

WE STAND FOR AMBITION.

University of  
**Kent**

# MBA Welcome Week

Class of 2023-24 Orientation and induction  
for full-time and part-time MBA students



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# Welcome to our orientation and induction programme

## The Kent MBA programme mission

The Kent MBA delivers practical and applicable knowledge that transforms you into a responsible, innovative, and entrepreneurial business leader, using sustainable management practices for the advancement of local and global communities.

## Introduction

Congratulations on joining us on the MBA programme – and a big welcome to Kent Business School (KBS). This year the MBA orientation and induction programme will ensure we get to know each other quickly and that you are well prepared to start the first teaching module on Monday 2 October. It is designed to be highly interactive, high energy and fun, with some clear learning and development around issues such as leadership, increasing awareness of self and others, maximising your potential and working effectively together in teams.

The aim of this programme is to give you an introduction to the MBA and to:

- Provide you with an overview of the course structure and expectations for learning and teaching.
- Familiarise you with the University and Business School resources.
- Develop your team skills in an international setting and to help you work effectively and efficiently in your study groups.



The timetable for the orientation and induction programme is detailed below. The entire programme will be in person now that all Covid restrictions have been lifted in the UK and it is safe to do so. Wearing face masks is a personal choice and will be respected in KBS.

All sessions will take place within the **Sibson Building** in your purpose-built **MBA Suite** on the first floor, unless otherwise stated. **All full-time students should attend in person Monday to Friday**, as this is an important part of your transition back into academia and will set you up for success. **Part-time students should attend in person Monday to Thursday**. We have a social event on **Thursday night** which all are welcome to. And then full-time students will all go with the second year part-time students on Friday to visit some of the companies you will be working with during the course.

We look forward to seeing you in person!

*Debbie & Lynne*

## **Pre-arrival learning and workshops (week commencing 11 September)**

### **Utilising online technologies and resources whilst studying at Kent**

The University has launched the **Online Learning at Kent Moodle module** for all students. This includes information and tutorials on the key IT systems used by the University. You can access and complete this at your convenience once you are fully registered online and have your Kent username and password set up. It is advisable that you do this as soon as you can to support your learning. The module will be available via the University's online learning platform **Moodle**.

# Monday 18 September Compulsory (in-person)

## Welcome to Kent and your MBA

Welcome to KBS talk and then spend your first day together in the MBA Suite to understand the key principles and format of the MBA course and ask any questions of key members of staff and alumni.

We will be taking individual and group photographs on this day so please wear appropriate attire.  
**All sessions will be in the dedicated MBA Suite, Sibson building, unless otherwise stated.**

Time	Activity	Organiser
9:15 - 9:45	Sign in and collect your MBA pack	Admissions team
9:45 - 11:00	Welcome to KBS and the MBA - what to expect!	Professor Marian Garcia & Debbie Kemp, MBA Director
11:00 - 12:00	Meet your colleagues: playing to your strengths as a team	Debbie Kemp & Rebecca Smith
12:00 - 13:00	Networking lunch provided by KBS in the Atrium	KBS
13:00 - 14:00	MBA alumni speakers: top tips to maximise your MBA experience	Inetina Ebitonmor, Sooraj Viswanath, Rhona Clover, Gary Walters & Darren Evans
14:00 - 14:30	Introduction to ASPIRE & Employability @ KBS	Nicola Urquhart & Artur Slowinski
14:30 - 15:00	The MBA Student Charter & EDI	Dr Sam Evans, Manish Shah, Lola Osideko-Johnson & John Benfield
15:00 - 15:15	Break (15 minutes)	
15:15 - 15:45	Accrediting body student membership (CMI)	Tom Hawkrigde
15:45 - 17:00	Visualising the end result: key academic skills	Debbie Kemp
17:00 - 17:30	Individual student profile photographs	Lynne Dickens

# Tuesday 19 September Compulsory (in-person)

## Your MBA leadership journey

Start to reflect on your leadership skills and how you can transform these in the next year or so. Note: there is pre-work for this which will need to be completed beforehand and emailed to [dhbconsult@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dhbconsult@xtra.co.nz) by **Wednesday 13 September**. You can [download this document](#) and get started.

All sessions will be in the MBA Suite, Sibson building, unless otherwise stated.

Time	Activity	Organiser
9:30 – 9:40	Welcome and overview of the day	Debbie Kemp
9:40 – 13:30	Leadership and business skills (part A)	Professor David Buisson & Debbie Kemp
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 16:00	Leadership and business skills (part B)	Professor David Buisson & Debbie Kemp
16:00 – 16:15	Break (15 minutes)	
16:15 – 17:15	Leadership and business skills (part C)	Professor David Buisson & Debbie Kemp
17:15 – 17:30	Q&A	Debbie Kemp

# Wednesday 20 September

## Compulsory (in-person)

### Teambuilding, self-reflection and accreditation membership

An opportunity to get to know each other better, our city, and our fabulous campus in the morning, followed by more important workshops in the afternoon.

All sessions will be in the MBA Suite, Sibson building, unless otherwise stated.

Time	Activity	Organiser
9:15	Meet at <u>Westgate Towers</u> – see <u>map</u>	
9:30 – 11:00	Walking tour of Canterbury	Debbie Kemp & Lynne Dickens
11:00 – 12:00	Free time in Canterbury	
12:00 – 12:30	Return to Campus – it will take you around 30 minutes and we would like you to be on time for the next session, please	
12:30 – 13:45	Team building session in the <u>Colyer-Fergusson building</u> – do not miss this!	Debbie Kemp, Lynne Dickens and special guests!
13:45 – 14:00	Return to Sibson building	
14:00 – 15:45	‘Being a self-reflective learner’ workshop – a key skill for your MBA journey and return on investment	Dr May Seitanidi
15:45 – 16:00	Break (15 minutes)	
16:00 – 16:30	AMBA student membership	Mellissa Oliver-Jolley, AMBA Membership and Account Manager
16:30 – 17:30	Individual student profile photographs	Lynne Dickens

# Thursday 21 September Compulsory (in-person)

## Learning support and resources

Discover all the academic support that is available to you at the University of Kent.

We will be taking individual and group photographs on this day so please wear appropriate attire.  
**All sessions will be in the MBA Suite, Sibson building, unless otherwise stated.**

Time	Activity	Organiser
9:30 – 10:30	Applying academic style at postgraduate level (Templeman Library, Room LT)	SLAS
10:30 – 12:00	Using learning resources at postgraduate level & library tour (Templeman Library, Room LT)	Holly Callaghan, Divisional Liaison Librarian for Kent Business School
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch break & opportunity to visit Kent Union Fair in the Mandela building	Kent Union
14:00 – 14:30	Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) at the University and beyond in Sibson LT2	Emily Mason (30 minutes)
14:30 – 15:00	COP28 and the Canterbury Climate Action Partnership in Sibson LT2	Dr Carl Wright
15:00 – 15:30	Individual student profile photographs	Lynne Dickens
15:30 – 17:00	SDG trail – start at point 1 of the map and then go off in groups to explore the rest of the trail	Lynne Dickens
15:30 – 17:00	<b>HDA students only:</b> Senior Leadership Apprenticeship meeting – everything you need to know about your HDA in Sibson LT2	Amy Johnson & Trevor Gerdhardt, GaLL
17:00 – 17:15	Break (15 minutes)	
17:15 – 18:30	Business Soundbite event (all KBS students) in Sibson LT2	Kate Austen
18:30 – 20:30	MBA networking drinks hosted by part-time year two/three students in Woody's Bar	



# Friday 22 September Compulsory (in-person)

## Company visits (all full-time and part-time year 2 students)

Spend some of the day with us visiting companies who you will be working with on the Strategic Marketing and Communication module. Discovery Park is a Life Science Community that thrives on collaboration and is the home to dynamic healthcare start-ups leading in medical research and technology. In comparison, Shepherd Neame is the oldest brewery in the UK dedicated to brewing great beer and running the best pubs and hotels across Kent and nationally. Learn the business stories and future strategies of these companies ready to work with them on live group projects.

Time	Activity	Organiser
9:30 prompt	Leave from Sibson to travel by coach to Discovery Park ( <u>Innovation House, Sandwich CT13 9FF</u> )	Debbie Kemp & Lynne Dickens
10:00 - 12:30	<b>Tour of Discovery Park</b> followed by an introduction to three exciting companies, who you will be working with on the Marketing module	Emma Palmer Foster, Director of Discovery Park
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch at Discovery Park	
13:30 - 14:00	Return to Sibson building	

## Friday 29 September

Compulsory (in-person) for full-time students, highly recommended for part-time students

### 10:00 - 12:00

Jonathan Neame, CEO will be giving us a private tour of Shepherd Neame Brewery in Faversham followed by a strategic overview from the senior leadership team. This trip is compulsory for all full-time students and highly recommended for part-time students too, subject to your availability/work commitments. You will all be working with Shepherd Neame as part of the Strategic People Management module.



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**[kent.ac.uk](http://kent.ac.uk)**

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