



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHÉ
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Scoil Ghnó agus
Eacnamaíochta J.E. Cairnes
J.E. Cairnes School of
Business and Economics

Executive MBA

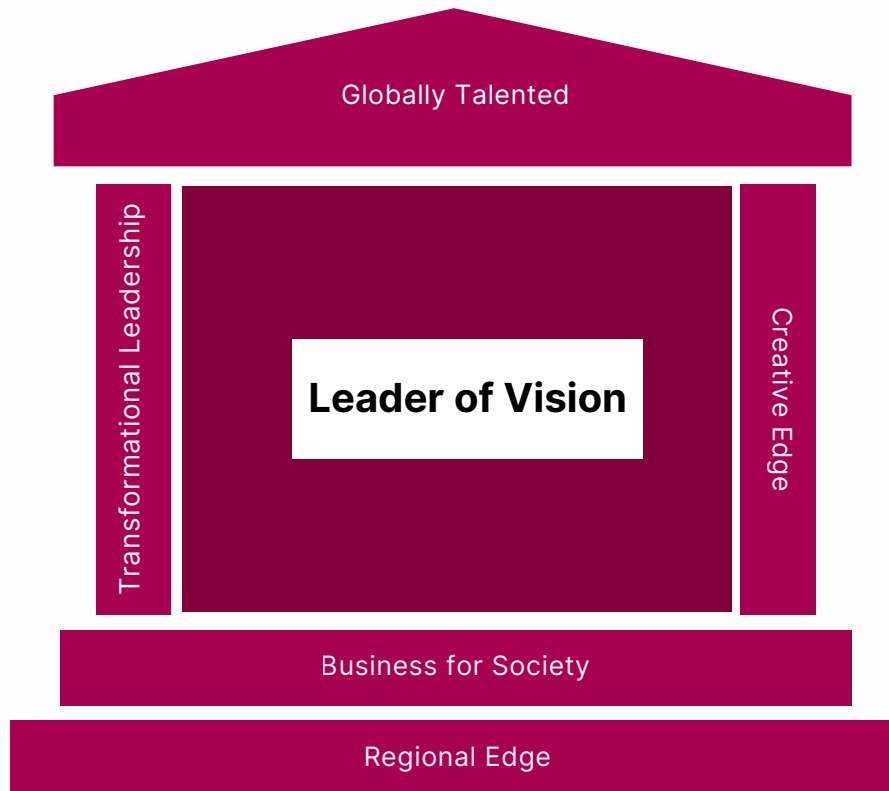
University
of Galway.ie



University of Galway MBA

We define the mission of our MBA as: 'Developing globally talented leaders of vision, with regional edge.' We define our MBA regional edge as:

'The unique synergy of University of Galway expertise, delivery and focus combined with exceptional regional business enterprise and talent.'



At the J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics, we are committed to shaping responsible leaders who can navigate complexity and drive positive change. Our MBA programme is designed to challenge and support you in equal measure, combining academic excellence with strong industry connections to prepare you for leadership with impact.

With best wishes,

Professor Karena Yan
Head of School

J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics
University of Galway



Welcome from the Director

Studying for an MBA equips you with the leadership skills required to navigate a rapidly changing business environment. Here at University of Galway, we have continued to innovate our MBA curriculum for over fifty years and we are immensely proud of the achievements of our graduates over that time. Many have gone on to achieve senior leadership and CEO positions or brought their organisations to new highs.

The University of Galway MBA is an AMBA-accredited, intensive, two-year part-time programme that transforms participants into impactful leaders. The programme achieves this through an integrated learning experience characterised by our unique focus on three pillars:

- **Transformational Leadership:** A journey characterised by self-discovery, personal growth and individual achievement.
- **Business for Society:** A focus on responsibility, ethics and governance for a sustainable future.
- **Creative Edge:** Fostering creativity and innovation to excel in times of change.

Distinctive features of the University of Galway MBA include an international leadership gateway experience and a masterclass and leadership-lesson series. In addition, the programme's faculty of internationally recognised researchers and award-winning teachers integrate an academically rigorous business education with real-world industry engagement.

We invite you to browse through the following pages to discover more about the programme's key features and to read insights from some of our graduates. Pursuing an MBA takes careful consideration given the financial, academic and personal commitments required. We are here to answer any of your queries and to help you make this important decision.

We have a proven track record in providing the knowledge and transferable skills that will enable you to accelerate your career with confidence. If you are ready to fulfil your leadership potential, then join us for the University of Galway MBA experience.

Dr Orla Lenihan
MBA Programme Director

“
**Developing
globally
talented
leaders of
vision.**
”



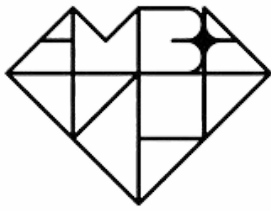
The MBA programme at University of Galway

Features such as a bespoke MBA career and professional development programme, research-led teaching by key faculty with real-world business experience and international research reputations, a dedicated MBA Masterclass series, an individual mentoring programme with top business leaders, and an international study trip to one of the leading international business schools give the University of Galway MBA a distinctive competitive advantage.

Key Features of the MBA programme

- Real-world learning including company-based consultancy project
- Research-led teaching by key faculty with real-world business experience and international research reputations
- Career, Personal and Professional Development tailored to each student with one-to-one coaching and mentoring from top business leaders
- Business Negotiations Skills Development
- International Leadership Gateway Trip to Fordham University, New York
- MBA Masterclass Series featuring leading international academic and business experts
- Small classes that allow for rich staff-student interaction and valuable peer-to-peer learning
- Purpose-built MBA Room
- Networking opportunities with the MBA Alumni Association
- Proven track record in career advancement and change
- Exceptional return on investment.





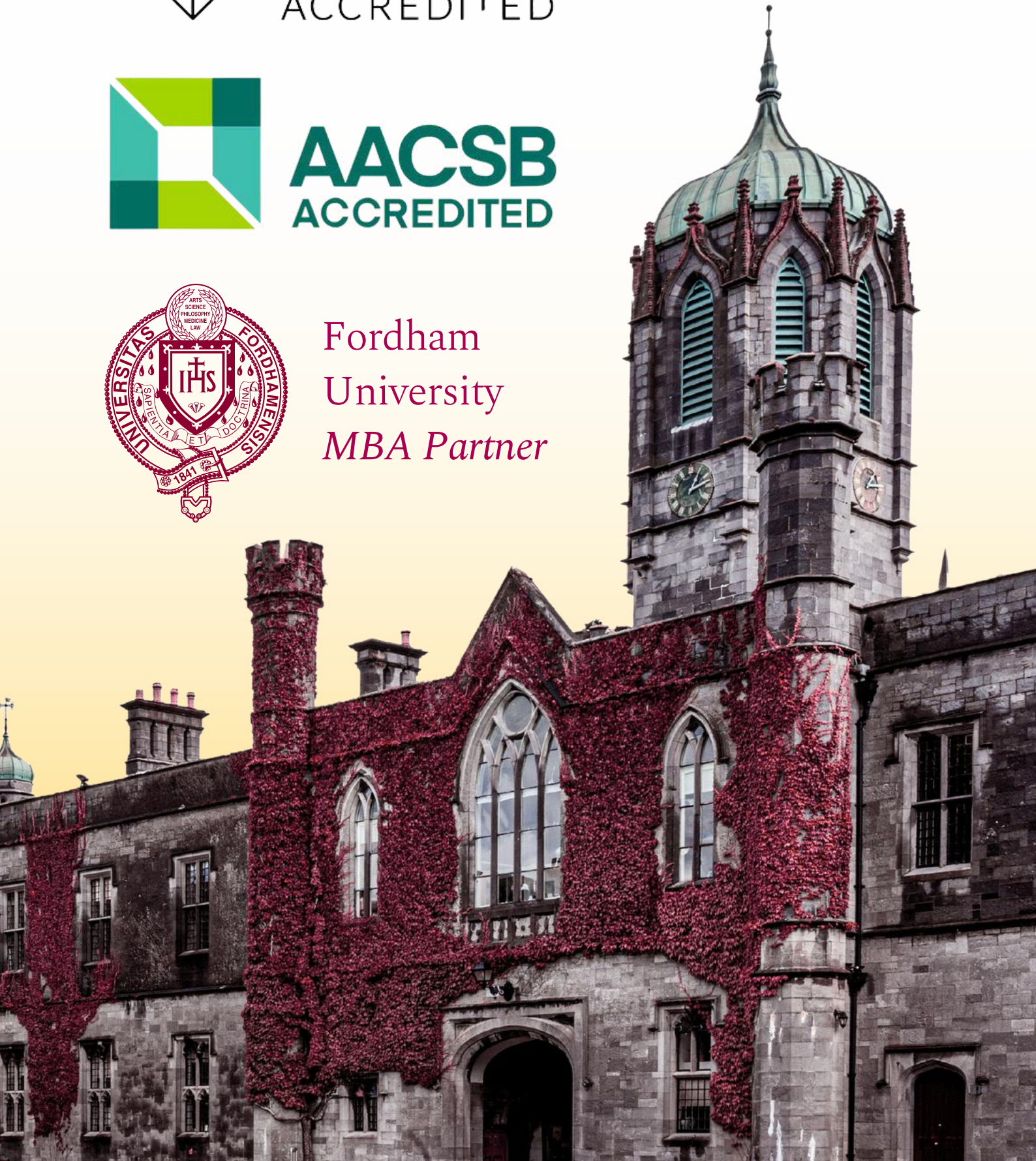
ASSOCIATION
OF
AMBA
ACCREDITED



AACSB
ACCREDITED



Fordham
University
MBA Partner



Leading Irish Universities on *Sustainability Transformation*

Join a **globally recognised institution** ranked among the best for sustainability, and study on a campus committed to creating a greener future. Imagine earning an MBA degree that not only equips you with

cutting-edge skills but also aligns with your values of environmental stewardship.

Our MBA programme is **designed to foster innovation and leadership**, preparing you to excel in today's competitive market. The University offers a unique blend of academic excellence, practical experience, and a sustainable campus environment, making it the ideal choice for future leaders.

Envision your career flourishing as you benefit from our world-class faculty and strong industry connections.





University of Galway has been ranked **1st in Ireland** for Sustainable Development for a third year in a row by the Times Higher Education The Impact Rankings 2025



University of Galway has been ranked **3rd in Europe** for Sustainable development by the Times Higher Education The Impact Rankings 2025



University of Galway is ranked **64th in the world** in the 6th edition of the Times Higher Education (THE) World IMPACT Rankings 2025



University of Galway is ranked **38th in the world for - SDG 3** in the 2025 Times Higher Education Societal Impact Rankings

University of Galway Sustainability Rankings and Accolades

University of Galway has been named the **#1 university in Ireland for sustainable development** for a fourth year in a row, we are ranked **3rd in Europe** and ranked **64th in the world** by *Times Higher Education THE Impact Rankings 2025*. The accolade has been awarded in recognition of the University's progress in responding to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In September 2024, University of Galway advanced to becoming an SDG Ambassador. As an SDG Ambassador we are not just leading by example, we are actively inspiring and guiding others to make a positive impact on our planet by helping achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.





Global Business Accreditation

J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics is accredited by AACSB. This is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools, and the largest business education network connecting students, educators, and businesses worldwide. Learn more [here](#).

180+ years

University of Galway was founded in 1845 and 2025 marks the 180th anniversary of the foundation of the University. The University has been a defining presence and recognisable landmark in Galway City for almost two centuries.



J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics was awarded a Silver Athena SWAN Award in 2024 in recognition of our progress on, and our commitment to, gender equality, inclusivity, and diversity and for providing opportunities for all staff and students, in a supportive environment.

Top 2%

University of Galway has been named as the world's 273th best university, according to the 2025 QS World University Rankings. University of Galway now ranks 3rd in Ireland, the top Irish University outside Dublin.

Postgraduate Community

At postgraduate level, you will experience smaller class sizes, giving you the chance to really get to know your classmates and lecturers; and participate fully in a postgraduate community.

50%+

of our PG student body are from outside Ireland.



ASSOCIATION
OF
AMBA
ACCREDITED

J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics is accredited by AMBA. AMBA accreditation is internationally recognised as the global standard of excellence for MBA education.

University of Galway is one of only 277 Schools worldwide to attain AMBA accreditation among the many thousands of MBA programmes globally.

THE

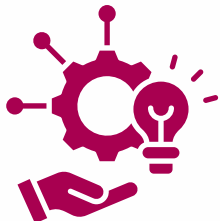
Awards
2025

Shortlisted

Business School of the Year

Programme Objectives

1



To Provide

- A curriculum of immediate value that delivers:
 - An excellent integrated learning experience that is highly interactive, built on the business expertise of the participants, led by domain experts and connected to exceptional regional, national and international business enterprise.
 - A vibrant executive development environment characterised by shared learning with like-minded, ambitious, talented people from a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences.

2



To Engender

values in our participants consistent with a business for society motivation which are inspired by sustainability, ethics and corporate social responsibility.

3



To Guide

you on a transformational leadership journey characterised by self-discovery, personal growth and individual achievement.

4



To Challenge

you to discover in social entrepreneurship and enterprise domains.

5

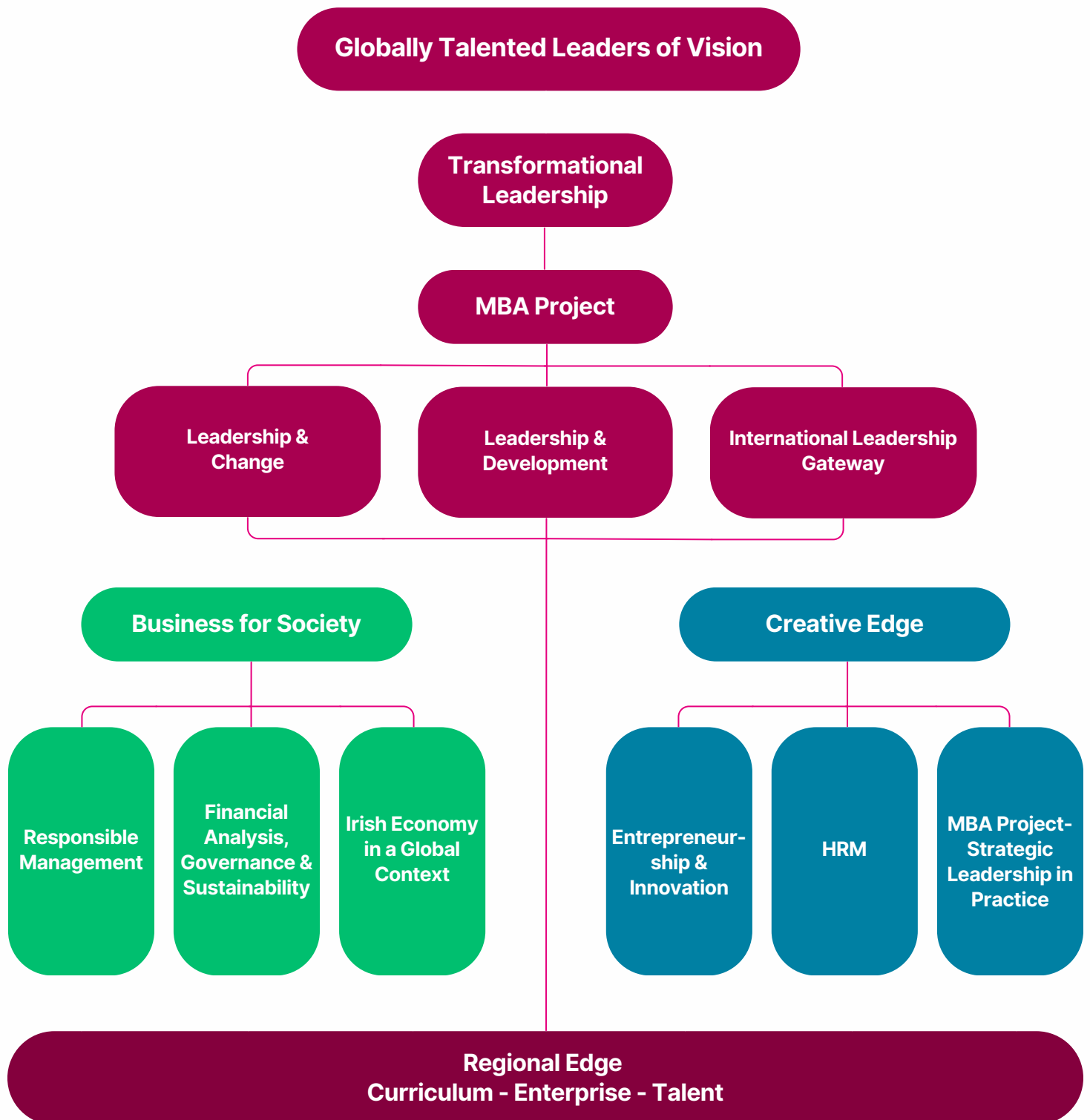


To Prepare

you for accelerated career progression through expanding career options and earnings potential.

Integrated Learning Experience

Our three integrated learning experience pillars are complemented by our broader MBA curriculum which includes team empowerment, business negotiations, lean principles, multi-cultural appreciation, decision analytics, the digital enterprise and strategic management and the core functional areas of accounting, finance, management, and marketing.



1. Transformational Leadership



Transformational Leadership is the core pillar of our MBA programme.

In this pillar we have designed an integrated learning experience consisting of the combination of three leadership modules and an integrated learning activity. The modules are:

- **Leadership Development** - which provides participants with a personally reflective journey in understanding oneself as a leader.
- **International Leadership Gateway** (e.g. Fordham University, New York) which provides participants with an exceptional, experiential Global perspective on leadership.
- **Leadership & Change**, which provides participants with the skills, tools and know-how to lead change.
- Participants then undertake their **MBA Project** which is the key integrated learning activity that solidifies the participant's Transformational Leadership journey.



2. Business for Society

Responsible
Management

Financial Analysis,
Governance &
Sustainability

Irish Economy in a
Global Context

The MBA graduate is charged with leading innovative success that will offer our region, our country and our planet a sustainable future. We believe in values consistent with a business for society motivation and this pillar centres on sustainability, ethics & governance and understanding the role of business and its leaders in the broader economic, societal and global realms.



3. Creative Edge

Entrepreneurship & Innovation

Human Resource Management

MBA Project- Strategic Leadership in Practice

Our MBA graduates are expected to develop creative mindsets and our programme is designed to support them to do just that. This pillar centres on fostering creativity by empowering people, motivating continuous innovation and driving achievement through internal and external business consulting.



MBA Programme Delivery

The University of Galway MBA is an intensive, part-time programme open to EU applicants, run over 21 months in a hybrid format, blending on-campus and online delivery. This model retains the best elements of both the on-campus, in-person experience, while providing the flexibility of online learning to enhance & support your journey through the programme.

Key Points:



2 year

P/T programme delivered over 21 months



90

ECTs



18

Modules



500+ Hours

Synchronous Learning

Blended Delivery:

- 2-Day Blocks (Thu & Fri)
- 5 Blocks per Semester
- One 3-Day Block in Semester II
- Weekly Online Live Classes (3 hour per week in between blocks)
- Year 1 - Residential Leadership Workshop : Block + Saturday

Leadership Coaching & Mentoring

- Year 1: Leadership Development
- Year 1: Mentoring Programme
- Year 2: MBA Project
- Year 2: Leadership & Change



Our MBA is 'blended delivery' programme which means we prioritise in-person, on-campus learning complemented by evening online teaching to suit people's work-life schedules. On-campus 'blocks' enable debate, discussion, groupwork, live leadership guest speaker sessions, and foster invaluable class camaraderie.

Our delivery model retains the best elements of both the on-campus, in- person experience, while providing the flexibility of online learning to enhance and support your journey through the programme.



MBA Programme Structure

Sem

1

Year 1

- **Leadership Development (year-long module)**
- Financial Analysis, Governance and Sustainability
- Responsible Management
- Economics and the Business Environment
- Managing the Digital Enterprise

Sem

2

Core Modules

- Financial Management and Taxation
- Marketing Leadership

Electives*

Choose 2:

- Cybersecurity for Managers
- Human Resource Management
- Business Negotiations
- Storytelling for Leaders

**Subject to change*

May/ June

International Leadership Gateway - e.g.

Fordham University, New York

Year 2

Sem

1

- **MBA Project (year-long module)**
- Leadership and Change
- Strategic Management

Sem

2

Core Modules

- Management Accounting for Sustainable Business Success
- Business Analytics & Decision Making

Electives*

- Choose 2:
 - Irish Economy in a Global Context
 - Systems for Team Empowerment
 - Digital Marketing
 - Entrepreneurship & Innovation

**Subject to change*

MBA Masterclasses & Leadership Sessions

An integral part of our MBA programme is our Masterclass and Leadership Lessons Series, which provides expert input from, and discussion with, leading national and international business leaders, entrepreneurs and academics.



Kerry McLaverty,
CEO, LauraLynn
Ireland's Children's Hospice, Ireland



David Moloney,
Secretary General of the Department of
Public Expenditure, National Development
Plan (NDP) Delivery and Reform, Ireland



Gabriel Makhoul,
Governor,
Central Bank of Ireland, Ireland.



Mike Hughes,
Zone President Schneider Electric,
Nordics and Baltics.



John Power,
CEO, Aerogen,
Galway, Ireland.



Richard Bowen,
Citigroup Whistleblower and
Professor, University of Texas, USA.



Gerald Lawless,
Chairman of World Travel and Trade Council,
former Head of Tourism & Hospitality, Dubai
Holding and CEO of Jumeirah Group, Ireland.



Brenda Romero,
CEO & Game Director,
Romero Games, Ireland.



Dr. Tom Clonan,
Senator,
Seanad Eireann, Ireland.



Garry Hynes,
Co-founder & Artistic Director,
Druid Theatre Company, Ireland.



Pádraig Ó Céidigh,
Entrepreneur, Business Owner
Callet and Galway Aviation, Ireland.

International Leadership Gateway: *Fordham University, NY, USA*

Combining tuition and experiential learning in a global business context, the International Leadership Gateway Experience is an intensive week-long tailored programme currently delivered in collaboration with our academic partner Fordham University, NY.

The programme pivots around your personal leadership development. There are many innovative methods for programme delivery such as learning “Teamwork through Jazz” at the world famous Lincoln Centre.

In addition to MBA tuition fee, a **student contribution fee of €1,000 is required to participate in the International Leadership Gateway Programme at Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business in Academic Year 2025/2026



Superb in every single aspect, extremely well organised, excellent exposure to lecturers. The trip was well above my expectations – an immense experience.

CORMAC KEARNS
Managing Director, Masonite Ireland



Fordham
University
MBA Partner





MBA Graduate Success



Captain Eddie Maguire

*Renewable Hydrogen Development at ESB
MBA Graduate 2020-2022*

"I can absolutely say that the University of Galway MBA brought, and continues to bring, a perspective to my thinking that would otherwise not be there today. Completing the MBA was certainly hard work, but ultimately very fulfilling and personally rewarding. It continues to be the gold standard for anyone looking to move into a management role or change in career orientation."

Bernie McManamon

*Projects Director at CBRE Global Workplace Solutions
(GWS) EMEA
MBA Graduate 2017-2019*

"In less than a year of completing the University of Galway MBA, CBRE recruited me for an EMEA Account Director role. This is a key senior leadership position within their market leading Global Workplace Solutions Division, where I lead the operational delivery of an Integrated Facilities Management solution for one of CBRE's high value global pharmaceutical clients."



Fiona Murtagh

*Olympic Medalist And Professional Athlete
MBA Graduate 2021-2023*



"What I believe makes the MBA so unique is everyone's different backgrounds, there is such a depth of knowledge and experience sharing ideas in the same room. Choosing to study the MBA at the University of Galway has allowed me to start thinking about the future without jeopardizing the present...The part-time aspect allowed me to give equal priority to both my studies and my training, giving me confidence that I have chosen the right place to progress my career and prepare me for life after sport."

MBA Scholarships

We offer a number of Scholarship Awards, listed below. Please note that to be considered for a Scholarship Award, applicants must have already accepted their place on the MBA programme. For more information on the scholarship application process, please contact the MBA Programme Administrator at mba@universityofgalway.ie

- McGinty Scholarship for Female Physicians and Allied Health Professionals
- MBA Scholarship in honour of local entrepreneur Colm Feeney
- GPA (Gaelic Players Association) Enhanced Scholarships
- University of Galway University Foundation - GUF MBA Scholarship for Alumni
- MedTech MBA Scholarship
- Social Impact MBA Scholarship
- Information and Communications Technology MBA Scholarship
- J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics MBA Scholarship
- 30% Club MBA Scholarship For Female Leaders

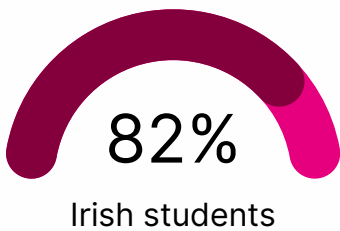
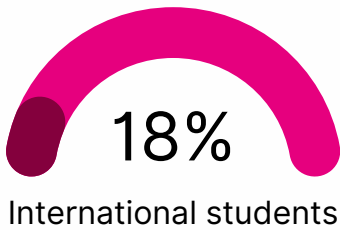
Scholarship Awards for Women on the MBA

Physicians and Health Sciences Professional-led healthcare management is proven to have better outcomes for patient care. The McGinty Scholarship for Female Physicians, and the McGinty Scholarship for Allied Health Professionals such as nurses, midwives and health sciences professionals empowers female physicians and professionals to engage in the University of Galway MBA programme supporting them on a career path to healthcare-leadership.

MBA McGinty Scholarship Recipient - Dr Odharna Ní Dhomhnalláin



Class Profile



MBA Class
Industry Examples

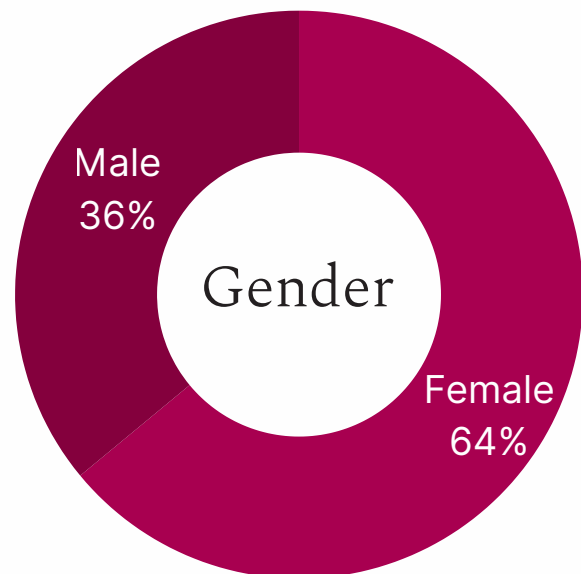
- Pharma/Medical
- Hospitality/Food
- Marketing/Publishing
- Financial/Accounting
- Not-for-Profit
- Public
- Education
- Manufacturing
- Engineering
- Consulting
- Construction
- Information Technology
- Sports

Average Class Age: **40**



Women in our MBA

J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics at University of Galway, in collaboration with the 30% Club, is delighted to offer a scholarship for its MBA programme. Globally, the 30% Club is establishing partnerships with a number of business schools to rectify the under-representation of women pursuing post-graduate management education by offering scholarships for women. See what our past recipients Katie Devin and Edel Kelly have to say:



Edel Kelly

“As someone who feels passionately about the importance of gender diversity and inclusion in the workplace I was delighted to be awarded the 30% Club scholarship.

The J.E. Cairnes school of Business & Economics Executive MBA is helping me develop a broad range of skills in areas including finance, economics and leadership that will help me progress in my career.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to learn from experienced faculty and guest speakers. It has started to change my way of thinking and how I approach problems.

The MBA has introduced me to many like-minded people from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Working and collaborating with them on this MBA programme has helped me broaden my understanding of business.

The experience has been both challenging and rewarding. I am very grateful to the 30% club, University of Galway and Genesys for their support and this great opportunity.”

Katie Devin

“Being awarded with the 30% Club Executive MBA scholarship was a honour. I’m passionate about gender diversity, particularly in leadership and STEM.

This scholarship demonstrates how critical it is for companies today to have a diverse leadership to ensure all perspectives are considered and are reflective of their customer profile.

My background is in engineering but after achieving my engineering degree and working as an engineer, I realised I was more interested in the impact that engineering actions had on the business metrics. Working in a role that required more business knowledge than engineering.

Studying a MBA has given me the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the complexities of today’s business world and more confidence in my leadership abilities.

“I’m very thankful to the support of the 30% Club and TE Connectivity so I can continue to develop my skills further.”



Hear from the



“The Strategic Management module covers the concepts, theories and techniques of strategy for generating and sustaining competitive advantage. This is done with a view on sustainability and for a wide range of organisational settings”.

Professor Esther Tippmann

Professor of Strategy, Leadership
and Change
University of Galway

“This MBA has been exactly what I was hoping it would be. At every lecture I am learning new ways to look at all areas of my business and am constantly finding myself relating the material to my business and what I could be doing different/better.”

Jarrad Butler

Retired Connacht Rugby Player,
Founder and CEO, Sportskin Skincare
Current MBA Student AY24-25



MBA Community



“Completing my MBA at the University of Galway was a transformative experience that had an immediate impact on my career. Upon graduation, I was promoted to a senior manager position, a testament to the practical skills and knowledge I gained throughout the program. The learning environment was rigorous but incredibly rewarding—challenging me to think critically, prioritize effectively, and delegate responsibilities with confidence”

Sandra Grogan

Senior Quality Manager
Boston Scientific

“Making good decisions requires an understanding of recent developments & prospects for the Irish economy, the euro area, & the wider global economy & the implications of these developments for businesses & policymakers.”

Professor Alan Ahearne

Professor of Economics
University of Galway



Graduate Careers have included:



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY





OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Creating *Leaders*, Driving *Change*



MBA Class 2024-2026

University
ofGalway.ie

Registration

How do I apply?

Applications for the MBA Programme are made online via the [University of Galway Application System](#). Find out more by scanning the QR code.

Fees

- €16,405 per annum for EU students. (2026/2027)*
- €18,405 per annum for Non-EU students. (2026/2027)*
- The MBA at University of Galway is an approved programme for the tuition fees tax relief scheme where eligible applicants can claim 20% tax relief capped at a value of €1,000. Please contact your financial adviser for further information.

2-Day Block Release

The programme is part-time and delivered by intensive block teaching over 21 months. Blocks will be of 1 or 2 days duration and generally occur at intervals of every 3 weeks during the semester. With the exception of the International Leadership Gateway programme, which typically takes place in May/June, all other activity takes place within the semester.

Application Checklist

- Application form (Including references and education history)
- Personal statement outlining how the MBA fits into your career objectives
- CV (Maximum 3 pages)
- Other supporting documentation including, but not limited to, university transcripts and birth certificate

**Fees may be subject to annual revision*



Meet the Team

Email Queries to: mba@universityofgalway.ie



MBA Programme Director
Dr. Orla Lenihan

MBA Programme Manager
Ms Orla Naughton



MBA Programme Administrator
Ms Nicola Reilly

Lead with
Insight,
Innovate with
Purpose,
Succeed with
Integrity.

