



**Deusto**

International Research School-DIRS

# **BUSINESS AND TERRITORIAL COMPETITIVENESS, INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY**

## **Recommended profile**

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### **1. PROGRAMME- SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

#### **1.1 Background**

- **Completion of an official Master's degree in Economics and/or Business or related fields**, having preferably chosen the research track.
- **Certificate providing proof of a C1 level** or equivalent in **English**. Having achieved this level of English implies that the student is capable of understanding a variety of long relatively difficult texts and recognising the implicit meaning; expressing him/herself fluently and smoothly making use of the appropriate expressions and vocabulary; using the language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes; and producing clear, well organised detailed texts on complex topics, demonstrating correct use of text organisation, structure and cohesion.

#### **1.2 The following will also be favourably regarded:**

- Excellent academic **performance** in **undergraduate degrees**.
- Excellent academic **performance in Master's degrees** in Economics and/or Business or related fields.
- Interest in the **research focus areas** of the PhD programme.
- **Research experience in the field of knowledge** (participation in research projects, publications, etc.) prior to entering the PhD programme.

- **Continuing education courses** related to this specialist area of knowledge.
- **Work or volunteering** in this field
- **Stays abroad**
- Clearly defined **career objectives, research ambitions and personal maturity**
- Availability to carry out the activities envisaged in the programme, particularly **stays at other universities or research centres.**
- A **research grant** awarded by a Spanish or international bodies, based on evaluation of the candidate's CV

## 2. ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission to the programme will be **determined by the academic committee**, which will **evaluate compliance with the profiles shown above.** Full time and part time candidates may be eligible to enter the programme. In the latter case, availability to carry out the activities envisaged in the programme will be taken into account.

Candidates are required to submit the following:

1. **Application form.**
2. **Official transcript** of the undergraduate and Master's degree programmes completed.
3. Full **curriculum vitae** with supporting documents.
4. Certificate providing **proof of fluency in English** (minimum level of C1).
5. **Presentation letter** in which the candidate briefly describes his/her career achievements, work experience, expectations and main interests related to the PhD programme. Candidates who are employed and wish to enrol as part time students should fully explain their availability to ensure they have time enough to combine the programme with their professional duties. (maximum length of the letter: 800 words).
6. **Initial research proposal**, explaining the focus area and topic and how it links to the PhD programme's research teams' work (maximum length of the proposal: from 2,000 to 5,000 words).
7. Two letters of recommendation.

8. **Research grant** recipients must clearly explain their current status. If a grant has been applied for and is pending resolution, information concerning this application must be included.

The programme coordinator or deputy coordinator will carry out an **initial evaluation of the documents submitted** and, if necessary, will **arrange a personal or videoconference interview** (this interview may be delegated to a PhD faculty member attached to the programme).

The initial **research proposal will be evaluated with the principal research of the most suitable team** to determine if the team's research plan and candidates interests are a good fit.

Candidate's suitability and merits will be evaluated as follows:

Criteria	Indicators	Weighting	Source
Qualifications and academic record (undergraduate))	Grade point average+match with the programme`s focus area	15% + 10%	Transcript
Qualifications and academic record (Master`s))	Grade point average+match with the programme`s focus area	15% + 20%	Transcript
Match between the candidate's research aims and the programme's focus areas	Assessment by the academic committee	15%	Research proposal and assessment by the principal researcher of a team
Previous research experience	Publications and projects	5%	Curriculum vitae

Other merits	-Continuing Education -Professional or volunteer experience -Stays abroad.	5%	Curriculum Vitae
Other merits	- Career objectives - Expectations concerning the programme - Attitude and personal maturity - Foreseen dedication to the programme	5%	Presentation letter and personal interview
Grant recipients	Award, duration and amount of the grant	10%	Proof of award of the grant

### 3. ADDITIONAL COURSES

As was stated above, the academic committee will analyse the competences candidates have attained in their previous postgraduate studies. Research competences related to the PhD candidate's proposed dissertation and methodology competences will be evaluated. The additional courses required will depend on the results of this evaluation.

The academic committee may require candidates who have not completed the research track at the Master's degree level to take additional courses in order to attain the basic competences envisaged in the Master's degree research profile. Whether or not candidates are required to take additional courses will mainly depend on the type of research they plan to carry out and their previous background. The curriculum of their Master's degrees will be analysed and candidates will be recommended to complete the subjects needed to ensure they are properly prepared to do their PhD dissertation.

There are two specific additional courses to be completed prior to the PhD programme:

- **Course 1:** Theories and scientific bases applied to research on competitiveness innovation and sustainability **(12 ECTS credits)**

- **Course 2:** Research methods and dissemination of results applied to academic research **(12 ECTS credits)**

The following section describes the **competences students must develop** and the learning outcomes required in each of the additional courses

### Theories and scientific bases applied to research on competitiveness, innovation and sustainability:

<b>Competences</b>	<b>Learning outcomes Students:</b>
C1 Identify and learn the basic economics and business management theories in order to understand the relationship between the two. Students are prepared to develop the state of the art on a topic related to competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability, either from the business or territorial perspective	-O11 Define the object of study or research  -O12 Identify the basic economic and business management theories and the relationship between the two.  -O13 Defend and criticise theoretical positions from an academic perspective.

<p>C2 Extend the state of the art on a topic of study in the field of competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability through critical synthesis of the existing academic findings while also defining the key questions required to progress in knowledge on these subjects.</p>	<p>. O21 Carry out critical synthesis of the existing academic findings in this field.</p> <p>-O22 Draft key questions on competitiveness, innovation and sustainability.</p> <p>-O23 Define the key questions and limits that are important to make progress in knowledge of this field.</p>
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**Research methods and dissemination of results applied to academic research :**

<u>Competences</u>	<u>Learning outcomes Students:</u>
<p>C3 Students develop the ability to communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences in clear and unambiguous terms.</p>	<p>-O31 Know how to communicate the conclusions of their scientific research and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these to specialist and non-specialist audiences in clear and unambiguous terms.</p>

<p>C4 Design a research project that addresses a relevant question in the field of competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability, based on analysis of the state of the art in this area of study.</p>	<p>-O41 Define a problem or issue, object of research in the field of competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability.</p> <p>-O42 Formulate relevant questions, objectives and working hypotheses on competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability.</p>
<p>C5 Select and use criteria to apply those research approaches, methods and techniques from the Social Sciences that best fit the object and purpose of research on competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability and in particular, those which make it possible to build, contrast and spread good management practice models.</p>	<p>-O51 Define the approach and techniques to be applied in order to address and/or contrast the questions, objectives and/or working hypotheses identified in the field of competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability</p> <p>-O52 Select the instruments to collect and process the information needed to address or contrast questions, objectives and/or working hypotheses on competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability.</p> <p>-R53 Write out reports using proper technical terminology and following the structure and styles used in economics and business management, particularly those from the fields of competitiveness, innovation and/or sustainability.</p>