PhD in Management
The increasing sophistication of the practice of management and the rising complexity of global business generates demand for experts in management. We are looking for candidates that have a passion for research and have the ambition to become leading scholars in their field.

Doctoral training at ESADE provides rigorous training with courses that cover a wide range of topics and research methods. ESADE is one of the leading business schools in international rankings (Financial Times, Business Week, The Economist, Forbes). ESADE is home to faculty and students from around the globe and offers a rigorous and international environment to hone skills for an international career in business academia and research.

We welcome candidates from various disciplines (Management, Economics, Engineering, Psychology, Sociology and other disciplines related to management) who are highly motivated, enthusiastic about the creation of new knowledge, and interested in pursuing an international career in research.

If you share our passion for research and our ambition, we encourage you to take a closer look at our PhD programme. We look forward to welcoming you at ESADE.
ABOUT ESADE

ESADE is one of the leading business schools in international rankings (Financial Times, Business Week, The Economist, Forbes) and a partner of prestigious universities and business schools (for example the CEMS alliance and Georgetown University). In line with its mission and values, ESADE provides an environment that promotes the development of the humanistic, intellectual, moral and research identity of future management scholars. The school is home to faculty and students from all around the globe and offers a rigorous and international environment to hone skills that will help them to pursue an international career in research.

GLOBAL NETWORK

+70,000
Alumni

114
Countries represented

39
International Chapters

GLOBAL FACULTY

130
Full-Time faculty

18
Different nationalities

GLOBAL RANKINGS

6th
BUSINESS SCHOOL
IN EUROPE
Financial Times 2016

17th
BEST MBA WORLDWIDE
Financial Times 2017

RECOGNISED WORLDWIDE

BARCELONA

Barcelona is recognised as one of the world’s business capitals with a strong focus on Innovation & Entrepreneurship, something our programmes are based on at ESADE.

ESADE’s state-of-the-art international campus has been specifically designed and built to promote learning and creativity. The more than 70 nationalities represented on campus and the numerous spaces designated to creative thinking and innovation make for a dynamic space in which to inspire and be inspired.

FACULTY

“...The atmosphere of the PhD programme is open-minded, collaborative and challenging at the same time. ESADE PhD students are truly interested in the problems they work on. They have the ambition of having an impact in their academic field. Importantly they also care about the impact of academic work on management practice in organizations.”

DANIEL ARENAS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Department of Social Sciences and ESADE Institute for Social Innovation

“...At ESADE you will find a dedicated team of researchers focusing on state of the art entrepreneurship research. Members of the team publish regularly in top tier entrepreneurship journals, have published top cited papers”.

JAN BRINCKMANN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Department of Strategy and General Management and ESADE Entrepreneurship Institute

“...Eager to learn and enthusiastic! That’s what I love about ESADE PhD candidates. They hone a research question and we define a research path accordingly. Sometimes of our ideas work out and give good results. Other times we have to go back to the drawing board. In the end, we always make interesting contributions and present our work in top conferences. All candidates complete their PhD with good publications that are recognized by the research community and make our candidates sought after in business schools and other research institutions.”

NURIA AGELL, PROFESSOR
Department of Operations, Innovation and Data Sciences
MEET SOME OF OUR ALUMNI AND STUDENTS

“...The ESADE PhD Programme is truly unique of its kind due to its highly dynamic, supportive, friendly, and incredibly multicultural environment. The program gives you the freedom to explore, and to be creative with your research. Moreover, ESADE has a high-profile and diverse board of faculty and PhD candidates, where everyone is very collegial and accessible and willing to listen to your ideas. ESADE has helped me to grow as a researcher, and to develop strong pedagogical skills by teaching at BBA, MSc, and the prestigious ESADE MBA Programme.”

MOHAMMAD GHADERI, PHD 2017 - ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS
University of Pompeu Fabra, Spain

“...The ESADE PhD Programme has helped me to develop qualitative and quantitative methodological skills that have allowed me to grow as a researcher and to publish in highly-regarded journals. It has provided me with the opportunity to work with multicultural and multidisciplinary scholars in a friendly and supportive environment. It has also offered me many teaching opportunities across different programmes that have enabled me to develop my pedagogical skills. All in all, I highly recommend the ESADE PhD programme to all those pursuing a successful academic career in Management Sciences.”

STEFAN MARKOVIC, PHD 2016 - ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

“...The PhD programme of ESADE has offered me a rounded education covering different theoretical and methodological, a multi-cultural and highly supportive group of colleagues with which to learn, as well as the opportunity to pursue my research interests and forge international collaborations.”

MYRTO CHLIOVA, PHD 2015 - ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES
Aalto University, School of Business, Finland

“...Having accomplished the PhD programme at ESADE has allowed me to daily learn from and work hand in hand with internationally-recognized experts on research methods, leadership development and organizational psychology. Surrounded by an amazing intercultural atmosphere that continuously fosters personal and social development, I was also awarded to complete visiting periods at other excelling institutions like Columbia University and the Weatherhead School of Management, shaping further strategic research bonds.”

LETICIA MOSTEO, PHD 2015 - LECTURER AT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL INTEBUS
Hochschule Fresenius University of Applied Sciences, Köln, Germany
PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The purpose of the PhD is to train individuals who will become leading scholars in their fields and work in top business schools globally. Students are first registered for an MRes, which comprises the specialized research coursework of the PhD. You will learn in small classes, engaging with faculty members on significant research problems of interest to both the academic and business communities. The remaining time will be spent conducting original research culminating in a doctoral dissertation. In total, doctoral training takes 4 years.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

The ESADE PhD program prepares you for a career in research and teaching. Highly individualized, the doctoral program allows students to pursue their own areas of interest. The program is full time and emphasizes a strong foundation in both methodological and theoretical training. Areas of specialization include: Strategy and Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation, Organizational Behavior, Marketing, Operations, Innovation, Data Sciences, and Finance.

Candidates are expected to work closely with the ESADE faculty members. Areas of specialization parallel the strengths of the ESADE faculty members. You will have an opportunity to do in depth study in the specialization that most interest you.

ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR

Organizational Behavior research draws on a broad range of social science disciplines, such as sociology, psychology, and economics to explore the behavior of individuals, groups, and organizations with the aim of advancing our understanding of business and society.

Organizational Behavior Research on a variety of topics that span the study of individuals, groups, organizations and markets. At the micro-level organizational behavior research investigates leadership, group and team dynamics, identity, diversity, individual learning and individual networks. At the macro-level, research investigates organizational ecology, governance, organizational learning networks, institutions and markets. These two sub-areas employ an array of different research methodologies that include experimental designs, clinical observation, qualitative interviews, surveys, econometrics and the analysis of large databases.

Associated Department: Strategy and General Management / Faculty Affiliated to Research Units: ESADE Entrepreneurship Institute (EII), Observatory of Spanish Multinational Companies (OEME), ESADegov Center for Public Governance.

FINANCE

Finance investigates the determinants of investment, portfolio, and financing choices of firms and individuals, and their mutual interactions. Finance research is both theoretical and empirical. It uses a variety of tools ranging from game theory to econometrics and statistics. Research in finance at ESADE includes market microstructure, corporate finance, and credit risks.

Associated Department: Financial Management and Control and Economics / Faculty Affiliated to Research Units: ESADE Entrepreneurship Institute (EII), Observatory of Spanish Multinational Companies (OEME), ESADegov Center for Public Governance.

STRATEGY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Strategy research investigates how companies and industries around develop and sustain competitive advantage in a globalized economy. One stream of research uses insights about firms and industries from economics as a basis for understanding business strategy. Another tradition in strategic management combines strategy and organizational theory and focuses on the study of strategy processes and outcomes. Entrepreneurship research investigates the creation and growth of new organizations and markets, the creation of new businesses within existing firms, innovation, and family business in a globalized economy. Entrepreneurship draws from a broad range of social sciences such as economics, sociology and psychology.

Associated Department: Strategy and General Management / Faculty Affiliated to Research Units: ESADE Entrepreneurship Institute (EII), Observatory of Spanish Multinational Companies (OEME), ESADegov Center for Public Governance.

MARKETING

Marketing research inquires into consumer behavior, stakeholder behavior, and firm behavior, and the development of methods for improving the allocation of marketing resources. The discipline covers the design and delivery of brands, products and services, pricing, distribution, and promotion. Marketing also investigates the resource allocation among product/market combinations. Marketing draws from a wide range of disciplines: psychology, anthropology, sociology, and economics.

Associated Department: Marketing Management / Associated Research Departments: Social Sciences and Strategy and General Management / Faculty Affiliated to Research Units: Institute for Social Innovation (IIS).

OPERATIONS, INNOVATION AND DATA SCIENCES

Areas of study in Operations, Innovation and Data Sciences include research in three sub-domains: First, the impact of technology on management and organizations, focusing on the digital transformation of organizations, collaborative systems and the development of tools and techniques to support decision-making. Second innovation in organizations, knowledge management and artificial intelligence, focusing on changing and adaptable environments such as smart cities and communities. Third operations research investigates activities that transform input into value for the customer with a focus on supply chain management, service design and operations strategies, sustainable and global operations and intra- and inter-organizational innovation capabilities. Our faculty boasts a strong impact in these areas, publishing numerous articles in the top journals in each field and serving as editors and editorial board members of top journals.

Associated Department: Research Group on Knowledge Engineering, Business Network Dynamics (BuNeD), Institute for Innovation and Knowledge Management (IIK).
ELIGIBILITY FOR THE PROGRAMME:

• All applicants must have a Bachelor’s degree or Master from an accredited university.
• Work experience / graduate degrees are not required for admission.
• There is no preference for a degree subject area. In some areas you will be expected to have strong quantitative skills.
• Your main objective must be to pursue a career in business academia as a researcher and professor in an international institution.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

• The application form (including a statement of purpose) is available online here: www.esade.edu/phd.
• Official transcripts from each school attended (scanned copies to be uploaded in PDF format).
• Scanned, certified copies of all university diplomas in PDF format.
• Two letters of recommendation. A recommendation from faculty with a research background is a plus.
• An official GMAT or GRE score on a test taken less than five years before.
• TOEFL score report on a test taken less than two years before.

SCHOLARSHIP AND LIVING STIPEND

Scholarships cover the whole amount of the tuition fees: 15400 € for the first year and 13500 € per year for the subsequent years. In addition the schools offers some stipends to cover living expenses during the programme. Access to first year scholarships and stipends is competitive for the first year (MRes) and automatic for the subsequent years upon satisfactory progress in the programme.
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