

Distance learning MBA programmes 2008

40 of the top distance learning and online MBA providers: schools are listed by the number of enrolled MBA students

School name	Country	Name of programme	Number of enrolled MBA students	Intakes per year	International accreditation	Time limit for study (years)	Average time to complete (years)	Percentage who complete in 5 years	Percentage of international students	Examinations required*	Online examinations*	Percentage of teaching materials online	Percentage of online coursework	Online teamwork*	Local study centres*	Continents where supported	Course characteristics
University of Phoenix	US	MBA (7 specialisations)	40,000	26	-	5	2.2	65	3.4	y	y	100	100	y	n	Africa, Asia, Europe, Middle East, North and South America	Class size averages 15 students per instructor. Multimedia learning technologies coupled with instructor led discussion have helped thousands of MBA graduates advance their careers. Students learn from industry leaders with years of practical experience.
Edinburgh Business School, Heriot - Watt University	UK	MBA	8,349	Rolling	-	n/a	3	70	84	y	n	100	0****	n	n	Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America	Students can choose the study method (distance, on campus, via a centre) that best fits their needs on a subject by subject basis. Students can work in English, Chinese, Spanish and Arabic.
Open University Business School	UK	MBA, MBA (Life Sciences), MBA (Technology Management), MPA (Masters of Public Administration)	6,037	2	AACSB, Amba, Equis	10	4.8	69	46	y	n	Varies	100	s	y	Africa, Asia and Europe	Student to staff ratio is 16:1 which means students may have more contact with a tutor than a traditional university.
Henley Management College	UK	Global Distance Learning MBA	4,400	3	AACSB, Amba, Equis	6	3	70	73	y	n	65	100	y	y	Africa, Asia, Australiasia and Europe	The Henley MBA is one MBA, there is no difference in the qualification between full time, executive and distance learning modes of study.
U21Global	Singapore	MBA	3,300	Rolling	EFMD CEL	5	2.5	91	83	y	y	100	100	y	n	All	Students from more than 65 countries studying together in a virtual classroom, to foster development of global management capabilities.
Manchester Business School Worldwide	UK	MBA for Financial Managers and Finance Professionals	2,036	2	AACSB, Amba, Equis	5	4.4	72	83	y	s	80-100	80	y	y	All	Face - to - face contact with students/academics equivalent to 2/3 of a full time programme.
		MBA for Engineering Business Managers	979	2	AACSB, Amba, Equis	5	4.4	72	79	y	s	80-100	80	y	y	All	Students graduate with the exact same qualification as their on - campus counterparts.
		MBA for Construction Executives	115	2	AACSB, Amba, Equis	5	n/a	n/a	56	y	s	80-100	80	y	y	All	MBS operates its own overseas centres which are permanently staffed.
University of Maryland University College	US	MBA	2,253	4	-	5	2	93	2.4	y	y	50	100	y	n	All	Content focused around five themes of ethics and legal issues, globalism, technology, innovation and leadership. A total of eight dual degree options are offered.
		Executive MBA	80	2	-	5	1.75	88	0	n	s	100	90	y	n	North America	Four short residencies. International study trip.
Tecnológico de Monterrey	Mexico	MBA	1,990	3	AACSB, Equis	none	2.5 to 3.5	80	10	y	y	80	100	y	n	Asia, Europe, North and South America	Visiting professors and students from different countries in Latin America and the world, as well as the possibility to access experts anywhere in the world (through videoconferencing), are elements that strengthen the international profile of the programme.
The University of Liverpool	UK	MBA, MBA (Marketing), MBA (Finance and Accounting)	1,800	12	EFMD CEL	6	3	86	84	n	n/a	100	100	y	n	Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America	100 per cent online, asynchronous format. Students may choose from a wide variety of elective modules.
Walden University	US	MBA	1,714	6	-	4	1.8	n/a	1.7	y	y	100	100	y	n	All	Study abroad option.
Warwick Business School	UK	The Warwick MBA by Distance Learning	1,593	2	AACSB, Amba, Equis	8	3.5	80	42	y	n	70-100	80-100	y	n	All	Study materials are written by WBS faculty exclusively for the Warwick MBA. Opportunity to take electives on a face - to - face basis.
Ellis College of New York Institute of Technology	US	MBA	1,200	17	-	5	1.4	90	Less than 5	n	n/a	100	100	y	n	North America	Classes are small with 20 - 25 students, allowing faculty members to coach students in real - world scenarios.
Indiana University: Kelley School of Business	US	MBA	958	2	AACSB	5	2.25	90	7.6	y	y	95	95	y	n	All	Students learn from the same top - ranked faculty that teach in the full - time and evening campus programmes.
Kaplan University	US	MBA (7 specialisations) Newsweek MBA (2 specialisations)	862	Rolling	-	7	2 to 3	n/a	Less than 1	n	n/a	100	100	y	n	All	Kaplan has partnered with Newsweek magazine to provide an MBA that uses breaking business news rather than dated case studies.
Athabasca University	Canada	Executive MBA	826	3	-	5	2.5	99	5	y	y	Varies	94	y	n	All	24/7 access to the online classroom.
Royal Holloway, University of London	UK	MBA in International Management	692	2	Amba	5	4	80	80	y	n	70	100	y	y	Asia and Europe	Includes face - to - face plenary sessions in Hong Kong and London.
Robert Kennedy College	Switzerland	University of Wales MBA at Robert Kennedy College	670	6	-	5	3	80	90	y	y	90	90	y	n	All	Students are awarded the same degree as full time University of Wales students. Flexible programme with at least one residency in Switzerland.
Durham Business School	UK	The Durham MBA The Durham MBA (Finance)	574	Rolling	Amba, Equis	5	3.5	74	49	y	n	80	0	y	n	All	Students receive the same degree as those studying the full - time route.
Bradford School of Management	UK	Distance Learning MBA	569	4	Amba, Equis	6	3	94	74	y	n	Varies	0	y	n	Asia and Europe	The programme follows the same model as the full time and executive part - time model and students can switch programmes if their circumstances change.
Thunderbird School of Global Management and Tecnológico de Monterrey	US	Global MBA for Latin American Managers	367	1	AACSB	5	1.75	90	94	n**	y***	100	100	y	y	North, Central and South America	All courses taught primarily via live satellite. A global business curriculum, focused on Latin American business issues.
Imperial College	UK	MBA by Distance Learning	360	1	Equis	4	3	74	58	y	n	100	100	y	n	All	Mature student profile.
Babson College	US	Fast Track MBA	356	2	AACSB	2	2	92	1	y	y	60	60	y	n	All	Fast Track combines in - person and web - based learning.
University of Strathclyde Business School	UK	Strathclyde Flexible Learning MBA	350	2	AACSB, Amba, Equis	6	3	80	25	y	n	0	0	y	n	Africa, Asia, Europe	Ability to transfer to other study routes of the MBA. Opportunity to attend intensive (face - to - face) seminars.
University of Florida, Hough Graduate School of Business	US	Two - year Internet MBA	181	1	AACSB	2.25	2.25	95	0	y	s	90	90	y	n	North America	Equivalent to any other MBA degree offered by the University of Florida MBA Programmes.
		One - year Internet MBA	109	1	AACSB	1.3	1.3	95	0	y	s	90	90	y	n	North America	Equivalent to any other MBA degree offered by the University of Florida MBA Programmes.
SBS Swiss Business School	Switzerland	Distance MBA Program	280	3	-	5	2	80	85	y	y	80	100	y	y	All	Blended learning, weekend workshops in local centres.
Northeastern University	US	Northeastern University Online MBA Program	269	9	AACSB	5	n/a	n/a	2	y	y	100	100	y	n	All	Online MBA students can earn the same degree and diploma as on - campus students.
University of Texas at Dallas	US	Global On - Line MBA Program	258	3	AACSB	6	3	90	2	y	y	100	100	y	n	All	High quality faculty (the same that teach on the campus - based programmes).
Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University	US	iMBA	250	3	AACSB	7	3	75	3	y	s	90	90	y	n	All	Residencies at Syracuse University and abroad. Students integrated with full - time MBA population for extra - curricular activities, case competitions, career services, graduation etc.
Arizona State University	US	W.P.Carey MBA - Online Program	220	2	AACSB	2	2	95	5	y	y	100	100	y	n	All	There is no differentiation in rigour or quality between the two - year online MBA and the W. P. Carey School's face - to - face MBA programmes. The online courses are taught by the same full - time faculty members.
The George Washington University	US	Healthcare MBA	220	6	AACSB	5	2 to 3	90	0	y	y	100	100	n	n	North America	The programme includes two interdisciplinary project courses.
Drexel University - LeBow College of Business	US	MBA Anywhere™	102	2	AACSB	2	2	84	5	y	y	85	85	y	n	Asia, Europe and North America	The programme offers the option to specialise in five different areas.
		MBA in Pharmaceutical Management	71	1	AACSB	2	2	100	0	y	y	85	85	y	n	All	Curriculum designed in collaboration with Drexel's College of Medicine and School of Public Health.
Aberdeen Business School, Robert Gordon University	UK	eMBA	118	2	Amba	5	2.75	95	77	y	n	100	100	y	n	All	Scholarships available. International study tour available.
		MBA Oil and Gas Management	40	2	Amba	5	2.75	95	68	y	n	100	100	y	n	All	Oil and Gas project placement. Scholarships available. International study tour available.
University of Nebraska - Lincoln	US	UNL Distance MBA	145	Rolling	AACSB	10	3.5	n/a	Less than 5	y	s	100	100	y	n	All	On - campus and online programmes are the same. They use the same faculty.
Thunderbird School of Global Management	US	Global MBA On - Demand	125	2	AACSB	5	1.6	90	25	n**	y***	100	75	y	n	All	Four residencies - two on campus in US and two in choice of three continents.
RMIT	Australia	MBA (Executive)	97	3	-	5	n/a	n/a	6	y	n	95	92	y	n	All	Opportunity to study units "face - to - face" in the classroom in Kuala Lumpur, Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi and Melbourne.
University of Surrey, School of Management	UK	The Surrey MBA	88	Rolling	AACSB, Amba	2	2	97	100	y	n	50	100	y	y	Africa, Europe and Caribbean	All modules on MBA programmes are led by a member of professorial staff.
IE Business School	Spain	Global MBA	79	1	AACSB, Equis	1.5	1.5	100	37-78*****	y	y	100	100	y	n	Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America	Uses live video - stream sessions and text - based discussions to lead participants through their weekly classes.
Euro*MBA Consortium	France, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Germany	Euro*MBA	75	3	AACSB, Amba, Equis	3	2.25	95	60	y	n	65.5	65.5	y	n	All	The combination of residential weeks (6.5 weeks in six different European countries) with online modules. The MBA diploma is provided by six partners.
Aston Business School, Aston University	UK	MBA (Distance Learning)	60	3	AACSB, Amba, Equis	5	2.5	94	20	y	n	70	10	y	n	Europe	Requires attendance for six weekends at Aston Business School in Birmingham. An optional week can also be spent at another European Business School.
Thunderbird School of Global Management and Indiana University	US	Thunderbird and Indiana University - Kelley Direct MBA/M - GM Dual Degree	31	1	AACSB	5	2.3	n/a	10	n**	y***	100	81	y	n	All	Students receive two separate degrees - MBA from Indiana University (Kelley School) and a Masters in Global Management from Thunderbird School of Global Management. Three residencies (two on campus in US and one in Asia).

The table is compiled from a list of schools that completed a Financial Times survey. This is not a comprehensive list. * y = yes, n = no, s = sometimes. ** No exams to complete programme, but individual course exams apply. *** Online exams for individual courses. **** No required coursework. ***** 37% from Spanish programme and 78% from English programme.