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A Graduate School
of the University
of London

London Business School

PhD Programme in Management Science and Operations

Fact Sheet

Objective

The aim of the London Business School (LBS) PhD programme in Management Science and Operations is to train scholars to undertake original and cutting-edge research, fundamental and applied, in order to advance the understanding of decision making in organisations and the design and management of business processes.

Our faculty includes several influential researchers with extensive expertise recognized worldwide by both academics and practitioners, and our department's faculty to **student ratio is approximately equal to 1**.

Our graduates typically move on to academic positions in top global business schools and universities. **In the last 5 years, graduates from the programme have been offered faculty positions at the following institutions:** Haas School of Business, University of California - Berkeley, MIT Sloan School of Management - Harvard School of Public Health - Imperial College - HEC Paris, etc.

Programme Structure

Our PhD programme consists of two key components:

- **A curriculum of graduate-level courses** including Stochastic Modelling, Optimization, Statistics, Econometrics, Game Theory, Dynamic Programming, Revenue Management and Inventory Theory. An additional concentration requirement offers an opportunity to develop further methodological expertise through a choice of three doctoral courses in one area of interest chosen by each student; these concentration courses may be attended at LBS but may also be chosen from the very best courses offered by other local institutions such as Cambridge, Oxford, LSE, University College London and Imperial College London.
- **A close mentoring relationship** with one or several MSO faculty members leading to the writing of a dissertation and research articles combining deep academic rigour and practical relevance. All our students complete a field research experience of at least one month providing an exposure to the practical context relevant to their research interests, and most research projects involve collaborations with business sectors such as

financial services, energy, health care, logistics and manufacturing. Recent research involving PhD students in our department has for example considered the following questions:

- How do we design online learning algorithms to personalize prices and assortments in retail?
- How and why do health outcomes and medical procedures change when hospitals get busy?
- How should asset return estimation errors be accounted for when optimizing investment portfolios?
- How should networks of health diagnostic laboratories in sub-Saharan Africa be configured?
- What is the impact of SMS-based agricultural market price information services on farmers' income in India?
- How do wind turbines and renewable energy sources affect markets for forward electricity contracts?

Financial Support

London Business School provides full financial support for all students offered a place in the PhD programme, which covers both tuition fees and a stipend (salary) guaranteed for five years, subject to satisfactory academic performance.

Application Process

We are looking for highly motivated and mature applicants with strong analytical background, clear potential for world-class research, and good English communication skills. All applicants should have an excellent undergraduate degree with a deep quantitative focus, but a Master's degree is not required. Our application process does not involve the submission of a research proposal. Differentiating application factors typically include performance in national and international competitive examinations and competitions, relative academic rankings, results in quantitative GRE subject tests, and prior exposure to high-quality research.

Students may only join our programme through a single annual admission cycle which opens in September 2018. The deadline for applications is 8th of January 2019. We are unable to provide admission chances without receiving full applications submitted as part of the annual admission cycle.

Contact and Additional Information

More information on our programme and application process may be obtained from the following webpage [here](#).

Related inquiries should be directed to:

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- Marianna Uchida, muchida@london.edu, PhD Programme Manager
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