, and 5 in English (Standard or Higher Level), with 17 points from Higher Level subjects.

This degree has a modular structure. This means that compulsory modules provide students with the core knowledge and skills that you need, while optional and discovery modules allow them to shape your course to suit your personal interests and career aspirations.

- **Year one:** Compulsory modules cover the broad foundations of management. You'll build knowledge of organisational behaviour and accounting to understand the contemporary business environment. Students also learn about the theory and practice of setting up a business and explore your own potential as a manager.
- **Year two:** Courses cover the fundamentals of marketing and how to manage people and operations effectively. Students will develop their research and analytical skills and learn to understand the importance of research, digital information management and corporate social responsibility in business decision-making. Students can also continue to develop their personal leadership skills and learn how to demonstrate these to potential employers.
- **Final year:** Students further develop their management skills with compulsory modules in strategic management and leadership. Through optional modules, in addition to developing their digital management skills, students explore topics such as advertising, entrepreneurship, decision-making and business ethics. If they choose the contemporary management consulting module, they have the chance to register with the Chartered Management Institute (CMI), and will gain the CMI Level 5 Certificate in Professional Consulting upon completion.
- **Dissertation:** This is an independently researched project, submitted during the final year, allowing students to apply research and analysis skills to a management topic of their choice.

This dynamic course combines a comprehensive understanding of how to manage organisations with the practical knowledge top employers are looking for. Students learn directly from business leaders at guest lectures and events, giving valuable insights into a range of career paths and sectors.

Students cover the core concepts and techniques of management and develop the skills required to lead. They learn about organisational behaviour and the business and economic environment, as well as important business functions such as accounting, marketing, and supply chain management.

Diverse optional modules will allow students to tailor the course to suit their own interests and career plans. These modules will focus on topics such as human resource management, management consulting, marketing strategy, and managing digital information and technology.

Whether students see themselves working in large private sector organisations, in the public sector or starting their business, they will develop the analytical, quantitative, computing, presentation and other transferable skills required by the business world.

Pathways

This programme offers pathways from Year 2 which will allow students to tailor their course to their specific interests or professional aspirations. The pathways will provide modules that can be taken in particular areas and followed through to their final year. This allows a level of personalisation and self-direction not previously available on this programme, providing students with a degree of flexibility to meet their own needs.

The pathways available on this programme are: Accounting; Analytics; Consulting; Economics; Human Resource Management; Enterprise and Innovation; Ethics and Sustainability

Course highlights

- An optional year in industry gaining practical experience; or a year studying internationally in another culture at a partner university.
- Learn directly from leaders at guest lectures and events, designed to develop an understanding of how managers apply theory to overcome real business problems.
- Take part in discussion and debates with business leaders at the Leaders in Residence events, an annual highlight of your first and second year. Supporting your personal development

Throughout the course, students benefit from the support of an Academic Personal Tutor who will work in partnership with you to maximise their personal and professional development.

Students also have access to support from the Business School's Employability and Opportunity team who help them to explore opportunities, develop professional networks, and gain work experience.

USA Business Degrees

Given that the USA would describe itself as the biggest economy in the world, it is not surprising they also have hundreds of business schools offering a wide variety of degrees at Bachelors or Masters (MBA) level.

What are the top USA universities for business?

- Yale School of Management
- Harvard University,
- University of Chicago (Booth)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Sloan),
- Stanford University, United States
- Berkeley (HAAS)
- University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
- Duke (Fuqua)
- Columbia
- Northwestern (Kellogg)

What other qualifications or experience do you need?



The elite universities really like to see you having done relevant work experience or at least a summer school. Make sure it is meaningful work such that you can incorporate your experiences into a well written Personal Statement. Some universities will require you to pass their own admissions exam and of course the elite universities will call you for an interview.

In the USA there is a great demand for post graduate MBA courses for which most universities will require a good score (over 700) in the GMAT exams. They are also looking for leadership and entrepreneurial skills. They expect students to have made a meaningful contribution to an organisation.

Education Advisers can advise you on all these admissions issues and more, so do not hesitate to email Steven Saunderson on steven@educationadvisers.co.uk

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