

# DOCTOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Delivered by Plymouth University in partnership with the International University in Geneva



**WITH  
PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY**

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## About the International University in Geneva (IUG)



Ranked by Eduiversal among the top ten universities in Switzerland, the International University in Geneva (IUG) is an accredited academic institution specialising in business education. The University offers undergraduate and graduate programmes in Business Administration, International Relations, Media and Communication and International Trade. The curriculum features a unique combination of theoretical and practical instruction, with a particular focus on international business practices. The international exchange programme offers an opportunity for students to study at renowned universities worldwide.

Located in Geneva, Switzerland, at the centre of Europe and a hub for international politics and business, the campus is close to the airport and about 5 km from the city centre. The IUG has students representing over 60 nationalities providing a truly multicultural setting.

### Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

**This is a research-based doctoral degree that will expose participants to an intellectually rigorous programme of study. It is designed to enable participants to synthesise and develop professional practice, theoretical understanding and reflexive capability.**

#### Who is the course for?

The Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) programme provides the basis for candidates to undertake an individual research project through the synthesis of practical experience and theoretical frameworks. Through the DBA and the interaction between theory and practice, individual understanding is enhanced and practical solutions for organisational difficulties may be established. The interaction between theory and practice through precise methodological approaches give individuals and organisations new perspectives that add value in terms of effectiveness, efficiency and capability.

Initially there is an emphasis on close direction through workshops, presentations and written papers. On the basis of the written papers and a research proposal the second phase involves the completion of a thesis. Individual tuition and supervision will be available for the duration of the programme. Candidates bring their own practical expertise to the programme, consequently the tuition and supervision concentrate on areas new to candidates.

Candidates will be expected to concentrate on an issue directly related to a workplace or organisation they are familiar with; such a project could take the form of solving a problem or identifying new operational procedures. Before the thesis is started the area of research will be agreed by the University, individual student and any other participating organisations.

#### Special features

- Delivered in the heart of Europe at the International University in Geneva
- Taught by international experts in diverse fields of management, leadership, business, banking and finance
- Cohort teaching and research environments
- Direct involvement with a research community
- Emphasis on action learning and research
- Interaction between theory and practice
- Reflexivity and reflective methodological approaches

#### Award

DBA - Doctor of Business Administration

#### Duration

3 years

#### Entry requirements

Entry criteria will reflect the status of the programme and include workplace experience as well as previous qualifications (MBA or related master's degree). All candidates will be interviewed and their capability to undertake the taught part of the programme established.

## About Plymouth University



Plymouth University is one of the UK's most prominent and dynamic universities with an educational history dating back to 1862. The Sunday Times University Guide 2011 has named Plymouth as one of the top three modern universities in the UK.

The University has a long record of high quality innovative research as demonstrated by its achievements in the RAE. The university submitted twenty-five Units of Assessment in the 2008 RAE. The results show that the majority of research submitted by the university included world-leading research, achieving the highest rating possible - scoring 4-stars. Overall, 80% of the research was judged as being of international repute.

In the Research Fortnight research power league table, on the basis of the results of the 2008 RAE Plymouth has leapt 15 places to join the top 50 universities, showing the greatest improvement in the UK in research performance since the last RAE, in 2001.

### Doctor of Public Administration (DPA)

**The reforms of the public sector over the last 20 years has created a need for staff who are better able not only to give leadership, but also to work with partners drawn from other public organisations. This research-based doctoral degree prepares managers for the challenging times ahead.**

This programme of study and research focuses on managerial and organisational practice, provides opportunities for learning through collaborative processes, and, most importantly, enables knowledge to be taken back to the workplace and implemented in order to improve the quality of practice. Students will enhance their ability by applying theory to practice in the contexts of critical public policy and administration issues in a way that draws upon students' extensive professional and managerial experience.

The DPA is firmly grounded in the social sciences and premised on experienced public sector professionals having the broad remit of providing effective leadership to their organisation in a governance and policy environment that is ambiguous, complex and often indeterminate. It provides, at the doctoral-level, the conceptual knowledge and the research capacity that will enable students to:

- Facilitate in others the capacity to manage public resources cost-efficiently, cost-effectively and equitably
- Guide, and contribute to, socio-political discourses, at all levels, on the future roles of the state, civil society and the market in societal and local community governance; and give sound policy advice to government across an array of policy domains

#### Special features

- Delivered in the heart of Europe at the International University in Geneva
- Taught by international experts in public policy issues, government procedures and social sciences.
- Aimed at senior managers within the public service and local government
- The research can be conducted within the workplace, or an organisation you are familiar with

#### Award

DPA - Doctor of Public Administration

#### Duration

3 years

#### Entry requirements

Entry criteria will reflect the status of the programme and include workplace experience as well as previous qualifications (MBA or related master's degree). All candidates will be interviewed and their capability to undertake the taught part of the programme established.

#### English language proficiency

A satisfactory knowledge of English is vital for successful postgraduate study. For students whose native language is not English, the University has the following minimum English language requirement: IELTS of 6.5 overall and 5.5 in all components, TOEFL of 577 in the paper-based test and 90 in the internet-based test. Equivalent qualifications are also considered, visit [www.plymouth.ac.uk/elr](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/elr)



## WITH PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

**Further more information and how to apply please contact:**

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The university is committed to providing information in accessible formats. If you require this information in an alternative format please contact: Marketing Department, Email: [pbsmarketing@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:pbsmarketing@plymouth.ac.uk)

This publication went to print October 2011 – which may be more than two years before the start of your course. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication. However, as our courses and services are regularly reviewed and updated, some details may change.

The university is committed to the promotion of equality and diversity. Our policies are available on our website [www.plymouth.ac.uk/equalopportunities](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/equalopportunities)