



Doctorate in Business Administration and Doctorate in Public Administration (DBA/DPA)

Plymouth University, UK, offers a Doctorate in Business Administration and Doctorate in Public Administration (DBA/DPA) in partnership with International University Geneva, Switzerland, for candidates who wish to draw together both theoretical and practical aspects of their professions.

The philosophy of the DBA/DPA at PBS understands that practice and theory have separate discourses. There exists a theory discourse, a practical discourse and to link these distinct perspectives a mediating discourse is required. Indeed, through methodological techniques and research strategies the DBA provides this mediating discourse.

Interaction between theory and practice, through a mediating discourse can empower the individual within the work-place in terms of understanding self and improve situations for the group or organisation. Furthermore, new perspectives may be brought to historic problems, which can provide practical solutions for organisational difficulties. The interaction between theory and practice through precise methodological approaches give the individual and organisation new perspectives that add value in terms of effectiveness and efficiency.

Entry requirements include work-place experience, postgraduate and appropriate undergraduate qualifications. In the initial stages of the programme there is an emphasis on close direction through workshops, presentations and written papers. On the basis of the written papers and research proposal the second phase involves the completion of a thesis. However, workshops will be available two/three times per academic year for the duration of the programme. Workshops concentrate on areas relating to the literature review, methodology, data collection, theory and analysis.

The candidate is central to the DBA/DPA and doctoral research of this nature assumes that the social world is constantly fluid. The researcher continually interacts with the social world and is central to the process of research. Through understanding specific situations, in relation to more general concepts, the researcher is able to make certain theoretical inferences and deal with practical problems.