

International MBA Exchanges Fact Sheet 2025-26



The Edinburgh MBA

Successful businesses in the future will be those which can confidently and capably steer a path through a world characterised by intense competition, rapid technological development, economic turbulence and increasing resource insecurity. Businesses need leaders who can think and act strategically in this volatile environment, managing the risk and challenges involved, but also spotting and seizing opportunities for efficiency, innovation and new business models. Businesses also need leaders who will act responsibly in delivering value to all stakeholders. The Edinburgh MBA prepares students to progress with confidence into leadership roles in this new world.

The Edinburgh MBA is designed to deepen students' understanding of how businesses and markets work, how value is created through innovation and marketing, how strategies are crafted, how businesses are financed, how performance is measured, how value is delivered efficiently and effectively, and how organisations should be governed, managed and led through change. We aim to instil a passion for innovation and entrepreneurial action to help students lead in the growth or creation of new business opportunities. We help develop students' ability to think strategically and beyond disciplinary silos. Successful leadership also requires accomplished interpersonal skills to bring about change in organisations. Through coaching and skills training, we work with students to understand their leadership strengths and weaknesses and we provide support for improvement.

The Edinburgh MBA has a number of distinctive features:

- **Strategic Leadership:** A new approach to leadership, emphasising a proactive, entrepreneurial and responsible way of thinking and acting.
- **Innovation:** Focussing on innovation to help challenge your assumptions about business models and to explore new business ideas.
- **Expertise:** Access to world-class faculty, particularly from Centres of Excellence in Strategic Leadership, Finance, Entrepreneurship, Climate Change, Innovation, Marketing and Operations.
- **Application:** Extensive opportunities to apply theory in practice, through consultancy projects with external organisations.

- **Influence:** Stretch your influencing capability through training in higher-order skills: public speaking, negotiation, facilitation, consulting, crisis communication and media management.
- **International Network:** Study alongside colleagues from more than 20 countries.
- **Business Practitioners:** Access an extensive range of practitioner experts. Each year, the Business School and our societies host talks by over 180 senior business practitioners.

Why Study in Edinburgh?

- **A city for heritage:** The University of Edinburgh is one of the oldest in the UK. Granted its Royal Charter in 1583 the University has been the seed-bed for some of the world's most distinguished thinkers.
- **A city for business:** Edinburgh is the second largest financial centre in the UK with a thriving and diverse economy.
- **A city for culture:** Edinburgh has an incredibly energetic and diverse cultural life. Apart from the renowned Edinburgh International Festival and the Fringe Festival — the largest arts festival in the world — a host of smaller eclectic events run throughout the year. There are dozens of museums, galleries, theatres and cinemas.
- **A city for sightseeing:** Edinburgh is a spectacular city, regarded as one of the most beautiful and friendly in the world. If you want amazing scenery, a short train journey will take you to some of the most beautiful beaches in Europe and the most stunning mountainous landscapes.
- **A city for students:** Edinburgh gives students all they could want at an affordable price, with the cost of living lower than in London. Edinburgh's compact size also means you can travel around easily, cheaply and safely.



Our Exchange Partners include*:



- Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto, Canada
- Guanghua School of Management, Peking University, Beijing, China
- Aalto University School of Business, Helsinki, Finland
- ESSEC Business School, Paris, France
- HKUST Business School, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Kowloon, Hong Kong
- IPADE Business School, Universidad Panamericana, Mexico City/Monterrey, Mexico
- Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Illinois, USA
- McCombs School of Business, University of Austin, Texas, USA

*Not all partners exchange every year depending on availability and balance of exchange

Our MBA Programme Exchange Periods

Students from our exchange partners are welcome to join us for the following study periods. All courses are worth 10 University of Edinburgh credits (5 ECTS) unless otherwise stated.

Courses are generally taught in a hybrid mode, with some pre-recorded materials and readings being made available, with smaller class, interactive tutorials taking place in the classroom. Students should expect to be in the classroom most days of the week at some point depending on the courses selected.

Semester 1: 8th of September – 19th of December 2025 (depending on course selection)

Nomination by 18th of July and student application by 25th of July (or earlier if visa is required)

- [Accounting](#)
- [Organising for Effectiveness](#)
- [Strategic Leadership](#) *
- [Professional Development](#)
- [Strategic Marketing](#)
- [Understanding Economies](#)
- [Business Transformation in the Digital Age](#)

*Strategic Leadership and Professional Development are one year courses and only available if a student attends for the full year which is unusual on an MBA Exchange. Students are welcome to attend classes for these courses on a non-credit basis however they must commit to attending all activities for the duration of their exchange in advance of their arrival.

Semester 2a: 12th of January – April 2026

Nomination by 17th October. Student application by 31st Oct or earlier if a student visa is required

Please note that the dates given are indicative and should be confirmed with the MBA team on application. Some courses may be mutually exclusive due to timetabling. All courses should be expected to have assignment dates following the end of the course which are submitted electronically. Classes typically are split into groups and will either run in the morning or afternoon depending on your group allocation.

Type	Course	Dates
Core	Operations Improvement	13 - 16 January
Core	Strategic Human Resource Management	19 January - 12 February
Core	Finance	20 January – 10 March



Semester 2b: April to June 2026

Nomination by 18th October. Student application by 30 November, earlier if a student visa is required

The following courses are taught in one week intensive blocks. We do not permit more than 2 courses back to back due to the workload involved. Courses taking place with the same start date are mutually exclusive. Course dates are indicative only at this stage.

Elective	Financial Analysis	23 rd March – 30 th March (Mon, Wed, Fri, Mon)
Elective	Negotiations	30 th March – 3 rd April
Elective	Data & Analytics for Leaders	20 th – 25 th April
Elective	Managing AI for Business	27 th April – 2 nd May
Elective	Ethics & Sustainable Governance	4 th – 9 th May
Elective	Economics of Strategy	4 th – 9 th May
Elective	New Venture Creation and the Entrepreneurial Process	11 th – 16 th May
Elective	Marketing Communications & Branding	25 th – 30 th May
Elective	Financial Aspects of Mergers & Acquisitions	25 th – 30 th May
Elective	Supply Chain Management	1 st – 5 th June
Elective	Global Strategy	8 th – 13 th June
Elective	Business Strategy for Environmentally-Suitable Futures	8 th – 13 th June



We can accept applications that span across Semesters 2a and 2b, depending on the course selection.

Please note: The range of courses, particularly the elective options, may vary from year to year, dates, and the selection of elective courses are subject to change depending on student uptake. Dates are also subject to change.

Please contact us using the details below for confirmation of courses available.

Class Profile

Typically the programme features students from over 20 different countries with an average of 6.5 years' work experience. The average class size is 60 students for core courses and smaller groups for option courses.

Eligibility

MBA students nominated for exchange by their parent institutions will usually be accepted by the University of Edinburgh Business School if they meet our standard minimum entry requirements.

Students from programmes not taught in English are required to submit proof of English proficiency: TOEFL 600, TOEFL computer-based 250, TOEFL Internet-based 100 or IELTS 7.0. If students require a student visa to attend the exchange, confirmation of English proficiency may also be required for that.

Selecting Courses

All classes are taught in English and are generally designed to be 5 ECTS, comprising a minimum of 20 class hours and a total of 100 hours of effort. Exchange students generally take between 3 and 5 courses in a semester.

Accommodation (on campus or private)	Most Edinburgh MBA students choose to find their own accommodation, but the University's Accommodation Service can help exchange students secure University Accommodation if available. Please note that the Accommodation Service do not provide any guarantee of accommodation for single semester exchanges. For more information please refer to the Accommodation Services website Accommodation, Catering and Events at The University of Edinburgh UOE Accommodation
Transportation	Students usually live within walking distance of the School or a short bus ride away. The City has excellent bus services, but parking is very difficult. Allow £10-15 per week for bus travel within Edinburgh.
Meals	A large selection of restaurants, cafes and supermarkets for all budgets are available near the school. Allow £60-£70 per week.

Reading Materials

Lecture handouts and case studies will be provided electronically but students should expect to purchase one or two textbooks per course.

Visa Information and Tuition

Information about visas is available from the UK Border Agency: [UK Visas and Immigration - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk). Tuition is paid at the home institution. No further tuition payments are required

Applying

The UK Border Agency requires the University to submit certain information before a student visa can be issued. Therefore ALL exchange students must use the application form provided and provide an up to date CV (résumé).

Health & Personal insurance

All students on a full-time course of studies in Scotland are eligible for National Health Service (NHS) treatment. If you are studying here full-time as a visiting student on the Standard Visitor Route and you experience an illness or accident, you will be able to access NHS treatment. This is provided for free, however, you may have to pay for dentistry and some more specialised services. However, it must not be your intention to access healthcare when you travel.

We advise that students take out adequate travel insurance which includes a medical component and also protection to cover personal items, such as baggage, books, personal computers, etc.

University of Edinburgh Exchange Student Useful Resources

[Student Wellbeing Service](#)

[MBA Exchange Students – University of Edinburgh Business School](#)

[Accommodation](#)

[English Language Teaching Centre](#)

[Edinburgh University Students' Association](#)

[Tourist Information](#)

[Sport and Exercise](#)

Contact Information

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