Discover
Master of Business Administration

The University of Sydney Business School is a world-class institution at the forefront of global business and management education. We pride ourselves on our relevance to today’s business environment.

About our Master of Business Administration

Our Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs offer students the opportunity to accelerate along their career path through industry-oriented courses coupled with practical business experience.

Developed in close consultation with leading businesses and industry experts, our MBA exposes students to the latest business knowledge, offering practical experience in applying theory to real-world commercial challenges. Driven to address the needs of business, our graduates aim to make the right career choices. Our career services support our students to develop as future leaders.

Wide range of recruitment resources

By aligning with us now, you will have the opportunity to begin talent-pooling for your business. We work closely with corporate Australia to understand its specific requirements, and we are pleased to introduce our new career services manager portal, Symplicity. If you are a recruiter, we invite you to create a profile here and gain direct access to our students.

“On behalf of the University of Sydney Business School, I would like to thank all employers who have recruited from us this year. We look forward to working with you in 2016 and beyond, and sharing the successes of our MBA students as they graduate.”

Lisa Tarry
MBA Careers and Corporate Relations Manager
Discover
Why recruit from our MBA programs?

Planning and creating an MBA from the ground up has provided the University of Sydney Business School with a rare opportunity to balance technical learning with personal development.

Ranked among the top 50 universities in the world, we are consistently rated “well above world standard” by Excellence in Research for Australia, and we attract high-calibre staff and students from around the world.

We have listened to industry and developed a curriculum for our part-time MBA programs that supports knowledge acquisition with the ability to articulate a clear point of view. Focusing on critical thinking, our students are equipped to argue a real case with business and community leaders.

Our students learn to engage with the media and maximise the effectiveness of their thoughts and arguments in written opinion pieces and presentations to camera. Put simply, they master the art of taking theory and turning it into real-world, practical solutions.

About our students
Our diverse student cohort represents a range of industries and specialist areas. This report provides you with a snapshot of our students, including their undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications, as well as industry expertise. We are also delighted to share some early success stories and the aspirations of our students upon graduating.

“Our MBA has a strong focus on developing the personal and interpersonal skills needed to lead in today’s hyperconnected, global environment, which is increasingly characterised by disruption. The program is underpinned by our unique approach to learning, which goes beyond the traditional classroom setting and requires students to deliver prototypes and effective solutions to actual business problems.

“Our world-class careers management services also help our students to discover the career path that will give them the greatest personal and professional fulfilment. We believe that defining your career vision and gaining the tools and knowledge you need to achieve success is critical, providing students with clarity on their strengths and any areas they may like to develop.”

Professor Guy Ford
Director MBA, Executive Management Education
“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.”

Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862)
American author, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, tax resister, development critic, surveyor, and historian
In 2015 we welcomed two intakes of carefully selected students. Each student went through an interview process to establish their suitability for the degree.

The MBA cohort size was 92 students, and 34 was the average age. 48 percent were women and 52 percent were men. The most recent intake of 2015 had over 50 percent of female students – read more here.

The median base salary (including super) was $A132,925, and the average was $A131,669.
Education

Main areas of undergraduate study
Business and Commerce were again the leading areas of undergraduate study, followed by engineering/information technology and economics/finance.

This year we saw the addition of undergraduate study backgrounds in construction and international studies.

Graduates
In 2015, we saw a slight decrease of 1 percent from 2014 in the number of students who had previously studied at the University of Sydney.
- Graduates of Sydney: 19 percent
- Graduates of other universities: 81 percent

Postgraduate study
Of our incoming students with another postgraduate degree, 98 percent have undertaken postgraduate study in a non-business area. These areas of study include: architecture, international affairs, law, project management and audio and acoustics.

Main areas of undergraduate study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business/Commerce</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering/IT,</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics/Finance</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture/Construction,</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Studies</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, English,</td>
<td>&lt;2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government, Accounting</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professional Experience

Our students come from a wide range of industry sectors, and have clear ideas about their motivations, both professional and personal, for completing an MBA.

Current industry

- Engineering and construction: 10%
- Finance/Banking/Insurance: 10%
- Consulting: 9%
- Non-Profit: 9%
- Advertising/PR: 6%
- Government: 6%
- Property and Real Estate: 6%
- Retail: 5%
- Media/Entertainment: 4%
- Medicine/Health and Community: 4%
- Transport and Infrastructure: 3%
- Consumer goods: 3%
- Digital: 3%
- ICT: 3%
- Law and Legal Services: 3%
- Manufacturing: 3%
- Mining: 1%
- Pharma/Bio/Healthcare Products: 1%
- Renewable Energy: 1%
- Other: 11%

*There were over 77 unique position titles captured.

Current role

Just under half of all respondents are at the middle management level, and this year we have again seen a new stream of C-suite professionals along with an increase in senior management from 23 percent in 2014 to 30 percent in 2015*.

- Chief executive/managing director: 4%
- Senior manager: 30%
- Middle manager: 40%
- Supervisor: 7%
- Coordinator: 7%
- Other: 12%

Professional experience

In 2015 we began reporting slightly differently on professional experience, but saw an overall increase in students with more than 6 years experience to 66 percent.

- 1–3 years: 3%
- 3–5 years: 13%
- 5–6 years: 18%
- 6–8 years: 12%
- 9–11 years: 18%
- More than 11 years: 36%
Seeking employment

- Yes – Actively looking: 31%
- No – Company sponsored or employed: 60%
- No – Continuing Education: 5%
- No – Postponing job search: 3%
- No – Starting new business as Owner/Founder: 1%

Funding method

- Combination (Self/Org/FEE-HELP): 38%
- FEE-HELP: 30%
- Self Funding: 22%
- Corporate Sponsorship: 10%
Aspirations after the MBA

Changing industry remains the lowest priority, similar to our 2014 student cohort responses, with the desire to remain with their current employer continuing to lead the way. This could again indicate improved retention strategies; however, aiming to change job function within their current company, while down by 3 percent on 2014, is still reasonably high at 21 percent.

Entrepreneurial and Global Mindsets

14 percent of our students have owned a business, with five percent owning two or more.

40 percent of our students have more than six months’ international work experience.

14%

40%

Remain with current employer at a higher-level role

Change job function

Establish own business

19%

4%

7%

Change both industry and job function

Change industry

Other
Student profile: Gary Elphick

Gary Elphick (Cohort 1) is the CEO of Disrupt, a platform for designing your own sports equipment, 100% customised for the same price as retail.

− disruptsurfing.com

A group of passionate sports enthusiasts and instructors, with a background in sports and technology marketing, Disrupt uses data to help their customers design their own personalised sporting equipment through their online platform. The Disrupt platform links customers directly with manufacturing, cutting out all the challenges of traditional retail distribution. Disrupt were part of muru-D accelerator, a business accelerator for entrepreneurs backed by Telstra. Since inception Disrupt was named top 20apps in Australia, Finalist in the Australian business awards and took first place the Australian Web Summit.
Discover
Meet our students

“I selected the Sydney University MBA as it convincingly promised a diverse cohort and a practical course focused on leadership. Sydney University delivered on this promise. We had doctors, public servants, bankers and sports trainers in the cohort from a range of backgrounds. We did real life projects for Australian and International businesses and there was a continued focus on creating future leaders. In addition there was a strong focus and support network available for careers post MBA. As a result of my MBA I feel better placed to lead people and organisations in my future career.”

Jason Rogers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside view</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Entrepreneurial | - Co-founded Disrupt (www.distruptsurfing.com) in 2014  
- Established H2O Extreme (www.h2o-extreme.com) in 2004  
- Established Extreme-Safari (www.extreme-safari.com), an adventure sports |
| MBA Capstone | - Developed a product prototype and business model for Swiss Re (reinsurance) to reduce annual income protection pay outs by $25 million per year in Australia. |
Completing my MBA was always an aspiration of mine, however I never realised that what I was embarking on at Sydney University would be a life altering experience that would not only be intellectually fulfilling and professionally developmental but also introduce me to a group of inspiring individuals whom I can now call both associates and friends. Through the career counselling and recruitment services provided by Lisa Tarry, I was able to secure my dream job at EY within weeks, which I had pursued previously for a number of years. The support and advice I received through this time from both my new classmates and University faculty members was astounding, demonstrating the community that the MBA School really is.”

Jessica Mayhew
In 2014 we welcomed two intakes of carefully selected students. Each student went through an interview process to establish their suitability for the degree.

**MBA student cohort profile**

The MBA cohort size was **72 students**, and **33** was the average age. **35 percent** were women and **65 percent** were men.

The median base salary (including super) was **$A110,000**, and the average was **$A127,000**.
Education

Main areas of undergraduate study
Business and Commerce were the leading areas of undergraduate study, followed by arts, law, and engineering/information technology – mirroring our 2013 intake.

This year we saw the addition of undergraduate study backgrounds in accounting and finance as well as architecture.

Graduates
In 2014, we saw a decrease of 5 percent from 2013 in the number of students who had previously studied at the University of Sydney.

− Graduates of Sydney: 20 percent
− Graduates of other universities: 80 percent

Postgraduate study
Of our incoming students with another postgraduate degree, 46 percent have another degree in business, while 54 percent have undertaken postgraduate study in a non-business area. These areas of study include: architecture, arts, international studies, journalism, law, occupational health and safety, project management, public health, publishing, and science.

Main areas of undergraduate study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>Business/Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Law, Engineering/IT, Science, Accounting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Economics/Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professional Experience

Our students come from a wide range of industry sectors, and have clear ideas about their motivations, both professional and personal, for completing an MBA.

Current industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance, banking and insurance</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT and telecommunications</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and consulting</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit and charitable</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media, advertising, public relations</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government, politics and defence</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and construction</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law and legal services</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and real estate</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine, health and community services</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail and fast-moving consumer goods</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current role

Almost half of all respondents are at the middle management level, and this year we have welcomed a new stream of C-suite professionals along with an increase in senior management from 17 percent in 2013 to 23 percent in 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief executive/managing director</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior manager</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle manager</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional experience

In 2014 we welcomed an increase in students with three to four years’ professional experience, up by 8 percent on 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3–4 years</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4–5 years</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5–6 years</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 6 years</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Entrepreneurial and Global Mindsets

22 percent of our students have owned a business

38 percent of our students have more than six months’ international work experience

Aspirations after the MBA

Changing industry is the lowest priority, similar to our 2013 student cohort responses, with the desire to remain with their current employer leading the way. This could indicate improved retention strategies; however, aiming to change job function within their current company, while down by 3 percent on 2013, is still high at 24 percent of students.

32% remain with current employer at a higher-level role

24% change job function

20% establish own business

18% change both industry and job function

5% change industry

2% other
Discover
MBA student cohort 2013

In 2013 we welcomed the first cohort of the new University of Sydney Business School MBA.

MBA student cohort profile

The MBA cohort size was 52 students, and 31 was the average age. 33 percent were women and 67 percent were men.

![Pie charts showing 33% Women and 67% Men]

The average base salary (including super) was $A117,000.
Education

While our new MBA program focuses on the core elements essential to every MBA, including strategy, management and leadership, we have made big changes to how they are taught. Our students experience a far more practical approach: we deliver a strong technical knowledge that is backed up with the personal and professional skills to make that knowledge really work.

It was not surprising that our highest intake of students had a business or commerce undergraduate degree, and that the top four undergraduate areas of study comprise a consistent trend in 2013 and 2014.

Graduates
A quarter of our 2013 intake were students who had previously studied at the University of Sydney.

- Graduates of Sydney: 25 percent
- Graduates of other universities: 75 percent

Postgraduate study
Of our incoming students with another postgraduate degree, 24 percent have another degree in business, while a staggering 76 percent have undertaken postgraduate study in a non-business area, highlighting the diversity of our students.

Main areas of undergraduate study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business/Commerce</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering/IT</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics/Finance, and other</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professional Experience

Although few respondents currently work in the consulting sector, a high proportion intend to upon completion of an MBA.

Current industry

- Finance, banking and insurance 21%
- Media, advertising, public relations 16%
- IT and telecommunications 13%
- Business and consulting 13%
- Government, politics and defence 11%
- Law and legal services 8%
- Non-profit and charitable 5%
- Education 5%
- Medicine, health and community services 5%
- Property and real estate 3%
- Engineering and construction 3%
- Other 3%

Current role

Almost half of all respondents are at the middle management level in their current role.

- Chief executive/managing director 3%
- Senior manager 23%
- Middle manager 47%
- Supervisor 14%
- Coordinator 3%
- Other 11%

Professional experience

On average, students from our 2013 cohort had 8.6 years of relevant full-time work experience upon entering the MBA. The responses range from 15 months to 20 years.

- 3–4 years 14%
- 4–5 years 12%
- 5–6 years 11%
- More than 6 years 63%
Aspirations after the MBA

Most students wanted to change both industry and job function upon completion of the MBA, while 35 percent intend to remain with their current employer, but in a higher-level role.

Entrepreneurial and Global Mindsets

20 percent of our students have owned a business

50 percent of our students have more than six months’ international work experience

46% 35% 32%
Change both industry and job function Remain with current employer at a higher-level role Establish own business

27% 8% 0%
Change job function Change industry Other
“I chose the University of Sydney MBA because its flexibility allows me to continue working while undertaking my studies on a part-time basis. I was drawn to the program because it doesn’t take a cookie-cutter approach. While other MBAs seemed to offer similar, stock-standard academic subjects, this course offers a more modern approach that focuses on actual industry application. Coming from a technical finance background, everything I’m doing in my MBA program is completely different to what I’ve done before. That’s exactly what I want. It’s perfect.”

Jessica Hughes
Hugh Simpson

“The Sydney MBA has given me the tools to solve big problems through creative insights that inspire, engage and empower others for sustainable business outcomes.”

Hugh Simpson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside view</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Placement</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate education</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Postgraduate education</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **University of Sydney Business School activities** | – Marketing and Communications Manager for eMBAssy Student Association  
– Created and launched the MBA student association’s website: [www.embassy.org.au](http://www.embassy.org.au) |
Discover
Hear from our students

Natalie Cope

Video: Natalie Cope on making a difference in the world through inspiring and effective leadership

Inside view

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sydney</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current role</td>
<td>Manager, Partnerships and Development, Asialink Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate education</td>
<td>Graduate Diploma of Legal Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate education</td>
<td>BA/LLB (Honours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>Co-founder and non-executive director of the Australia-China Youth Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards and recognition</td>
<td>- BOSS Emerging Leaders MBA Scholarship recipient, awarded by the University of Sydney Business School and Financial Review BOSS Magazine 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Ambassador, Westpac Bi-Centennial, Foundation, Westpac Scholars, Asian Exchange Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Australian Delegate, 2016 Australia – India Youth Dialogue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Romaric Bouveret

Video: Romaric Bouveret on managing the commitments of an MBA program

Inside view

Location: Sydney
Current role: Medical Research Scientist, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute
Postgraduate education: PhD in the area of Natural Sciences
Undergraduate education: Honours Degree, Plant Biology
Awards and recognition: – Australian Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship
– 2013 Anstic MBA Scholarship for Community Leadership

Darren Distefano

Video: Darren Distefano on the importance of having a commercial and a business mindset

Inside view

Location: Sydney
Current role: Business Affairs, TV Production and Distribution, FOXTEL
Undergraduate education: BA (Media & Communications) University of Sydney Business School
Awards and recognition: – Darren launched Foxtel’s first IPTV service. Today known as FOXTEL PLAY, he successfully adopted Foxtel’s shift in internet delivery and drove the programming and acquisitions of Video On Demand content, which is now available on gaming consoles, connected TVs, smartphones and tablets.
– Further, I was in SMH few years ago regarding work/study balance,
Discover
Partner with us

There are various ways to engage with us. Here are a few options for you to consider.

Recruit
Create an account in Symplicity to hire current MBA students for your summer or full-time positions, or alumni of the University of Sydney Business School MBA programs for immediate hiring.

Connect
Connect with our Student Associations, eMBAssy and Ladies Who Lead, to sponsor events and/or propose a business strategy challenge.

Pipeline talent
Request a resume e-book.

Network
Participate in a recruiting event.

Co-discover, co-design, co-deliver
Talk to us about our executive education opportunities for lifelong learning.

MBA programs
Encourage your employees to apply to the University of Sydney Business School MBA programs.
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Global Executive MBA
Why study here?

As Australia’s first university our reputation spans more than 160 years. We are regularly ranked in the top 0.3 percent of universities worldwide. We teach more than 50,000 bright minds, with 10,000 international students from more than 145 countries. We’ve taught 145 Olympians, six prime ministers, two Nobel laureates, three astronauts, 110 Rhodes scholars and one Pulitzer Prize winner. What will you achieve?

When you come to study at the University of Sydney, you become part of an inspiring network of leading academics, and distinguished graduates and alumni. The cross-disciplinary nature of our 16 faculties allows us to offer the widest range of academic programs of any Australian university, giving you the flexibility to personalise your degree.

– sydney.edu.au/futurestudents

For more information
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