

# PhD in Business Administration

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Concordia University  
**John Molson**  
School of Business

# About JMSB

For 70 years, JMSB has been educating professionals at all levels of administration and management, preparing them for roles as innovators, entrepreneurs, and leaders in their field. Our graduate research faculty is among the best in Canada, supporting a range of specializations and interests. In terms of our graduate offerings, John Molson School of Business offers programs leading to Master's degrees and a variety of graduate diplomas and certificates for professionals seeking to upgrade their knowledge and skills, or young graduates hoping to expand their training. These graduate programs attract some of Canada's best and brightest to tested programs representing JMSB's proven dedication to superior business education and the practical application of advanced academic research. We are grounded in real theory, dedicated to providing our students the best education possible, and committed to the future.

## Quality education and advanced research

Key to our graduates' success is JMSB's commitment to quality education and advanced research. We offer a dynamic and diverse academic community established on a foundation of dedicated research facilities and innovative program options.

## An Exceptional Learning Environment

John Molson School of Business is entering an exciting phase in its history, with growth and innovation occurring at a phenomenal rate across the boards. With new facilities and top-notch research, we will continue offering a superior business education to our students.

## John Molson School of Business currently has:

- 6 800 undergraduate students, 1 300 graduate students and 38 000 alumni
- 144 full-time and 188 part-time faculty members
- 18 programs
- 5 departments
- 8 research centres and institutes

## International Culture & a Worldwide Alumni Network

Concordia welcomes numerous international students, representatives of 157 countries and enriching our campuses with their languages, their backgrounds and their minds. At the same time, Concordia and JMSB both maintain major alumni networks – a worldwide family of committed graduates able and willing to help open doors for fellow alumni. When you become a JMSB student, you join a global network working to help you succeed.

## Prestigious International AACSB accreditation

In 1997, JMSB became Montreal's first business school and only the fourth in Canada to be awarded full accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). In 2001, we became the only Canadian business school to achieve AACSB accreditation for its Accountancy Programs as well – that means JMSB stands among the most prestigious business schools in the world, internationally recognized for delivering on its commitment to excellence in education and meeting student needs.

# A PhD at JMSB – Evident Advantages

The joint-PhD program prepares students for an international academic career in business, grounded in one of Canada's top business schools while benefiting from the expertise of three others. Building on coursework, colloquia, and personal faculty attention, doctoral candidates pursue their studies across a structured program combining advanced seminars with dissertation research. The end product is research on an important management topic. Our doctoral students have a high employability rate after graduation, and they publish and present their work in prestigious journals and conferences.

## A World-Class Faculty

Our expert faculty consists of alumni from many prestigious research institutions, maintaining outstanding international reputations for their innovative research, publishing widely in some of the best journals, and sitting on the boards of many Learned Societies. JMSB holds numerous funded research positions, including endowments from alumni and Canada and Concordia Chairs. At the same time, JMSB faculty take pride in continued mentoring of the many successful graduate students emerging from the doctoral program and their supervision.

## Research Chairs:

- Endowed Research Chairs
  - Dr. Bakr Ibrahim, Department of Management, *CIBC Distinguished Professorship in Entrepreneurship and Family Business*
  - Dr. Michel Laroche, Department of Marketing, Royal Bank *Distinguished Professorship in Marketing*
  - Dr. Michel Magnan, Department of Accountancy, Lawrence *Bloomberg Chair in Accountancy*
  - Dr. Lorne Switzer, Department of Finance, Van Berkom Endowed *Chair in Small Caps Finance*
- Concordia Research Chairs
  - Dr. Steven H. Appelbaum, Department of Management, Senior *Concordia University Research Chair in Organizational Development*
  - Dr. Gary Johns, Department of Management, Senior Concordia *University Research Chair in Management*
  - Dr. Gregory Kersten, Department of Decision Sciences & M.I.S., *Senior Concordia University Research Chair in Decision and Negotiation Systems*
  - Dr. Lawrence Kryzanowski, Department of Finance, Senior Concordia *University Research Chair in Finance*

## Research Centres

- Bell Research Centre for Business Process Innovation
- Centre for Small Business and Entrepreneurial Studies (CSBES)
- InterNeg Research Centre
- Desjardins Centre for Innovation in Business Finance
- Family Enterprise Research (FERC)
- Institute for Community Entrepreneurship and Development
- Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations
- David O'Brien Centre for Sustainable Enterprise

# PhD Program Structure

## – Designed for Your Success

The objective of the joint-PhD in Business Administration is to educate competent researchers and active participants in academic life, stimulating innovative research into topical management issues. Typically, the program can be completed in four years full-time or six years part-time.

### **An Exceptional Learning Environment**

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### **Phase I:**

Qualifying (up to one year)

#### **Students determine their overall competency to conduct doctoral research**

Students lacking a formal academic background in Business Administration may be required to take up to five (5) courses, usually at the MSc or MBA level. Students may take up to two (2) of these courses in their intended area of specialization, further preparing them for the second phase of the program

### **Phase II:**

Specialization (up to two years)

#### **Students focus their research into a particular area of specialization**

The Supervisory Committee determines the student's program of study, usually consisting of 27 seminar credits. Students must also take two (2) 3-credit seminars, one in Research Methodology and one in Pedagogy. All other Phase II seminars depend on the student's field of specialization and are generally structured around a major and minor discipline. Finally, PhD candidates complete Phase II through the successful preparation and defence of written and oral comprehensive examinations.

### **Phase III:**

Dissertation (up to two years)

#### **Students develop and defend a formal dissertation proposal**

With the Committee's mentoring and guidance, candidates outline their research problem and parameters, and provide a description of methodology along with a reasonable schedule of completion. Having defended the proposal, PhD candidates begin preparation of the full dissertation, culminating in its defense before the Phase III Committee.

# Inquiring Minds

## – JMSB's Dynamic Research Culture

With eight research centres brimming with talent and ambition, JMSB faculty and graduate students are busy creating innovative solutions to many contemporary business problems. Our work is solidly rooted in actual practice, putting theory through its paces to respond to real industry challenges. That's the JMSB distinction – a research-intensive graduate education deeply engaged in actual practice and the real world.

### **Research Specializations**

PhD candidates at JMSB may choose to specialize in any of five research departments within the program.

- Accountancy
- DS/MIS
- Finance
- Management
- Marketing

In all cases, doctoral students are expected to be fully committed participants in the development of their Department's intellectual capital through workshop involvement, research partnerships, and interaction with faculty.



Welcome to the John Molson School of Business PhD in Administration Program. JMSB is one of the most highly respected business schools in Canada. Deeply committed to academic excellence, cutting-edge research, and student support, JMSB PhD students benefit from our intellectually challenging academic environment, world-renowned faculty, diverse student body, strong ties to the business community, and outstanding resources.

To learn more about earning your PhD at JMSB, please read through the information on our website. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Dr. Ulrike de Brentani  
Director, PhD and MSc in Administration Programs

[johnmolson.concordia.ca/phd](http://johnmolson.concordia.ca/phd)

# Student Support & Tuition Information

Graduate students also have access to a range of financial support options, representing JMSB's commitment to providing students the foundation and security they need to best pursue advanced research.

## Funding

A variety of funding is available to PhD students at JMSB. Eligible students are encouraged to apply for the full complement of funding opportunities available both within Concordia and JMSB and from both federal and provincial agencies

## Tuition

Quebec government subsidizes education in the province, making the John Molson PhD in Business Administration program the most affordable AACSB accredited PhD program in North America. Additionally, students should budget at least CDN\$12,000 per year for basic living expenses, including accommodation, groceries, clothing, public transportation and miscellaneous expenditures. A cosmopolitan hub and world-class city, Montreal is remarkably inexpensive for a city of its caliber and size. *Please note: Citizens of French-speaking countries may qualify to pay Quebec tuition fees under bilateral agreements with the Quebec government.*

## Program Tuition

### Total Program Cost Estimates \*

Full-Time Total Program Estimate is Based on a regular program of 12 Tuition Billing Cycle terms

Canadian, Quebec & Non-Quebec Residents	\$ 10 245
International Students	\$ 59 788



# Admissions Information

Each year, the PhD in Business Administration attracts a large number of highly qualified and dedicated applicants. Applicants must hold a Master's degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5/4.3 (or equivalent) from an accredited university. Students without a formal academic background in Business Administration are required to take up to an additional five (5) courses, usually at the MBA or MSc level. The Department determines these courses based on students' backgrounds and areas of specialization, with approval from the PhD Faculty Director. Individual applicants are selected on the basis of a comprehensive evaluation of their application file.

## Required Admission Documents

- Application Form
- All Original Transcripts
- Three Letters of References
- Statement of Purpose
- GMAT
- C.V.
- General Information Form

## Application deadlines

### Canadian Citizen and Permanent Resident Applicants:

February 1 - September admission

September 15 - January admission

### International Applicants:

February 1 - September admission

## Language Requirements

The PhD in Business Administration is taught as a bilingual program. Applicants must demonstrate a proficiency in either English or French.



# C o n t a c t I n f o r m a t i o n

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