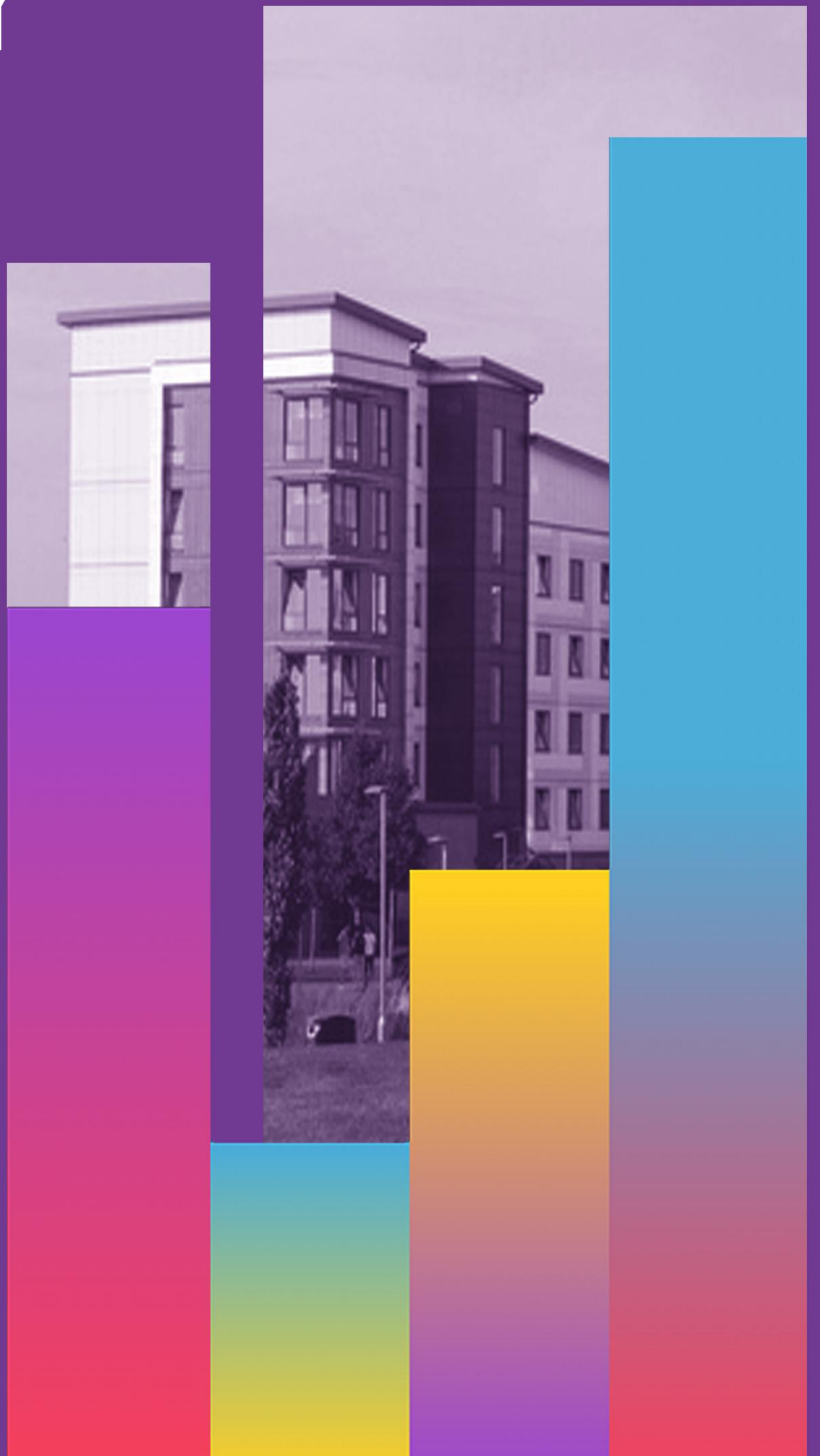


**ATHE LEVEL 7 EXTENDED DIPLOMA
& UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE
MASTER'S DEGREE
PATHWAY**

2026

ATHE Level 7 Extended Diploma
for Payments and Tax Agents
+ University of Hertfordshire
MBA Top-up Program





This programme, authorised by ATHE UK, is designed for senior executives and experienced professionals, offering an efficient and flexible pathway to an internationally recognised master's progression route. After completing the ATHE Level 7 Extended Diploma, learners may progress to the MBA top-up stage at the University of Hertfordshire.



Through a dual pathway of “professional capability enhancement + Master's degree progression,” the programme helps learners systematically strengthen their management mindset, strategic perspective, and cross-cultural leadership capabilities alongside demanding professional commitments.

This programme is especially suited to working professionals who seek career advancement, stronger organisational impact, and international development opportunities.

The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation



Ofqual is a government department in charge of examinations and qualifications in the UK, overseeing exams such as GCSE, A Level, IELTS, and others.

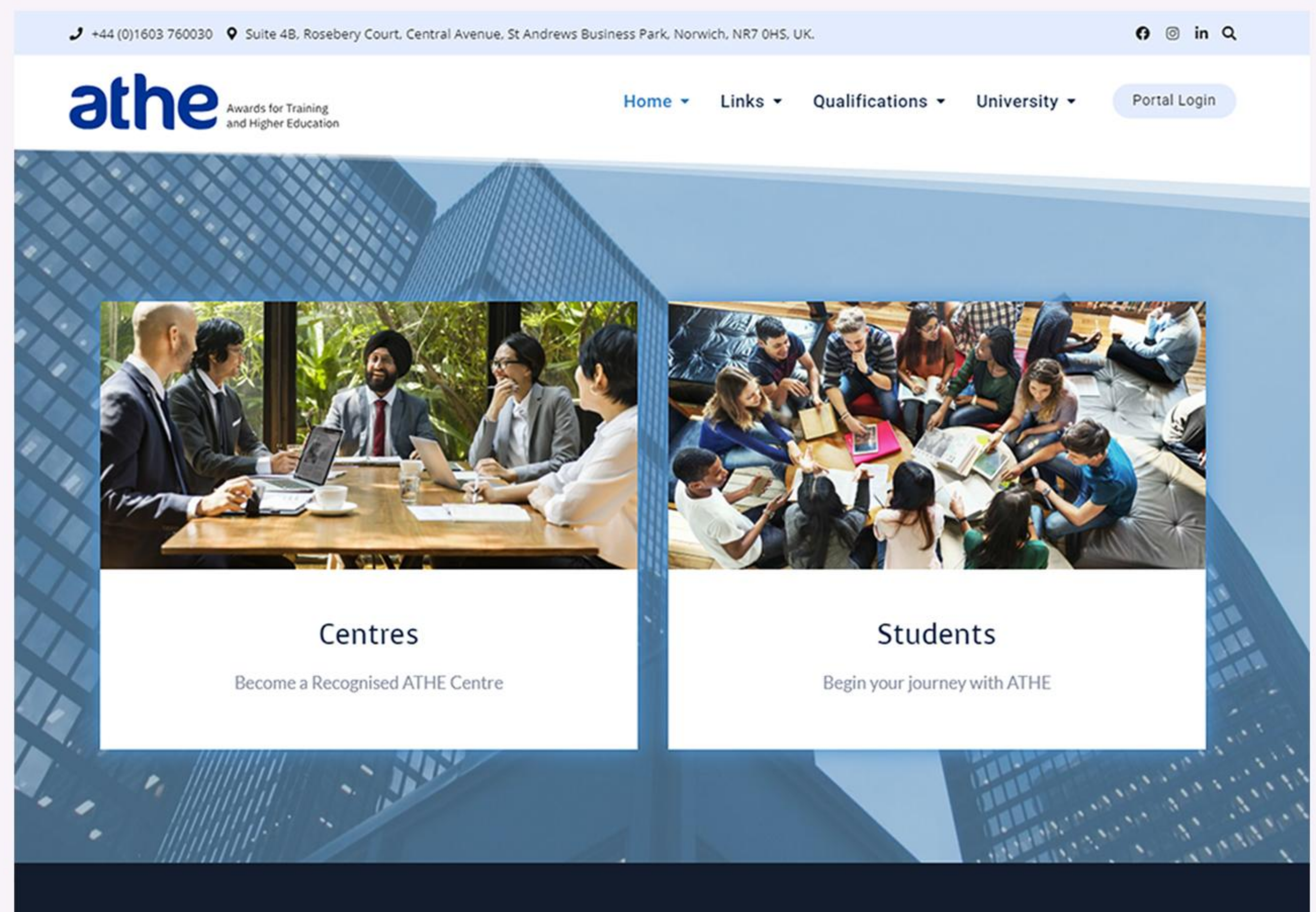
Awards for Training and Higher Education



ATHE is a global awarding organisation regulated by Ofqual and other UK and international regulators since 2011. ATHE collaborate with over 220 centres across more than 35 countries, complementing our strong brand presence in the UK.

ATHE offers a wide portfolio of vocationally oriented and internationally recognised qualifications from Levels 3 to 7 in fields such as business and management, accounting, law, computing, and healthcare—many of which are eligible for UK funding.

Through qualifications development service, ATHE has created a diverse range of regulated bespoke qualifications for clients worldwide. Additionally, ATHE endorsed programme service has certified over 40,000 learners for 30 global clients.



The University of Hertfordshire

University of Hertfordshire UH

The University of Hertfordshire has been honoured with a King's Award for Enterprise for its highly effective internationalisation strategy.

The only university to be awarded a King's Award for Enterprise in 2024, Herts was recognised for how it has developed and grown its internationalisation strategy, which has resulted in a booming international community at its Hertfordshire campus, and an extensive overseas partner network delivering the University's education.



King's Award

Only university to be awarded a King's Award for Enterprise in 2024



Top 50 UK university

Guardian University Guide 2026



Rated 5 Stars (Excellent)

by QS Stars. A globally recognised university rating system assessing higher education institutions



This program is designed for ambitious candidates, offering a high-quality, cost-effective pathway for international Master's degree progression, paving the way for a win-win outcome for all parties involved.

Strategic Value	Description
 <p data-bbox="279 1077 848 1175">Enhancing Executives' International Competitiveness</p>	<p data-bbox="978 893 1898 1205">Provide learners with the opportunity to obtain a master's degree from a well-known UK public university and gain an international learning experience, helping them broaden their global perspective and enhance their overall competitiveness in senior management, cross-border business, and international development.</p>
 <p data-bbox="233 1501 894 1599">Expanding International Resources and Academic Endorsement</p>	<p data-bbox="978 1353 1898 1620">Drawing on a respected UK academic framework and university resources, the programme provides learners with a more internationally recognised academic background and professional endorsement, while also expanding access to high-quality global networks and resources.</p>
 <p data-bbox="197 1952 930 2050">Strengthening Management Capability and Professional Application</p>	<p data-bbox="978 1813 1898 1991">Helping learners systematically strengthen cross-functional management capabilities and translate professional knowledge effectively into business practice and organisational outcomes.</p>
 <p data-bbox="243 2347 884 2445">Serving Personal Development and Organisational Advancement</p>	<p data-bbox="978 2228 1898 2407">Addressing both individual career progression and organisational development needs, while helping learners enhance strategic judgement, leadership capability, and organisational empowerment.</p>





Efficient Progression Pathway

The programme provides senior executives and experienced professionals with an efficient and clearly structured international academic progression pathway. Learners can complete the ATHE Level 7 Extended Diploma and the master's progression component within 8-12 months.



Flexible Application and Progression Mechanism

The programme is designed with flexibility, enabling working managers to plan their studies in line with their academic background and career stage. Through the ATHE Level 7 Extended Diploma, learners can progress step by step into the subsequent master's stage, achieving the dual goals of career advancement and academic progression.



Clear Career Advancement Orientation

The programme focuses on management practice and capability development, making it suitable for working professionals who seek further advancement in areas such as business management, human resources, finance, taxation, and wealth management. The curriculum not only strengthens the knowledge framework, but also emphasises strategic vision, decision-making capability, and overall managerial competence.



Mature and Stable Learning Support Mechanism

The programme has established a mature and stable learning support mechanism. Through an AI-assisted learning platform, regular progress feedback, and learning enhancement workshops, it provides learners with end-to-end academic support, helping them move through the learning process more efficiently while continuously strengthening academic writing, research methods, and language expression.

Stage 1: ATHE Level 7 Extended Diploma

This stage consists of 8 core mandatory modules that provide comprehensive coverage of professional knowledge in the fields of payments and taxation:

- ✓ Compensation and Benefits Management
- ✓ Taxation Management for Compensation and Benefits
- ✓ Private Wealth Management
- ✓ Taxation Management for Private Wealth
- ✓ Research for Payments and Tax Agents
- ✓ Strategic Planning
- ✓ Strategic Human Resource Management
- ✓ Tax Law
- ✓ Optional modules: Artificial Intelligence, International Marketing, Finance for Strategic Managers, International Finance



Stage 2: University of Hertfordshire MBA Top-up

University of Hertfordshire UH

Upon completion of the ATHE Level 7 Diploma, students will advance to the Master's top-up stage at the University of Hertfordshire. By completing the following 2 modules and passing the assessments, students will be awarded the MBA degree:

- ✓ Strategic Management Research
- ✓ Executive Career and Professional Development



Registration requirements

1. Applicants should hold a bachelor's degree in Finance, Public Finance, Management, or a related discipline.

2. Applicants are normally expected to achieve an IELTS score of 5.5 or above, or demonstrate an equivalent level of English proficiency.



Qaalfa Dibeethi

Expert in Strategic Research, 20+ years of global executive experience, Speaker at global conferences (invited by CNBC/Forbes), Practitioner of Service Leadership, Leading authority on global strategic transformation.



Michael Rose

Formerly Chief Human Resources and Remuneration Consultant at KPMG London, Chief Remuneration Consultant at Andersen Reading, Remuneration Director at Bowring Group, Remuneration Manager at TSB Bank.



Mark Million

MBA Tutor at Edinburgh Business School, Senior Tax Law Expert, Senior Member of ACCA/ATT, 30+ years of cross-domain practical experience. Formerly Financial Director at MICROLINK Group, Human Resources Manager at Hilton Worldwide.



Susan K. Dennett

Expert in Strategic Human Resource Management, Cross-domain practitioner with 20+ years of HR experience in international corporations. Formerly Dean at North American institutions.



Indy Chander

Current Senior Lecturer in Management and Leadership at Coventry University. Former Academic Director at ANC Education, led the localisation of North American/UK curricula. Former Programme Leader at Singapore TMC Academy.



Lambert Li

Ph.D., Stanford Graduate School of Business; M.A., University of Cambridge; B.A., UC Berkeley. Previously served as a Researcher at Stanford GSB, leading global organisational projects, and teaching MBA/EMBA courses. Current faculty at an internationally renowned business school.

International Faculty Team

The programme brings together an international faculty with both academic depth and industry experience, providing learners with learning support that integrates theoretical frameworks, management practice, and a global perspective.

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About the course

This MBA programme will help you develop a systematic and critical understanding of the core knowledge in business and management. Through the programme, you will further strengthen your strategic leadership capabilities and develop the professional competence to analyse corporate strategic positioning and business challenges, laying a solid foundation for career advancement and organisational management practice.



As a Hertfordshire MBA student, you'll be supported by first-class facilities, including virtual learning environment, StudyNet, which provides access to other students, lecture notes and over 100,000 e-books and e-journals.

Additionally, you'll benefit from teaching and supervision by expert research-active staff, several of whom are world leaders in their field and act as consultants with leading organisations such as Roche, Camelot and BDO Hayward.

Why choose this course?



Obtain an internationally recognised MBA

Further strengthen one's academic profile and international professional credentials, providing solid support for career advancement and competitiveness for senior-level roles.



Build deeper strategic thinking and managerial judgement

Systematically develop methods for critically and reflectively analysing issues in strategy, leadership, and management, thereby improving the quality of judgement in complex situations.



Drive career advancement and leadership elevation

Help learners strengthen management capability, strategic vision, and decision-making in complex business environments.



Connect with best practice and strengthen organisational application

Develop a strong understanding of, and draw on, international best practices in business and management, enhancing the practical conversion of knowledge into organisational management and business development.

What will I study?

Our teaching and learning methods ensure you are able to actively engage with your own development. You'll benefit from a blended learning approach which utilises web-based activities and reading, reflective writing, discussions and live enterprise projects.

All teaching resources have been designed in a highly structured way and complementary way to take you progressively through business concepts and to give you confidence, enhance your skills and expertise when completing specific tasks.

A participative style is used throughout to enable you to learn from your fellow students, as well as from teaching staff. Experiential learning is central to our teaching philosophy.

There is a considerable emphasis on the utilisation of theory and knowledge to make sense of your own and fellow participants' experiences at work. Case study material is widely used alongside case histories developed by fellow participants.

Learning Support and International Learning Experience

During their studies at the University of Hertfordshire, learners will benefit from comprehensive learning support and related services, including academic guidance, learning support, and relevant campus services, helping them integrate more smoothly into an international learning environment and stay focused on their studies and personal development.



King's Award

Career Advancement and Leadership Development

We embed career advancement and leadership development throughout the MBA programme. Grounded in leading-edge management theory and delivered through real business issues, the curriculum helps learners strengthen strategic thinking and management practice capabilities. Learners may also participate in guest lectures delivered by industry experts and alumni, expanding access to high-quality peer and industry networks.

Learners can receive support geared towards career advancement, including guidance on personal brand building, leadership enhancement, and managing complex communication scenarios. This helps them build stronger advantages in role progression, cross-sector development, and organisational management. The Business School will also support learners in joining the international alumni network and participating in a range of industry exchange and development activities, helping them build long-term resource connections.

Herts. Beats Faster.





CONCLUSION

With an educational philosophy that is efficient, flexible, and oriented towards practical application, this programme offers senior executives and experienced professionals a high-quality development pathway that combines academic advancement, capability progression, and broader international perspective. It represents an effective model that brings together contemporary international higher education and the evolving development needs of managers.

We look forward to working with more managers committed to continuous growth, cultivating future leaders with global vision, strategic judgement, and practical capability.

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