

MBA by Apprenticeship

Senior Leader Masters Degree Apprenticeship, leading to MBA

Building on our successful launch of the Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship, the University of Cumbria is developing an apprenticeship programme to support talent development, through the Senior Leaders Masters Degree. The new apprenticeship standard is designed to develop strategic leaders and potential leaders of the future.

Typically a strategic leader will have senior management responsibility, which may include statutory or director level responsibilities in the organisation. They will have a role to play in setting strategy, direction and organisational vision, underpinning the organisation's sense of purpose and direction.

We will be launching the Senior Leaders Masters Degree Apprenticeship in autumn 2018, subject to university approval. We are now seeking feedback from employers on the format of the programme to optimise how and where we deliver the programme.

Qualification

The Senior Leader Masters Degree programme will provide learners with a rich programme over two years part-time study leading to a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Cumbria's Business School.

Successful apprentices may also be eligible for membership or fellowship of the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) or ILM (who are we using for end point assessment)

Who is it for?

The apprenticeship is suitable for senior leaders in organisations of all sizes in the private, public and third sectors.

It is for anyone who leads, organises and directs organisations, for example General Manager, Senior Manager, Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer etc.

Applicants are invited to discuss their role, suitability with the University

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before making an application.

What is included in the course?

The proposed programme includes the following modules:

- Leadership & Organisation Behaviour
- Strategic Thinking
- Finance for Managers
- Sustainability Issues in Business
- Marketing Planning
- Information and Operations
- Research Methods for Business
- Management Independent Project

This MBA allows students to develop their reflective and critical thinking skills by challenging their reasoning and analytical mind-set. The problem-based learning process ensures the learning process encompasses the current global economic climate and evolving management reasoning, practices and solutions. Throughout the programme, students are also able to develop their academic and transferable skills such as report writing, portfolio creation, individual and group presentation, teamwork, negotiation skills, time management, research skills, business communication skills, leadership styles, business aptitude, IT skills, equality and diversity awareness.

Our Academic Team

The MBA Team consists of academics who are engaged with the Higher Education Academy and active members/practitioners of the business community (regional, national and international).

Entry Requirements

Typically, we would expect entrants to have around three years in a managerial, professional or technical role within their organisation or profession, giving the learner a practical base on which to build their studies.

Learners would be expected to have an honours degree or similar higher education/professional qualification.

Entry is by application, and non-standard entry can be discussed on an individual basis with applicants.

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Supporting SMEs

The University of Cumbria are one of a few institutions approved to support non-levy paying SMEs.

We can access 90% funding for eligible non-levy payers to undertake apprenticeship training.

Key Facts

- Offered on block release, typically 3 days per module, every 12 weeks.
- Course consists of 8 modules over two years = 24 on-campus days*
- £18,000 fee - free for levy payers and 10% fee payable by SMEs up-front.
- Proposal to deliver campus location subject to demand/consultation
- Successful learners will complete the apprenticeship and be awarded Master of Business Administration (MBA).
- Programme backed by Chartered Management Institute, with learners becoming member on completion.
- Delivery planned to commence in Autumn 2018
- Includes independent project as a module

Learning & Teaching Methods

- Lectures to provide a structured framework of knowledge
- Tutorials to develop further understanding and to encourage discussion and debate
- Seminars to develop in depth knowledge and critical thinking

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- Online and class-based workshops to develop critical analysis, research and IT skills
- Guided and independent study to develop research skills, study skills and in depth knowledge
- Reflection using our online learning tool for development of academic skills, professional skills, research skills and transferable skills.

Interested?

The university is currently developing this programme. We would welcome discussions with employers who would be interested in this apprenticeship course. We encourage you to complete our short survey [here](#) to help us gauge interest and shape delivery.