

Full Time MBA Second Year Projects



The MBA programme at London Business School is committed to developing global business capabilities. An important method of this development is project work, which forms one of the foundations of the way our students learn. The culmination of this experience is the Second Year Project. This takes the shape of a team-based consultancy type exercise delivered for a client organisation.

The project offers students the chance to apply the knowledge they have acquired in the classroom coupled with their previous work experience, to gain further valuable business insight and experience. Clients also love the opportunity this presents of harnessing the business acumen and academic expertise of our students, who are supported by our world renowned faculty.

Draw on a wealth of global talent

London Business School is differentiated by its diversity. Our student body come from over 70 countries and speak 39 different languages. In addition to this cultural diversity, we build each class from a wide variety of professional backgrounds so as to increase learning amongst the student body. We also send approximately a third of our students to our international exchange partner schools, meaning the possibility for research to be conducted overseas.

What makes a suitable project?

Project themes are extremely wide ranging, cutting across many business functions and industries. Past project clients have ranged from global corporations to start up operations, from private companies, to charities and NGOs. The commonality, however, is that all these organisations have a significant, tangible business problem, which the project seeks to address, and require research and analysis in order to present recommendations that will be of practical use to the client.

“This was the most positive experience, with the two MBA students providing a very high level of input, much better than the commercial consultancy firms I have dealt with.”

Stephen Cox
The Royal Society

“Just a short note to thank you both for your excellent work on the RDA project for IBM. You have provided us with an excellent asset, which will form the basis of a business case, which we will put to senior management in the coming weeks. What most impressed us was the combination of solid strategic thinking with actionable materials to enable us to turn theory into practice quickly.”

Guy Daniels
IBM North Region EMEA

“The results of the survey confirmed our theory about the impact of customers on employee energy and focus. We are developing our business with renewed confidence in the area – and with no small success.”

Sophie Ejsmond
Attiva Ltd

“I want to personally thank London Business School for what I view as a very productive and impactful project that two of your students recently worked on... Both [students] provided insights with their research that will serve the business well for some time to come.”

Brian Zappitello
Nike Asia Pacific

Terms of work

Students must complete their projects by the end of April of their second year of study to meet the academic deadline. Clients can therefore offer a project any time between late August and late January. Students work in small teams of two to three, the number being dictated by the volume of work required to complete the consultancy project, with each student undertaking approximately 25-30 days work.

Most project timetables are spread over a two to four month period, although this is dependant on your needs. Students have time factored into the academic schedule to allow them to work on the project while still participating in their studies. Students will usually conclude their client work with an oral presentation in addition to a written report. An academic report must also be submitted to the School for grading.

Faculty advice

Each team of students must secure a member of our faculty with a relevant research background to act as their academic supervisor and give ultimate approval for the project brief prior to commencement. Although responsibility for successful completion of the project lies with the students, the supervisor is there to provide advice and guidance, from research question definition through to the final report, to help ensure all parties get the most value from the project.

Confidentiality

All project reports will be viewed by the academic supervisor and one other member of faculty during the grading process. Reports are then stored in our library for reference by future students, although we would always respect your request to restrict access to the report. Confidentiality is ensured by a standard legal agreement provided by the School.

Fees

London Business School receives no remuneration for the projects; financial arrangements should be agreed between the client and project team before work commences and all fees and expenses must be paid directly to the students. You should expect students to negotiate their fees based on the scope of project and their skills and experience, although if your organisation is a charity or start-up, they may be prepared to work pro bono or in return for share options.

How to proceed

If you are interested in offering a project opportunity to our MBA students, please complete the Project Brief Submission Form available to download from our website. Once finalised, briefs are then posted on the London Business School intranet and students will apply to you directly in the same manner as for a normal job. Interviews normally take place on your premises although in some cases a room can be arranged on campus. In addition we ask that you promptly advise all teams of the outcome of their applications. If you decide to proceed with a team, we will be happy to provide further guidance notes for successful management of the project.

Contact details

The Project Brief Submission Form can be downloaded from
www.london.edu/mba/programme/projects/

To learn more about the Second Year Project programme, please contact:

Jenny Elliott
MBA Programme Office
London Business School
Regents Park
London NW1 4SA

Tel +44 (0)20 7000 7520
Email mbaprojects@london.edu

Develop your relationship

Whatever your requirements, London Business School will work in partnership with you to help you access the talent you need. There are many ways to develop your relationship with the School and our students – the global business leaders of tomorrow.

These include:

- internships and permanent recruitment
- company visits and case studies
- Sloan Fellowship management reports
- Organisational Audits
- shadowing by an MBA student
- introductions to relevant clubs

To find out more about these other opportunities, visit:

www.london.edu/recruiters/