



**UNIVERSITY OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
CARIBBEAN**
Fostering Leadership & Innovation



UCC DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

- The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
- The Doctor of Professional Practice (DPP)

OVERVIEW

The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) and the Doctor of Professional Practice (DPP) programmes are aimed at professionals who are keen on making substantive contributions to their professional practice. The programmes allow the participants to develop their practice through a clear and focused study. The practitioner's resulting outcomes are expected to be transformational and impactful to both society and relevant industries. The DBA qualification focuses on Business and Management and the DPP qualification is relevant for other areas of professional practice. Both qualifications are offered part-time and have been developed to include a supportive environment for participation, through frequent tutor and peer support opportunities.



WHY UCC?

The University of the Commonwealth Caribbean (UCC) offers the opportunity to be part of a vibrant community which provides support and guidance throughout this programme. The cohorts are diverse which enriches the programmes of study and provide opportunities to share learning and experience through a 360-degree reflective process. The UCC encourages research activities among its staff and values collaboration within the University, the wider Caribbean community, and throughout the world. All these activities inform the doctoral process.



APPLY NOW!



SUPPORT COURSE

Having satisfactorily completed the support components, the candidate will give an oral presentation of their research proposal to the programme team and their prospective supervisory team. If the proposal is approved, the students can commence the Data Analysis course, and once completed, can continue to their research study phase. The data analysis period is three (3) months.

RESEARCH ANALYSIS

On completion of Year 1 of the programme, and when a student's proposal has been approved, students will undertake a course on Research Analysis. They will select from a menu of courses specific to the requirements of their research study.

THE RESEARCH PHASE

Each student will have two supervisors, one will be designated as the main supervisor and the other will be appointed because of a particular expertise. The candidate is required to meet with their supervisor(s) at least once a month and a record of these meetings will be kept by the student. Annually the progress of the student is formally reviewed. The review will consist of a 5000-word summary of progress to date and a verbal presentation. Students are expected to demonstrate satisfactory progress at each annual review. If a student is found to be making unsatisfactory progress, they will be given six weeks to resubmit and if then found to be unsatisfactory will be required to discontinue.

On completion of the Research, the student will submit a 50,000 to 60,000-word thesis which will be examined by two examiners, 1 internal and 1 external (if the candidate is a member of the University staff, two externals and 1 internal examiner would be required). The examination will be an assessment of the thesis and a voce-viva.

DBA/DPP PROGRAMME SEQUENCE

Support year (Year 1)

Research Analysis Workshops

(Year 2 – 1st three months)

Research Phase (Years 2 – 4)

Defense and Corrections

(Year 5 – 1st three months)

HOW LONG IS THE DBA/DPP?

The DBA/DPP is flexible to reflect the experience and diversity of its students. The programmes are three (3) years to seven (7) years in length.

HOW ARE THE PROGRAMMES STRUCTURED?

The first year is designed as a Structured Support Programme to facilitate students in recognising and applying the level of engagement required to complete doctoral studies. This level of engagement is essential to realising the expectations of the doctoral programmes. The Support Programme is delivered over a 12-month period and consists of four (4) workshops which give students the opportunity to develop their research proposal at the doctoral level. Each unit consists of two study days followed by group (peer support) and individual tutorials(tutor support). The learning outcome of each unit is an assignment which is part of the overall development of the thesis. Please see an example of the Support Programme schedule below:

- **October to December**.....Reflective Practice
- **January to March**.....Systematic Review
- **April to June**.....Research Methods
- **July to September**.....Planning Research
- **End of September to Present**...Research Proposal

Although each support course commences with a two-day study block, followed by two group tutorials and two individual tutorials, the Programme will mostly consist of self-directed independent learning.

On completion of the support year, candidates will work with a supervisory team to carry out their research. There will be optional study days as well as group tutorials to further support learning needs.

WHEN WILL THE DBA AND DPP PROGRAMMES BEGIN?

The UCC DBA and DPP programmes are scheduled to begin in October 2025, depending on subscription.

WHAT ARE THE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DBA/DPP?

In general, the DBA and DPP programmes require the following at a minimum:

- A master's degree
- English Language competency at the post-graduate studies level
- 1 – 2 page Personal Statement addressing professional experience and standing
- 2 – 3 page Research Proposal related to specific problem(s) to be explored, research aims, review of current and relevant literature, proposed research methodology, and provisional time plan.
- Completion and submission of all required documents and supporting items, including:
 1. Official UCC DBA/DPP Application Form
 2. Two (2) References (one academic and one professional)
 3. Transcripts of all prior tertiary level programmes of study (to be sent directly from the institution(s) to UCC)
 4. Copy of Passport or Birth Certificate (and Marriage Certificate if applicable)



ARE THE DBA AND DPP PROGRAMMES ACCREDITED?

UCC is registered with and recognised by the University Council of Jamaica (UCJ), the official accreditation body for tertiary education in Jamaica, as a University, and has achieved institutional accreditation by the UCJ. UCC also holds International Accreditation from ASIC (Accreditation Service for International Schools, Colleges, and Universities) with Premier Status for its commendable Areas of Operation.



WHICH INSTITUTION WILL AWARD THE DEGREES?

The University of the Commonwealth Caribbean (UCC) will award the degree. In addition to being recognised, registered, and accredited by the UCJ and ASIC, UCC is also registered by the Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission, JTEC, the official GOJ regulatory body, as a Teaching University.

WHAT IS THE TUITION COST FOR THE PROGRAMME?

The tuition cost for the full UCC DBA/DPP programme is US\$30,000.

Payment plan is available.

ARE SUPPORT PERSONNEL AVAILABLE FOR THESE PROGRAMMES?

Certainly.

For further information or inquiries regarding the DBA and DPP programmes you may contact us at:

-  graduaterecruitment@ucc.edu.jm
-  876-906-3000
- (Extensions: 3991/4118/4003/3913/4006/4027/4049)