1. Awarding body | University of Surrey
2. Teaching institution (if different) | N/A
3. Final award and programme/pathway title | Doctor of Business Administration
4. Subsidiary award(s) and title(s) | Award | Title
 | MSc | Business Research
 | PG Dip | Business Research
 | PG Cert | Business Research
5. FHEQ Level | 8
6. Credits and ECTS credits | N/A
7. Name of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) | N/A
8. Mode of study and route code | Mode of study | Route code
 | Full-time | N
 | Full-time with PTY | N
 | Part-time | Y
 | Distance learning | N
 | Short course | N
9. JACs code | 
10. QAA Subject benchmark statement (if applicable) | QAA 2008 Framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
11. Other internal and / or external reference points | N/A
12. Faculty and Department/School | Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Surrey Business School
13. Programme Leader | Dr Alf Crossman
14. Date of production/revision of the specification | July 2016
15. Educational aims of the programme
To develop applied research skills and the ability to research, evaluate and report on management issues critically. This will be by way of a rigorous system of inquiry which leads to the application of established and new knowledge and make a contribution to the enhancement of the professional practice of management in general or in a particular field
16. Programme learning outcomes – the programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and understanding

**Doctor of Business Administration**

- Knowledge of the main research methodologies and methods available to a research student
- Knowledge of the philosophical underpinnings of research methodology
- Understanding the implications of ontological and epistemological issues when carrying out research
- Knowledge of methods of data collection and analysis for both quantitative and qualitative approaches
• Knowledge of the applications of methodologies to management topic areas
• Knowledge of research proposal requirements
• Higher level knowledge of the thesis process and outcomes.

Master of Science in Business Research

• A systematic, in-depth understanding of the philosophical foundations of research and methodological approaches.
• A systematic, in-depth understanding of the development, issues and influences relevant to the student’s area of study in management
• A high level of theoretical and applied knowledge of the management and operationalisation of research in the field of business or management.
• An understanding of the significance of the findings of the research and their implications for management practice

Postgraduate Diploma in Business Research

• A systematic, in-depth understanding of the development, issues and influences relevant to management research.
• A high level of theoretical and applied knowledge of the area of management research.

Postgraduate Certificate in Business Research

• An understanding of the issues and influences relevant to the student’s chosen area of study in management research.
• An understanding of the theory and its application in the management, research.

Intellectual / cognitive skills

Doctor of Business Administration

• Reflect on applications and approaches of various research methodologies
• Think about the implications of research designs e.g. the ethical implications of a research study
• Interpretation of knowledge in order to apply it to applied research
• Ability to conceptualise a research design from a set management problem

Master of Science in Business Research

• An ability to independently and critically evaluate approaches and techniques relevant to research in the field of business or management.
• An ability to evaluate outcomes and accurately assess/report on own/others’ work with justification and relate them to existing knowledge structures and methodologies.
• An ability to demonstrate high level learning and problem solving abilities in the range of modules studied.

Postgraduate Diploma in Business Research

• An ability to independently critically evaluate approaches and techniques relevant to management research.
• An ability to evaluate outcomes and accurately assess/report on own/others’ work with justification and relate them to existing knowledge structures and methodologies.
• An ability to demonstrate high level learning and problem solving abilities in the range of modules studied.
- An ability to identify modifications to existing knowledge structures and theoretical frameworks and therefore to propose new areas for investigation, new problems, new or alternative applications or methodological approaches.

**Postgraduate Certificate in Business Research**

- An understanding of and ability to evaluate some approaches and techniques relevant to management research.
- An ability to evaluate outcomes and accurately assess/report on own/others’ work with justification and relate them to existing knowledge.
- An ability to demonstrate learning and problem solving abilities in the range of modules studied.
- An ability to identify modifications to existing knowledge structures and theoretical frameworks and therefore to propose new problems.

**Professional practical skills**

**Doctor of Business Administration**

- Design a Research Survey
- Produce a questionnaire or protocol approach
- Use and apply SPSS to the checking of normality of data, application of significance tests etc.
- Production of graphical displays for checking data (scatter plots, box and whisker as well as histograms), providing descriptive statistics, etc.
- Carry out case study research and qualitative interviews
- Evaluate research literature
- Write a research proposal
- Carry out an in-depth interview
- Achieve an acceptable finished thesis

**Master of Science in Business Research**

- Produce high quality assignments: this includes the ability to focus on the issue at an appropriate level; to explore various methodologies and theoretical perspectives and to evaluate their strengths/weaknesses.
- Conduct research and to produce a high quality dissertation: this includes the ability to select, define and focus on a relevant issue at an appropriate level; to develop and apply relevant and sound methodologies; to analyse the issue; to develop recommendations and logical conclusions; to exhibit an awareness and understanding of the limitations of the research undertaken.
- Identify modifications to existing knowledge structures and theoretical frameworks and therefore to propose new areas for investigation, new problems, new or alternative applications or methodological approaches.

**Postgraduate Diploma in Business Research**

- Produce high quality assignments: this includes the ability to focus on the issue at an appropriate level; to explore various methodologies and theoretical perspectives and to evaluate their strengths/weaknesses.

**Postgraduate Certificate in Business Research**

- Produce high quality assignments: this includes the ability to focus on the issue at an appropriate level; to explore various methodologies and theoretical perspectives and to evaluate their strengths/weaknesses.
Key / transferable skills

**Doctor of Business Administration**
- Make better informed independent judgements in the management field
- Display confidence in the use and application of specific research methods
- Assess the practicality and usefulness of research applications in the wider managerial field
- Understand more fully research applications so as to become more informed readers of published research
- A range of generic skills relevant to the needs of existing managers, executives and professionals, irrespective of their sector of operation or expertise. These will include analysis and synthesis, oral and written communication, computing. ICT literacy, critical reasoning, data analysis, organisation and planning, problem solving, independent and group working and research.

**Master of Science in Business Research**
- A range of generic skills relevant to the needs of existing managers, executives and professionals, irrespective of their sector of operation or expertise. These will include analysis and synthesis, oral and written communication, computing. ICT literacy, critical reasoning, data analysis, organisation and planning, problem solving, independent and group working and research.

**Postgraduate Diploma in Business Research**
- A range of generic skills relevant to the needs of existing and future managers, executives and professionals, irrespective of their sector of operation. These will include analysis and synthesis, oral and written communication, computing/IT literacy, critical reasoning, data analysis, organisation and planning, problem solving, independent and group working and research.
- An awareness of ethical dilemmas likely to arise in research and professional practice and an ability to formulate solutions in dialogue with peers, clients, mentors and others.

**Postgraduate Certificate in Business Research**
- A range of generic skills relevant to the needs of managers, particularly in oral and written communication, computing/IT literacy, critical reasoning, data analysis, organisation and planning, problem solving, independent and group working.
- Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of ethical dilemmas likely to arise in research an ability to formulate solutions in dialogue with peers and others.

17. **Programme structure** – including the route / pathway / field requirements, levels modules, credits, awards and further information on the mode of study.

The DBA programme is designed to enable you to make a significant contribution to the enhancement of professional practice in an area of management. Consequently, your research must be rigorous to be worthy of the award of a doctorate and immediately relevant to the world of management through addressing a practical problem. The DBA is a practitioner doctorate and is undertaken through a combination of part-time study and distance learning whilst working.

The DBA is completed in two stages.

Stage one takes 18 months of part-time and distance learning. It comprises six taught modules, the first four at FHEQ Level 7 the remaining two are at FHEQ Level 8, culminating in the development and submission of a research proposal for the research. Each component of the programme must be successfully completed sequentially before embarking on the next i.e. the M Level taught modules must
be completed prior to progression to D Level and the D level taught modules prior too progression to the thesis.

Stage two takes 30 months of part-time and distance learning. It consists of a supervised progression of the writing of the thesis, attending cohort seminars, delivering seminar presentations and, finally, the submission and viva voce examination of the thesis. The seminar presentations will be based on the research in progress, and will be given alongside other members of the cohort so that critical insights can be gained.

Programme adjustments (if applicable)

The taught element of the DBA/MScBR is comprised of six double-weighted 30 credits project modules as approved at the time of validation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module code</th>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Core /compulsory /optional</th>
<th>Credit volume</th>
<th>Semester (1 / 2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MANM286</td>
<td>Philosophical Underpinnings of Management Research</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANM287</td>
<td>Quantitative Research Methods</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANM288</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANM289</td>
<td>Critical Evaluation of Literature</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANM291</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANM290</td>
<td>Reflective Report of Learning</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many optional modules must a student choose in order to achieve the necessary amount of credits to achieve this level? N/A

FHEQ Level 8: potential awards – Doctor of Business Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module code</th>
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<td>Core</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAND006</td>
<td>Applied Research Project</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAND007</td>
<td>Proposal writing and Proposal</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many optional modules must a student choose in order to achieve the necessary amount of credits to achieve this level? N/A

18. Opportunities for placements / work-related learning / collaborative activity – please indicate if any of the following apply to your programme

- Associate Tutor(s)/Guest Speakers/Visiting Academics: N/A
- Professional Training Year (PTY): N/A
- Placement(s) (study or work that are not part of the PTY or Erasmus Scheme): N/A
- Clinical Placement(s) (that are not part of the PTY Scheme): N/A
- ERASMUS Study (that is not taken during Level P): N/A
- Study exchange(s) (that are not part of the ERASMUS Scheme): N/A
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dual degree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>19. Quality assurance</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The *Regulations* and *Codes of Practice* for taught programmes can be found at:  
[http://www.surrey.ac.uk/quality_enhancement/index.htm](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/quality_enhancement/index.htm)