MBA Careers
Full-time MBA student profiles
Graduate class of 2020
Discover our full-time MBA

In a world of growing complexity, disruption and ambiguity, the traditional MBA is dead. Understanding the fundamentals of business is no longer enough. Future business leaders also need to be resilient, adaptable, progressive and influential to succeed on the global stage.

Over 18 months, studying in one of the world’s iconic cities, students gain the knowledge and skills to build and lead enterprises. Like most MBAs, our program offers a deep understanding of finance, marketing and strategy. But students also learn how to harness big data, leverage the power of creativity, explore the nature of complex systems and lead teams in a digital world.

Our students ‘learn by doing’ with a small class of like-minded professionals, hand-picked from around the world to create a vibrant and diverse cohort. They are supported by a personalised careers service and have access to exceptional industry internships, exposing them to some of the largest global brands and enabling them to build an influential network.

**Professor Guy Ford**  
MBA Program Director  
The University of Sydney Business School

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our first full-time MBA cohort who will be graduating in 2020, and comprises of a diverse group of 36 students spanning 16 different countries.

Throughout our 18 month program, students develop their personal skills, business knowledge and ability to build and lead enterprises, while embarking on a career management journey tailored specifically to their individual goals. We provide students with personalised career coaching, career management tools and resources to help them achieve their leadership potential.

From industry and networking events to roundtable sessions, there are ample opportunities for industry leaders to partner with us and engage with our students. Our dedicated MBA careers team can work closely with you to connect you with our talented students and support your recruitment needs.

We look forward to working with you and sharing in the successes of our MBA students as they graduate.

**Catherine Keyvar**  
Careers and Corporate Relations Manager  
The University of Sydney Business School
How the MBA works

MBA (Leadership and Enterprise)

Personal and Interpersonal Skill Development (units 1–4)
These units focus on developing the personal and interpersonal skills needed to manage and lead in business effectively. Students learn to build individual resilience in a world of growing complexity, disruption and ambiguity.

Business Knowledge and Skill Development (units 5–8)
After completing the first four units, students focus on core business knowledge and skills with an overarching theme of building business resilience and sustainability. Students have an opportunity to combine assessments from these four units to form a business project that will examine the sustainability of an existing business.

Building Future Enterprises (units 9–12)
These units bring together the knowledge and skills acquired in the previous units to equip students to build and lead enterprises. The final unit is the MBA Capstone (Design Strategy), in which students develop customer-centric products and services aligned with the strategy of a contemporary organisation.

− mba.sydney.edu.au/full-time
Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862) was an American author, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, tax resister, development critic, surveyor, and historian.
MBA Careers
Class of 2020

- **Average age of student**: 30
- **Male**: 50%
- **Female**: 50%
- **Countries by citizenship**: 16
- **International**: 89%
- **Domestic**: 11%

### Average years of professional experience

- 3-5 years: 53%
- 6-8 years: 28%
- 9-12 years: 11%
- >12 years: 8%

### Industry pre MBA

- Finance/Banking/Insurance: 16%
- Petroleum/Energy/Mining: 16%
- Healthcare: 14%
- Other: 14%
- Retail/Consumer: 11%
- Technology: 11%
- Consulting: 11%
- Government: 3%
- Transport and Infrastructure: 3%
- Property and Real Estate: 3%

### Level of seniority in most recent role

- CEO/MD: 3%
- Senior Manager: 8%
- Middle Manager: 39%
- Supervisor: 11%
- Coordinator: 6%
- Other: 33%
Career academy

We provide students with the coaching, career management tools and resources to help them refine their professional goals and navigate the recruitment process.

**Full-time MBA Career Services**

**Dedicated to your success**

Our full-time MBA Career Services team works directly with students, empowering them to achieve the next steps in their career strategy.

Through training and development of their employability skills, we support students to make the most of their MBA, and maximise the opportunity of having many of the world’s best employers on our Sydney CBD doorstep.

Our full-time MBA Career Services provides students with:

**Professional development workshops**
Weekly delivery of a structured professional development workshop program covering subjects ranging from media training and building resilience to crafting a TED Talk.

**Individual coaching**
Our professional coaching team works with students to build a personal career-management plan that helps students to develop the tools, skills and knowledge to navigate today’s employment market and recruitment trends successfully. Some of the leading career management tools, technology and resources students have access to as part of their coaching program include:

- CareerLeader®, an online self-assessment tool to evaluate their life interests, business skills, and their own work/reward values.
- Gallup’s Clifton StrengthsFinder® tool to ascertain their main talents and gain clarity on their leadership strengths and any areas they may like to develop.
- We offer all MBA students a premium subscription to MBA-Exchange.com, a global online directory with more than 500 MBA development programs offered by employers worldwide.

**Internships with impact**
Our program offers an optional internship, available during the second study break.

As well as conventional internships in which students work in a partner organisation, we offer exciting and meaningful projects for both individuals and teams across a range of organisations in emerging sectors including start-ups, social enterprises, non-profits and technology enterprises.

**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 as a recruiter, we invite you to engage with us in a number of ways to gain direct access to our students.

To find out more about our career development services, please visit
- mba.sydney.edu.au/careers

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Meet our full-time MBA class of 2020

We are proud to present our full-time MBA class of 2020. Our students bring unique experiences across a wide range of industries, including transport and infrastructure, retail, healthcare, technology and real estate.

Our class of 2020 is culturally and gender diverse with students coming from 16 different countries from all corners of the globe and females representing 50% of the cohort.

Industry-oriented and leadership-focused, we strive to develop our students’ skills around creativity, critical analysis and a systems approach to problem solving. Our students are experienced and career-driven with the ability to make a difference to your organisation.

Prachi Aggarwal
A data enthusiast with more than five years of experience in developing data-driven decisions across industries. As a data analyst at Westpac, she has worked with strategy teams to drive insight into their customer behaviour. She has also consulted eBay’s category leaders with insight and analytics to help drive their businesses.

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Siba Al-Haimus
A true global citizen, Siba was born in Iraq then schooled in the UAE, USA, and Australia. She was a practicing pharmacist in the UK until the end of 2017 before venturing into machine learning on her return to Australia to begin her journey as an MBA student.

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Abdul Almuhrjj
As an experienced supply chain analyst, Abdul’s tenacious and proactive approach resulted in numerous important contract wins. Abdul’s excellent supply chain strategies have provided huge cost savings, and his ability to develop vendor relationships has resulted in a 20 percent increase in business renewals for his current organisation. After eight years in the oil industry, he is currently seeking a new challenge in the management field.

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Ahmed Alomar
Ahmed is an experienced engineer with a demonstrated experience of working in the oil and energy industry. He has a strong background in capital projects development, capital value assurance, capital project management and capital budgeting.

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Christopher Alvord
Christopher is a sales director with more than four years of experience in high net-worth commercial and personal insurance products in the New York City market. He was awarded 2015 rookie of the year and 2016 top three in sales company wide. Christopher is seeking an opportunity in private equity, investment banking, venture capital or management consulting.

Sales Director, William Raveis
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Alexander Appold
Alexander graduated with a degree in international business in Tallahassee, Florida in 2016. He has five years experience as a leader in marketing at a renewable energy start-up.

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Alana Bolton

Alana is passionate about talent acquisition, employee retention strategy, and change management. Alana comes from a research focused and problem-solving background. As a Talent Generalist at Canada’s largest biotechnology company, she has managed a campus recruitment program, implemented a HRIS, increased employee retention and developed a global recruitment strategy. Alana has three years of talent management experience with one year in a leadership position.

- Talent Generalist, STEMCELL Technologies
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Frances Cameron

Frances Cameron was one of the four founding members of the Patagonia Provisions team, the sustainable food division of the outdoor apparel company Patagonia. In 2017, Frances successfully launched the Patagonia Provisions category in Australia.

- Field Project Manager, Patagonia
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- Bachelor of Arts (Human Rights and Women’s Studies) – Trinity College, USA
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Suthinee (Min) Buranaphong

Through six years of work experience, Min has developed expertise in integrated marketing. She has helped the firm translate vision into action using both above-the-line and below-the-line marketing strategies and optimised communication, strategic pricing, and promotion mechanics to drive brand growth. Min is passionate about coaching, and is known as a talent multiplier of the team.

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Alfonso Caso Prado

An entrepreneur with skills in the pharmaceutical and food industries, Alfonso started his own company of Mexican sauces for four years and managed to obtain a first successful exit with the company. He has also worked on the creation of three companies, gained experience as a marketing manager in a pharmaceutical start-up before joining a health verification unit approved by the national regulatory authority in Mexico as strategic planning manager.

- Strategic Planning Manager, Tesis SAPI de CV
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Eliza Clarke
Eliza is an experienced capital markets professional, having worked in both Sydney and Hong Kong with Macquarie Bank over the past six years. Eliza has specialist skills in institutional broking, transaction origination and management, and structured equity products, from her time spent in the sales and trading and derivatives businesses.

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Siyi Chen
Siyi is a highly motivated, ambitious and resilient professional who has solid experience in cross-cultural communication, customer relations and business development within both international and domestic corporations fulfilling various roles from translator and sales assistant to co-founder and marketing executive.

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Lara Collins
Lara has three years’ work experience and comes to Sydney after two years as a brand specialist in the innovation department at Ben & Jerry’s. As a project manager, she launched a new line of ice cream, managed the e-commerce store and analytics, and owned a confidential product development project.

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Phillip Degeneffe
Phillip is an experienced project manager with a broad skillset and a marketing focus. He graduated from the University of Minnesota with a dual major B5 in Applied Economics and Psychology. Phillip has more than five years of business experience across multiple industries with responsibilities including: eCommerce integration, contract negotiation, and marketing campaign management from design to execution.

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Naga Devarapalli

Naga is an associate in quality assurance and engineering at Cognizant Technology Solutions in India. He is pursuing his MBA to foster business and leadership skills while helping the world to become a better place by contributing his skills and ideas to provide business solutions that makes a difference to people’s lives.

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- Bachelor of Technology (Electronic and Instrumentation Engineer) - Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, India
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Nick Drosos

Nick has managed and supervised the leasing operations for Manhattan real estate portfolio sized at over 500 units and valued at over $500MM USD. He was responsible for creating strategic direction as well as implementation of strategy, from marketing to pricing and selling.

- Director of Leasing, Bridgeline Property Management LLC
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- Bachelor of Criminology & Criminal Justice (with Honors, Cum Laude) - Ohio State University, USA
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Viktoria Elizabeth

Viktoria has over six years of retail banking experience in the negotiation and structuring of mortgage, investment, business and Lombard loans as well as in credit risk analysis and holding loan decision power. She has a strong focus on sales, customer relationship management and business development activities aimed at upscale clientele.

- Senior Loan Advisor, ING Luxembourg
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- Bachelor of Applied Foreign Languages, specification for English and Hungarian, business track – Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle, France
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Wasim Fawaz

Wasim is a dynamic and result-oriented manager with in-depth oil field and operations experience. He is tenacious in defining responsive strategies, leading compelling presentations, and negotiating multimillion-dollar deals. A multi-lingual communicator, Wasim has experience building collaborative partnerships across cultures and borders, aligning solutions with client business requirements. He is a natural leader having trained and managed multi-disciplinary teams in exceeding targets and customer expectations.

- Engineering Manager, Baker Hughes, A GE Company
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- Bachelor of Science (BS), Mechanical Engineering - American University of Beirut, Lebanon
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**Matthew Gatzoubaros**

Matthew aspires to be creative, evolve with new technologies and promote sustainability and social benefit as key economic drivers of business. Matthew hopes to challenge business leaders in gaining greater awareness, establishing recognition of where we are, what is going on around us and what is needed in society. Matthew values community, in particular the health and well-being of individuals within the community, diversity and education via first hand experiences.

- Senior Geologist, Fortescue Metals Group
- Masters in Earth Sciences (Geochemistry and Mineralogy) - ETH Zürich, Switzerland; Bachelor of Geomatic Engineering and Bachelor of Science - University of Melbourne, Australia
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**Desiree Gregory**

Desiree has over ten years of experience within the private medical sector. She has held various administrative positions in Sydney Chambers, and managed a double switchboard of the multinational organisation, Breville. Driven and motivated, with excellent work ethics, Desiree has a superior depth of insightful quality in leadership skills. Her motivation for completing the MBA is to change career directions.

- Practice Manager, Dr. E. M. Gregory
- Master of Philosophy (Research) - The University of Sydney, Australia. Bachelor of Arts (Honors) - The University of Sydney, Australia. Master of Arts (Course work) - The University of Sydney, Australia. Bachelor of Arts and Sciences - The University of Sydney, Australia
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**Kathryn Harris**

Kathryn joined the full-time MBA cohort from New York and Silicon Valley. After five years of strategy consulting and project management, Kathryn transitioned into the startup ecosystem. She led teams in a fast-growth technology startup that reached scale and then advised and sourced capital investment for early-stage companies. With an inquisitive, analytical mind and passion for technology, strategy and innovation, Kathryn plans to continue driving positive outcomes for innovative businesses.

- Product Manager and Marketing Associate, AgThentic
- Bachelor of Political Science & Economics (Honors, Magna Cum Laude) - University of Connecticut, USA
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**Nancy Huang**

Nancy is a trustworthy partner, strategic thinker and cross-function collaborator. With a passion for healthcare, Nancy has experience in launching new medicines in China’s pharmaceutical industry. She is looking for change agent opportunities to create greater value to people’s health.

- Senior Area Marketing Manager, Novartis
- BA in English Language - Southwest Petroleum University, China; Graduate Certificate in International Relations - Johns Hopkins University, China
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Shawn Isola

Shawn is a tenacious MBA candidate with six years’ experience in the healthcare industry. He is passionate about complex systems, mental models, strategy and data-driven problem-solving. He supervised his company’s efforts in creating and managing its current ERP system and played a significant role in contract procurement to increase clientele and corporate revenues.

- Compliance Director, Pema Healthcare Services
- Master of Business Law – The University of Sydney, Australia; Bachelor of International Business – Texas Tech University, USA
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Nicolas Junco Sommer

A Mexican national, Nicolas holds a bachelor’s degree in business management. He has over four years’ work experience, working for two years in the family’s fabric retail business, Telas Junco, and for two years as a financial advisor in Casa de Bolsa Finamex, a stockbroker company.

- Financial Advisor to Special Clients, Casa de Bolsa Finamex SAB de CV
- Bachelor of Business Management – Universidad Anahuac, Mexico; Investment Strategy Counsellor Certification – Asociación Mexicana de Instituciones Bursátiles, Mexico
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Komal Preet Kaur

A management consultant with a passion for development sector advisory, Komal has hands-on experience in sustainability at the grassroots level. She has worked on transaction advisory, market research, program audits and monitoring and evaluation in her professional journey. Komal is cultivating her passion for design thinking in the MBA and hopes to integrate it with her skill set to assume strategy roles in high-impact, high-growth environments.

- Management Consultant, Grant Thornton India LLP
- Master of Sustainbale Development Practices - TERI University, India; Bachelor of Arts - University of Delhi, India
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Nadia King

Nadia holds a Bachelors of Science in Sociology and Law. She previously worked as a media and communications manager for over two years and also has three years’ experience working in the entertainment industry.

- Media and Communications Manager, Accra Beach Hotel & Spa
- Bachelor of Science in Sociology and Law – University of the West Indies, Jamaica
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Kevin Lenahan

Kevin is a former U.S. Marine Officer who has led 3-262 Marines and sailors, flown over 100 hours in military aircraft, managed 9-figure budgets and inventories, served in forward deployed environments, and liaised with the U.S. Armed Services Committee to improve military freight operations. Kevin has travelled to over 30 countries and enjoys developing multiple solutions to old problems. He looks forward to starting his own charity within the next 1-2 years.

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Chaoyi Lyu

Chaoyi has six years of marketing experience in the China UnionPay Jiangsu Branch. She has a strong focus on organising marketing activities and building brand value. She led UnionPay’s Suzhou branch establishment project. Chaoyi is skilled at establishing long-term, cooperative relationships with local government, banks and other related industries.

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Rishabh Narang

Self-motivated, innovative, results-driven and highly focused, Rishabh is a professional with sound experience in consulting, IT project management and software engineering. Rishabh aims to achieve total customer satisfaction with strong problem solving, management and communication skills. He drives company growth by delivering solutions to the customer with utmost satisfaction.

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Annie Leow

Annie has eleven years of professional experience in asset management, specifically in business process and system projects, data analysis and management, investment operations, in multi-listed asset classes and private equity, and in global financial markets. Innovative, strategic, analytical, intellectual and collaborative, Annie has a passion for solving complex issues and leveraging emerging technology.

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Yudha Nurmansyah

Yudha has eight years of working experience in Indonesia’s largest energy company. He has lead sales and marketing teams responsible for retail customers of fuel products in five major cities. In 2015, Yudha received an award from Indonesia’s Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources for his contribution in distributing subsidised fuels.

- Senior Sales Executive Retail, PT Pertamina (Persero)
- Bachelor of Management - Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia
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Ashley O’Connell

Ashley is an ambitious and analytical problem solver with seven years of management and technology consulting experience. Her focus is on helping Global C-suite stakeholders of Fortune 100 companies reimagine how technology, sales, and marketing come together. Upon graduation, Ashley is looking to start own consulting practice.

- Engagement Manager, Avionos
- Bachelor of Science (Business Management - Purdue University, USA
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Sheila Ong

Sheila is a highly motivated and hardworking individual, who has a progressive professional experience. Always up to new challenges, Sheila’s immediate-to-mid-term aspiration is to move into management consulting, with the eventual goal of setting up her own business that uses the latest available technologies.

- VP Operations, Liteplus Enterprise
- Bachelor of Arts in Journalism - University of Sto Tomas
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Nithin Penmatcha

Nithin is a technology expert whose key differentiators include motivating and achieving results through people, building and optimising business processes, and leading and executing innovative business aligned solutions. A creative and logical problem solver, Nithin enjoys coaching and working in teams where learning from each other can occur.

- Founder, Green Ant Lab
- Bachelor of Technology - Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, India
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Mbonisi Sibanda

Mbonisi is an experienced engineer and chemist with a demonstrated history of working in the water treatment and medical device industry. Skilled in process engineering, project engineering, process control, UV/Vis spectroscopy, mass spectroscopy and BioChemistry. Mbonisi is a strong research professional with a bachelor degree specialising in chemical engineering and chemistry from the University of Utah.

Chemist, BioFire Diagnostics

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Bachelor of Science (Dual degree Chemical Engineering and Chemistry) - University of Utah, USA

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Tianyi Wang

Tianyi has three years of continuous entrepreneurial experience, one year of hotel management experience in the United States, half a year as an investment manager with the HNA Group, and half a year as a strategic analyst in Baidu Group. Tianyi is focused on the analysis and execution of business models of technology companies.

Data Analyst and Business Development (AI), Baidu group

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