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Does it make sense to have a MBA?

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The MBA (Master of Business Administration) is an internationally recognised and portable post-graduate programme.

It is intended for those who work in business and management who seek career advancement, business ownership and business knowledge. The challenges imposed today place a high emphasis on continuous upgrading of skills and qualifications in order to meet the demands set by companies, customers and the environment that managers operate in.

The MBA qualification broadens and enhances knowledge, and builds up business skills. While one of the most popular reasons for undertaking the MBA is to increase one's salary, a MBA also helps to widen career opportunities and extend one's personal networks.

MBA's can consider a wide variety of options, like:

- Networking
Networking is a key benefit of the programme. Over the course of an MBA programme, candidates will develop important relationships that can serve them well throughout their career.
- Career advancement
A post-graduate business degree can prepare a candidate to move into a managerial position within his/her specialised field.
- Career change
A MBA provide the candidate with the training required to change careers entirely.
- Set up a business
MBA's can do everything from writing a business plan to acquiring venture capital to launching an IPO. Research has shown that the failure rate for small businesses started by an MBA is about 50 percent less than the standard failure rate.
- Acquire business skills and knowledge
A MBA programme offers its candidates the chance to develop a wide range of general business skills and knowledge in a relatively short period of time.
- Be a leader in an emerging field
Innovative education can lead to an exciting career in a newly emerging field, such as brand management, information technology, e-commerce, or mobile telecommunications.

In general, MBA's are a diverse group academically. A recent study conducted by the U.S. Department of Education showed that MBA's studying in the United States were more diverse than students in any other graduate programme.



MBA students prefer to hold onto jobs while pursuing their degree

The MBA candidates reflected some trends very clearly. Although they ranged in age from early 20s to 40s, most were in their 30s with a decade or so of work experience under their belt. Many said they hoped to enroll in part-time programs so they could keep their day jobs.

During periods of economical and financial contraction, many people who could not find jobs rode out the storm by enrolling full time in business schools. Now that the economic tide is turning, so are MBA admissions trends with part-time and executive programs on the upswing and full-time applications down.

Business degrees are in no danger of going out of style.

A survey by TopMBA.com found that many MBAs can count on their salaries jumping 50 to 100 percent above their pre-degree salaries. And recruiters said that the degree gives instant credibility.

“The bottom line is that MBA degrees do count,” said Scott Gordon, a senior director at recruitment firm Spencer Stuart in San Mateo. “For people who have their sights set on very senior, important positions in their career, an MBA should be considered almost indispensable.”

[Source: Article from the San Francisco Chronicle September 17, 2004]

“I’m proud to be a student from one of the top ten universities in the UK. I believe that any student who has an effective time management would be able to pull through this course. The flexibility of the UOW MBA has enabled me to work full time and at the same time cope up with my studies. This would definitely be an MBA that I would recommend to any working adult” Said Chang Thai Choon, who did his MBA (awarded by University of Wales) with Informatics Malaysia.

Informatics offers its students a flexible way of learning through an integrated learning methodology that comprises of e-Learning and local tutorials. This is a blended modular programme allows participants to enjoy a high degree of flexibility and convenience of a modular system, incorporating elements of face to face tutorials.

When is it the right time to get a MBA?

The majority of MBA students are in their 20s to 40s; how did they determine when to start their MBA studies?

People take up MBA when they are determined that a MBA will boost their career to the next level of growth and it is likely to further their personal and career goals. Many go for an MBA when they have enough career experience and understand how their MBA investment would pay off.



MBA programme from the University of Wales

The programme is organised into three inter-related stages culminating with the award of the MBA upon completion of all the stages. The programme consists of 10 compulsory modules; it is structured with nine modules followed by a dissertation.

This programme aims to empower the students with a solid understanding on a mix of specific as well as a broad range of business oriented subjects relevant to today's knowledge-based economy.

The benefits of the programme are:

- Internationally Recognised Qualification
This degree from a leading UK University creates international mobility and greater career advancement opportunities for its graduates.
- Syllabus Designed with an International Focus
This business programme consists of units that incorporate comprehensive international perspectives and knowledge much required by a working professional or businessperson of an organisation operating in an international business environment.
- Assessment Methods
Catering to the learning needs of the mature students, this programme adopts a variety of interesting assessment techniques, such as case studies, online participation and presentations, individual and group work, research paper and critical review of articles. The final written examinations will contribute up to 70% of the overall assessment.
- Professional and Highly Qualified Lecturers
This programme will be facilitated by highly qualified academic staff who are both subject matter experts as well as trained e-facilitators. They will provide participants with continual support throughout the programme. All e-facilitators are pre-approved by the university.
- Flexible way of learning
This flexible method of learning via e-learning, complemented with face-to-face tutorials allows participants to cope with study commitments without compromising on work responsibilities.
- Modular System of Learning
Modular learning gives participants more control of their time and allows them to learn at their own pace.

For more information about the programme, please visit
www.informaticsgroup.com/programmes/mba



About University of Wales

The University of Wales enjoys a distinctive identity as a federal University. It is the degree-awarding authority for its member institutions and exists to support their academic activities.

The University enjoys close links with other higher education institutions in Wales and across the UK, and it is an important awarding body for institutions overseas.

Please visit the official University Website www.wales.ac.uk

About Informatics Group

The Informatics Group, listed on the mainboard of the Stock Exchange of Singapore, was established in 1983, and is a multinational corporation providing lifelong learning services in information technology and business management. Informatics presently has a global network spanning more than 50 countries, offering programmes from O/A Levels (for international students) to undergraduate and postgraduate degree completions. The Company has won many awards including the Singapore Brand Awards 2002 and 2003, the Singapore Quality Class for Private Education Organisations (SQC for PEO) as well as the People Developer Standards Award. For more information, please visit <http://www.informaticsgroup.com>.

For more information, please contact:

Yap Wai Lian
PR & Marketing Manager, Higher Education
Informatics Group
DID: (65) 6580 4286
Email: wlyap@informaticsgroup.com