

Executive Doctor of Business Administration





Introduction

The Executive Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) is an advanced doctoral programme designed for seasoned business professionals who would like to strengthen their C-suite knowledge and expertise in the areas of business and leadership, allowing them to not only thrive but become change catalysts in the business world.

This prestigious programme offers a unique blend of advanced academic knowledge, rigorous research and practical application, equipping you with the tools to navigate complex situations, drive innovation and become an indispensable member of your business communities.

Immerse yourself in a global environment

Through this programme, you will get the opportunity to immerse yourself in a global learning environment, connecting with like-minded professionals from diverse industries and backgrounds, and engage in original research that addresses pressing business challenges, allowing you to contribute to the advancement of business knowledge.

Benefit from the expertise of a fly-in faculty

Students will benefit from the expertise of leading academics and industry practitioners from all across the globe through our fly-in faculty programme, who bring diverse perspectives and real-world experience to the classroom.

Why does this course benefit individuals?

- Raise your profile
- Leadership opportunities
- Personal and professional growth
- Research opportunities
- Decision-making confidence
- Capacity for social impact
- Increase your earning potential
- Expanded network
- Global perspective

Career Prospects

Executive DBA graduates are well-prepared for a wide range of high-level career opportunities.

They can pursue leadership roles within organisations, contribute to academia as professors, leverage their expertise in consulting engagements, or launch their own entrepreneurial ventures.

The advanced knowledge and skills gained through the Executive DBA programme provide the necessary tools for success, anywhere from the local level to the global one.

This course is available in two phases

Programme Structure

The Executive DBA is comprised of two phases, made up of six modules delivered through a mix of classroom, online and work-based sessions.

How does it work?

Phase 1

Core Taught Modules

Phase 2

Doctoral Research

The programme will have a duration of a minimum of three and a half years.

Phase 1 is made up of five modules. The five modules forming the core taught part of the programme are structured in a way to give students a broader exposure to key business topics and practices.

This phase needs to be completed in the first two years of the DBA programme.

Following the successful completion of all five modules making up Phase 1 of the doctoral study, students will start Phase 2. This phase focuses entirely on their doctoral research.

The exact duration of Phase 2 of the programme is subject to individual progress and thesis completion.

01

Core Taught Modules

MQF 8

24 MONTHS

02

Thesis

MQF 8

18-72 MONTHS

Programme Modules

Phase 1

Research Methods

Executive Business Management and Strategic Leadership

Transformational Change and Organisational Adaptation

Critical Thinking and Analytical Mastery

Ethical Leadership

Phase 2

Doctoral Research

Accreditation

The Executive DBA is accredited by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) and is mapped at Level 8 on the Malta Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning. KNIGHTS' ISO 9001 certification also means that this programme meets the highest international quality standards.

Programme Delivery

The Executive DBA is designed to accommodate the busy schedules of senior executives.

We understand that your professional and personal commitments often leave limited time for traditional classroom-based learning. Our flexible learning model factors this into account, combining classroom sessions, online sessions and work-based learning.

Assessment

The assessment strategy for the Executive DBA programme will follow a mixed assessment method consisting of assignments,

case studies, reflective journals, presentations, projects and a thesis.

Entry Requirements

The entry criteria for the Executive DBA programme require students to hold an MQF Level 7 master's qualification, and/or ten years of industry experience in a leadership or managerial role.

Candidates must also have academic or professional knowledge of key financial and marketing business practices and processes.

If not, they will need to successfully complete two modules at MQF level 7 focusing on strategic marketing and strategic financial planning that may be undertaken at KNIGHTS or any other comparable educational institution.

Students who do not meet the above entry requirements can still apply by submitting a 1000-word motivation letter, emphasising their academic or professional accomplishments and why they believe they are qualified for the programme.



Why KNIGHTS

Welcome to KNIGHTS, a contemporary and agile institution redefining global education. Our strategic evolution, from the Central Mediterranean Business School, positions us as a truly global brand, dedicated to equipping you for success on the world stage. At our core, KNIGHTS is driven by the purpose of “Fuelling human potential for a brighter future”.

At KNIGHTS, we move beyond traditional academics, providing innovative education that blends rigorous learning with global insights, cutting-edge technology, and real-world relevance. Our operations and strategic direction are inherently guided by fundamental principles. We empower individuals to achieve personal success and make a meaningful impact, guided by principles of integrity, purposeful innovation, and a commitment to ensuring everyone thrives.

For students and sponsors who choose KNIGHTS, this signifies an unwavering commitment to excellence without compromise. With campuses and programmes spanning continents, a globally connected alumni network, and faculty drawn from diverse international backgrounds, KNIGHTS serves as a launchpad for impactful global careers, where your ambitions are ignited, and your future is shaped for a brighter, more inclusive world.



Application Process & Fees

For current information about the application process and course fees, visit knights.edu.mt/courses.

Funding Schemes & Payment Terms

Students may also make use of our flexible payment terms and benefit from a number of funding schemes.

For more information about current funding opportunities, visit knights.edu.mt/funding.

Find out more

knights.edu.mt

“My name is Janine Bosak and I am a Full Professor in Organisational Psychology at Dublin City University Business School in Ireland. My areas of research include (gender) diversity and discrimination, leadership and employee wellbeing in organisations.

I served on the executive board of the European Association of Work and Organisational Psychology (EAWOP) from 2017-2022 and I am currently serving as PDW Chair on the executive board of the Academy of Management (AOM) Careers Division. I am also a certified and trained business coach who advances the systemic and solution-focused approach to coaching.

I am excited to be part of the forthcoming DBA programme offered in Knight’s College as I am passionate about research, teaching and the opportunity to work with seasoned executives who will become scholarly individuals with a deep expertise in a field of management in the course of this programme.”

Janine Bosak

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