

#### TITLE

Master of Science (MSc) in Economics and Business Administration (International Business Economics)

#### **DURATION**

Full time - two years

#### LOCATION

Aalborg University (AAU), Campus East

#### STARTING DATE

1<sup>st</sup> September

#### **ECTS**

120 ECTS

(4 semesters of 30 ECTS each)

# MSC INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ECONOMICS AT A GLANCE

Today's global economy is increasingly influencing firms dealing with international practices. Managers are required to think globally and be aware of the relevant political, economic, social and cultural challenges that companies are facing.

Being a specialist in global business studies, the International Business Centre at Aalborg University offers a highly competitive Master's Degree programme in International Business Economics (IBE) uniquely encompassing classic international business economic theories with relevant globalisation issues in a practical context.

This 2-year programme helps you to understand the economic, social and cultural aspects of international business management and prepares you for translating market and companies' resource potential into strategies, plans and action.



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

1 <sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER	Theory of Internationalisation of Companies in Institutional Contexts 10 ECTS	Cross-cultural Management and Leadership 10 ECTS	Semester Project 10 ECTS
2 <sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER	Managing International Business Functions 10 ECTS	Electives 10 ECTS	Semester Project 10 ECTS
3 <sup>RD</sup> SEMESTER	Traineeship / Semester abroad		
4 <sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER	Master's Thesis		

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The programme has a duration of two calendar years, divided into four semesters.

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER

The first semester focuses on basic themes within international business and with an emphasis on meta-theoretical perspectives. Subjects covered include internationalisation of companies in an institutional context, and cross-cultural management and leadership.

#### **2ND SEMESTER**

The second semester comprises specialised courses in international business, managing international business functions, international business models and strategy, and contemporary issues in international business.

#### 3RD SEMESTER

In the third semester, as an important and integral part of the international specialisation, students spend 3-5 months as trainees in a company or an institution/organisation or study at a foreign university.

#### 4TH SEMESTER

The fourth and final semester is spent on writing a Master's Degree Thesis. This may have a combination of a theoretical and a practical focus.

## TRAINEESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

During the  $3^{rd}$  semester, you will have the chance to dive into the world of business and gain actual work experience. This semester will not only give you practical knowledge, but will also add to your CV contributing to a more competitive profile.

Former students have undertaken their traineeship at companies either in Denmark or in foreign countries such as the

USA, China, India, Australia, Argentina, Ghana,

the Philippines, Poland, Spain, UK, Italy, Lithuania, Germany and the list just goes on and on. A variety of companies

> have welcomed trainees from Aalborg University. Embassies are also a very popular choice with our students.

It will be your responsibility to find a traineeship whether in Denmark or abroad. However, university staff will be at hand to help and guide you through the entire process.



It is a great satisfaction for us to see how many students have actually found their future employers among the host companies. Although a traineeship does not automatically mean that students gain a long-term workplace, on many occasions students have actually been offered a position within the company.

# MASTER'S THESIS

The objective of the Master's Degree Thesis in International Business Economics (IBE) is to offer you the opportunity to undertake a comprehensive study of any research issue in international business economics of your preference. Your choices may be based on issues to which you have been exposed during the preceding three semesters or other issues of relevance to International Business Economics studies.

The thesis will also offer you the opportunity to demonstrate your ability to select theories that may be considered pertinent to the issues of investigation, critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of these theories and identify the knowledge gaps in the area. This assessment would normally include the meta-theoretical foundations of the chosen theories, in relation to the research problems.

You will also be able to demonstrate your ability to justify your choice of research methods and follow this choice consistently in the study. The thesis may be written on an individual basis or in a group.





## PROBLEM BASED LEARNING

Many students choose AAU as their place to study because Aalborg University is known for its unique Problem Based Learning model (PBL). Every semester, students form groups to produce a project, which is an essential part of the programme. With PBL, students get to work on cases from the business

world, make a project and experience

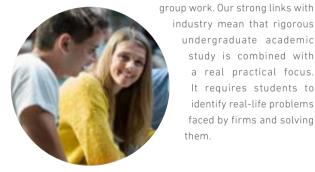
industry mean that rigorous undergraduate academic study is combined with a real practical focus. It requires students to identify real-life problems faced by firms and solving them.

At Aalborg University, we believe that by

- Cooperating with businesses
- Learning how to apply knowledge in a specific real-life situation
- Developing team work skills

our graduates will acquire the ability to work analytically and gain knowledge and skills at a high professional level. This is what we believe makes our graduates prepared for the job market.

Students will experience a strong focus on research activities. This is one of the reasons why AAU is ranked 67th in the "top 100 universities under 50 years"-ranking list.



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



# "STUDY PROCESS THAT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT"

The reason why I chose Aalborg University is because of the PBL model and its study process that's totally different than my previous study. During the first year, I had many interesting courses, and also many guest lectures given by professors from other universities and by entrepreneurs from local companies. In addition, I also visited many companies to gain business knowledge away from the classroom. My study is fruitful and the programme has comprehensively cultivated my capabilities.

Yan He, China
Msc. International Business Economics

# "HAS FOSTERED MY INNOVATIVE THINKING"



Aalborg University is the place to study, mainly because of its Problem Based Learning (PBL) model. The study programme has managed to cover all the aspects from the diverse economic prospects that I was expecting. The Problem Based Learning intertwined with many case studies for international companies has fostered my innovative thinking and developed my academic comprehension. Furthermore, the supportive academic staff has also empowered the learning and understanding process.

Kristina Petrova, Bulgaria
Msc. International Business Economics

## OPPORTUNITIES AFTER GRADUATION

The programme in International Business Economics offers students an opportunity to have clear-cut profiles upon graduation.

Having a clear-cut profile strengthens students' ability to convince future employers of their skills and competencies. Many of our students have worked towards one of the following profiles:

- International Marketing and Market Analysis
- · Digitalisation and Global Sourcing
- Network Relations and International Value Chain Analysis Leadership
- International Human Resource Development and Intercultural Competence.

You can pursue careers in:

- · National or international organisations
- The private sector (large companies, banks and financial institutions or consultancies)
- International research institutions and universities.





## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

A Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Business Administration (three years) or the equivalent is required. Professional Bachelor's Degrees from university colleges are not considered equivalent. However, upgrading your qualifications is a possibility. Contact

our Study Board to hear more about this or look here for further information: www.

studyguide.aau.dk

Guest/exchange students are expected to have a minimum of three years of study within the field of general business administration depending on which semester they apply for.

Foreign students are required to pass one of the English proficiency tests accepted by Aalborg University. These are IELTS, TOEFL and Cambridge ESOL. The test must be less than two years old, otherwise it will not be accepted as valid. Danish students must have no less than a B-level in English.

You do not have to submit an English test if one of the following criteria applies to you:

- You have completed a Bachelor's Degree taught in English in either Australia, the UK, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, USA, New Zealand, South Africa or Canada.
- You have a Bachelor's Degree in English from a Danish University.

Further information about entry requirements and application procedures are found here: www.apply.aau.dk

#### AALBORG AS A STUDENT CITY

Aalborg is a natural hub of cultural and academic activities in the Northern Denmark, making it the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in the country. Aalborg has developed in a cultural power base and with AAU as its core, into a student city of international standards. Aalborg is a modern city and it is used to international students. Most of the local citizens speak English at a fairly high level.

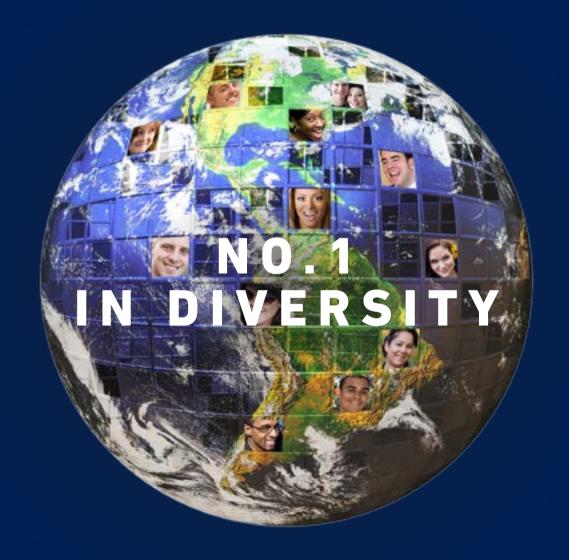
Located near Denmark's stunning coast Aalborg is known for its cozy café-life, cobblestone streets and a charming harbor front. Aalborg offers a wide range of activities within music, film, theatre, art and sports together with a unique nightlife.

For two consecutive years - 2015 and 2016 - Aalborg has been proclaimed the happiest city in Europe according to the Business Insider ranking. The source describes Aalborg in the following way: "The city utilities like a symphony orchestra, a world class university, and a beautiful waterfront, make it not surprising that Aalborg's citizens are the most satisfied in Europe".

The students have their own organisations to suit everyone's needs and preferences. You will be able to find a big variety of clubs in the city, where people team up by interests like sports, leisure, politics, board games, socialising etc.

At the campus, the Student Society arranges numerous parties.

The Student House in the city centre is a favorite place for students to meet and it is famous for hosting entertainment events for students all year round.



# THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE: STUDY IN A TRULY INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT!

The International Business Centre (IBC) at Aalborg University specializes in teaching and research in international business and international marketing. It has been an integral part of the Department of Business and Management since 1984.

The IBC has been globally active within teaching, research and collaboration with business for nearly 30 years. The centre aims at training future executives through the internationally recognized Problem Based Learning model. It contributes to knowledge creation through research and academic dialogue between the centre and its broader environment.

The IBC offers programmes both at undergraduate level in form of a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Business Administration, while the graduate level consists of the Master's Degrees in International Business Economics and in International Marketing.

The studies taught are approached from a truly international perspective characterising the centre's entire atmosphere. Students come from about 30 different countries.

This creates an international environment where cultures meet and people learn from each other at an academic and personal level.

The composition of the academic staff is as diverse as the student groups, which provides a unique inter-cultural dialogue. Both professors and PhD students are from a variety of different countries such as China, Ghana, USA, Romania, Bulgaria, and Denmark. The language spoken at the IBC is English.

AALBORG UNIVERSITY

#### MSC INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ECONOMICS

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

WWW.STUDYGUIDE.AAU.DK • WWW.APPLY.AAU.DK

#### STUDENT COUNSELLING

Fibigerstraede 2, room 6 9220 Aalborg East, Denmark E-mail: eba-counseling@business.aau.dk

Web: www2.business.aau.dk/Education/ organisation/studienaevn-erhvervsoekonomi/ student-counsellor/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/ StudentCounselorAAU/

# SECRETARY, STUDY BOARD OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

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E-mail: gn@business.aau.dk

Web: www2.business.aau.dk/Education/ organisation/studienaevn-erhvervsoekonomi/ studienaevn/

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