



Course Brief

Doctor of Philosophy (AQF 10)

1. Duration

3 years (full time)	
<i>Minimum</i>	3 years (full time)
<i>Maximum</i>	6 years (part time)

2. Indicative student workload / volume of learning

240 credit points
Aligned with the volume of learning requirements of the Australian Qualifications Framework one AIB 10 credit point subject nominally involves 150 hours of study. Study-related activities may include formal classroom time, independent study, interaction with staff and peers, reflection, application in the workplace, assignment work, exam preparation and other. Individual student workload may vary.

3. Delivery modes

<i>Online</i>	No
<i>Blended (online supplemented with face-to-face classes)</i>	Yes
<i>Face-to-face</i>	Yes

4. Admission requirements

<i>Academic qualifications</i>	For Admission to the programme, applicants should normally have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Master's degree (AQF Level 9) in business and commerce or related discipline area at Credit or higher level Grade Point Average with an appropriate research component; or a Bachelor's degree (AQF Level 8) in business and commerce or related discipline area with minimum second upper honours or equivalent.
<i>Work experience</i>	Management or professional experience of 3-5 years. All applicants must have access to a workplace for their research.
<i>English language</i>	See Appendix A – English Language Requirements.

5. Course rationale

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is designed to provide graduates with a systematic and critical understanding of a substantial and complex area of management and specialized research skills to equip them to make a significant and original contribution to knowledge. The course aims to develop graduates who will be able to apply their original contribution and their specialized cognitive, technical and research skills in contexts requiring them to demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgment, adaptability and responsibility as an expert and scholar.

Graduates could utilize their systematic and critical understanding of management and specialized research skills in leadership roles or in highly skilled research roles in the private, or public sector, Graduates could particularly utilise their knowledge and skills in higher education or research institutions.

6. Learning outcomes

On completion of this course students should be able to:		
<i>Knowledge</i>	1	Demonstrate substantial knowledge of one or more management -related disciplines.
	2	Demonstrate substantial knowledge of research principles and methods relevant to management-related disciplines.
<i>Skills</i>	3	Independently plan and obtain stakeholder support and ethics approval for a substantial systematic investigation in a management-related context.
	4	Search and critically evaluate the extant literature in one or more management-related disciplines to identify original research questions.
	5	Describe and justify a research approach and methodology relevant to a research issue in a management-related field.
	6	Independently conduct research leading to conclusions constituting a significant and original contribution to knowledge in a discipline (or cross-disciplinary field).
	7	Communicate research through a substantial thesis which demonstrates expertise, contains logical and in-depth argument and is externally examined to international standards.
	8	Communicate all aspects of substantial research to stakeholders, peers, the workplace and the community.
<i>Application</i>	9	Demonstrate responsibility, accountability, initiative, and creativity in investigating and reporting on research and generating new knowledge in a discipline (or cross-disciplinary field).

7. Course rules

<i>General</i>	<p>All subjects in the course are compulsory.</p> <p>To qualify for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy a candidate shall accrue 240 credit points comprising satisfactory completion of 9904RMA Research Design and Methods and 9906RPROP Research Proposal subjects and satisfactory examination of 1001TPHD_A, 1001TPHD_B, 1001TPHD_C, 1001TPHD_D, 1001TPHD_E Research Thesis (PhD).</p>
<i>Other protocols</i>	The Research Thesis will be an accurate account of the research conducted, will conform to the rules for the presentation of theses and will be assessed according to the rules for the examination of doctoral theses.

	<p>The Research Thesis will be 70,000 to 100,000 words in length (excluding references and appendices).</p> <p>The PhD Research Thesis will present an original contribution to knowledge in a business, commerce or management-related field.</p> <p>Candidates are required to conduct the research ethically and responsibly according to AIB research policies and procedures, to carry out research under the guidance of one or more AIB-appointed supervisors and to make satisfactory progress with their research as assessed on a regular basis by the Principal Supervisor and according to AIB research policies and procedures.</p>
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8. Course structure

<i>Course Content</i>	<i>Subject Code</i>	<i>AQF Level</i>	<i>Credit Points</i>
Research Design and Methods	9904RMA	9	20
Research Proposal	9906RPROP	9	20
Research Thesis (PhD)	1001TPHD_A,1001TPHD_B, 1001TPHD_C,1001TPHD_D, 1001TPHD_E	10	200

<i>Proportion of research</i>	240 of 240 credit points = 100%
<i>Nature of research</i>	Complete Research Design and Methods subject, conduct research, write a substantial Research Thesis.

9. Pre-requisites or Assumed Knowledge

<i>AQF Level</i>	<i>Subject Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Pre-requisite (to be completed before attempting the subject)</i>
9	9906RPROP	Research Proposal	Research Design and Methods (9904RMA)
10	1001TPHD_A, 1001TPHD_B, 1001TPHD_C, 1001TPHD_D, 1001TPHD_E	Research Thesis (PhD)	Research Design and Methods (9904RMA) and Research Proposal (9906RPROP) to be completed or enrolled in concurrently.

10. Assessment approach

Assessment is all individual.

In the research component all assessment is customised to the candidate's research and designed to help the candidate progress with their research project. Specifically, the assessment items are a Draft Research Proposal, a Research Proposal and Ethics Application and the final research thesis. The final thesis is examined externally as per the requirements set out in the AIB Research Policy and Procedures.

11. Exit points, articulation arrangements and pathways

<i>Exit points</i>	<p>Candidates who successfully complete the Research Design and Methods and Research Proposal subjects can exit with the Graduate Certificate in Management (Research) and/or transfer to the Master of Management (Research) with advanced standing.</p> <p>Candidates who substantially complete the literature review and methodology but who don't complete the findings and analysis section of the thesis may, if recommended by the supervisor and if meeting requirements set out in AIB research policies and procedures, exit with a Graduate Diploma in Management (Research) and/or transfer to the Master of Management (Research) with advanced standing.</p> <p>Candidates who complete a thesis that is not approved by the supervisor or is failed by examiners may, if meeting requirements set out in AIB research policies and procedures, be awarded the Graduate Diploma of Management (Research) or the Master of Management (Research).</p>
<i>Articulation arrangements</i>	None.
<i>Pathways</i>	None.



Appendix A – English Language Requirements

Applicants must meet the English language requirements in one of the following categories:

Category 1

Applicants whose first language is not English need to demonstrate proficiency in English with a score* as outlined in the table below.

	<i>Undergraduate (DipMgt, BBA)</i>	<i>Postgraduate (GradCert, MBA, MMgt)</i>	<i>Postgraduate Research (DBA, PhD)</i>
<i>Academic IELTS</i>	6.0 or better (with no individual band lower than 5.5)	6.5 or better (with no individual band lower than 6.0)	7.0 or better (with no individual band lower than 6.0)
<i>TOEFL</i>	550 or better	575 or better	600 or better
<i>TOEFL IBT</i>	80 or better	91 or better	94 or better
<i>TOEFL CBT</i>	213 or better	235 or better	250 or better
<i>PTE</i>	50 or better	58 or better	65 or better
<i>Cambridge English CAE and CPE (from 2015)</i>	169 or better	176 or better	185 or better
<i>CTC General Certificate of Education (GCE)</i>	A levels with D or better in English	A levels with C or better in English	A levels with A in English

*English Language Test results are valid for two years up to the date of commencement at AIB.

Category 2 – for Undergraduate and Postgraduate coursework

Evidence of successful completion of secondary education in English

Applicants who have successfully completed secondary education (equivalent to Australian Senior Certificate of Education) that was taught and assessed in English in one of the countries listed below where English is the first language:

Australia	Republic of Ireland
Canada (except Quebec)	Scotland
England	South Africa
New Zealand	United States of America
Northern Ireland	Wales

Category 3 – for Undergraduate and Postgraduate coursework and Research

Evidence of successful completion of tertiary education in English

Applicants who have successfully completed tertiary education (equivalent to AQF Level 5 or above for undergraduate and postgraduate coursework and equivalent AQF Level 8 or above for postgraduate research) that was taught and assessed in English in one of the countries listed below where the medium of instruction was in English**:

Antigua and Barbuda	Botswana	Kiribati	Singapore
Australia	Cameroon	Liberia	Solomon Islands
New Zealand	Cook Islands	Malawi	St Kitts and Nevis
United States of America	Dominica	Maldives	St Lucia
Great Britain	Falkland Islands	Mauritius	Tanzania
Canada	Fiji	Namibia	Trinidad & Tobago
South Africa	Gambia	Nauru	Uganda
Republic of Ireland	Ghana	Nigeria	Vanuatu
American Samoa	Gibraltar	Papua New Guinea	Zambia
Bahamas	Grenada	Philippines	Zimbabwe
Barbados	Guyana	Samoa	
Belize	Jamaica	Seychelles	
Bermuda	Kenya	Sierra Leone	

***Medium of Instruction in English is assessed against the Country Education Profiles on Australian Education International (AEI) or the National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC UK). English Instruction will only be accepted if AEI or NARIC UK states that English is the language of instruction relevant to the country, education level or Institution.*

Category 4 – for Undergraduate and Postgraduate coursework

English Proficiency Assessment with evidence of work experience in an English-speaking environment

Completion of Online English Proficiency assessment, with a required result of C1 or above as determined by the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

AND

Documentary evidence of at least 2 years full-time-work experience in an English-speaking professional work environment in Australia, New Zealand, UK, USA, Republic of Ireland, South Africa or Canada within 2 years of admission into the AIB program OR at least 2 years full time professional employment in an English speaking multi-national company, within 2 years of admission into the AIB program***

***Applicants will be required to provide a letter from employer stating their position title, duties undertaken, employment duration, level of spoken and written English. Relevant supporting documents from employers may also be requested by AIB.