

Manchester Business School (MBS)

MBS is a world top 50 business school. Founded in 1965, MBS was one of the first two business schools in the UK. Since the bringing together of the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST in October 2004, MBS has 200 academic staff, 1,650 undergraduate business students, 800 postgraduate students (including 300 doctoral) and 500 distance-learning students.

MBA Programme

MBS' full-time MBA programme is 18 months in length, with a class size of ~120 students. They learn through the "Manchester Method" – a method of learning pioneered by Manchester in 1965. This, in its simplest form, is "learning by doing". The Manchester Method allows students to work collaboratively in teams with live companies on real business problems. Each project becoming more complex, students learn through experience and reflection. When they return to the job market, they "hit the ground running".

During the 18 months:

- 6 months of core theory and case studies
- 3 months of live project working in international teams with UK companies
- 3 months (summer) of live project working as individuals in "internships" with companies around the world
- 3 months taking electives or going on Exchange to one of our 50 partner schools around the world
- 3 months of live international project working in international teams with international companies

MBA Students

Applicants must have at least three years work experience with demonstrable career progression, a high level of English, a good GMAT score and a strong academic record in order to apply to MBS.

Our class typically comprises:

75% international, 25% UK nationals; 45% EU; 55% non-EU

35 nationalities overall – excluding UK nationals, there are between 1 and 8 people of the same nationality

24yrs – 40yrs of age; 3 – 20 yrs work experience; Average experience 7 years

Career Management Services (CMS)

CMS is dedicated only to MBA students. CMS supports and facilitates the identification and achievement of each MBA's career goals and this work helps students win internship and job offers. In other words, we help students to find their own opportunities. We do this by working with students individually and in groups – and by working with local, national and international companies to encourage them to tap into this talent pool. Special initiatives include our unique mentoring programme, "Manchester Gold MBA".

Manchester Gold MBA

The University of Manchester launched Manchester Gold in 2000. Manchester Gold is a mentoring programme linking undergraduate students to industry experts for one year. This programme is still unique. In September 2001, CMS launched Manchester Gold MBA – the Gold programme dedicated to first year MBA students. Since its launch, Manchester Gold MBA has grown from 10 mentors to 40 mentors worldwide.

Role of the mentor

To coach and advise one first year, full-time MBA student in their personal awareness, career thinking, soft/hard business skills and industry/functional expertise.

What does the commitment look like?

1. By early October, you let us know what type of person you would ideally like to mentor e.g. nationality, career interests, background
2. During October, we send you the CVs of a small selection of students who fit your criteria
3. By November, you let us know your choice
4. In November, we formally induct you so that you know exactly what to expect. At this time, we introduce you to your mentee in person or by email. (Your mentee has also been fully inducted.)
5. From November to August, you and your mentee talk on the telephone, communicate by email or meet in person. The typical time commitment is around 15hrs during the year.

How exactly will mentor and mentee communicate?

Your mentee will normally be happy to travel to you, this is especially easy if you are based in the UK. If you are not in the UK, a mentee can sometimes meet you if you are in their home country. Often, students go home during the holidays. Very useful work has been achieved through telephone calls and emails.

Benefits to the mentor beyond the sense of personal reward

Mentors become members of the MBS Mentor Network and, naturally, practise and develop their coaching skills! MBS delivers coaching skills training through John Webster, CEO of "The Chief Executive's Office". John is the pioneer in CEO coaching skills training. We invite all our mentors to participate in John's training programme and see this as crucial personal development for any business leader.