

Set your own pace and fit study around your life. No rigid timetables, no waiting, no compromises.

cdu.edu.au/adaptive

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

Adaptive

FLEXIBLE POSTGRADUATE STUDY



A master's degree doesn't mean pausing your career and paying a fortune

At Charles Darwin University, we dare to be different.

Our Adaptive study mode reimagines postgraduate study so you can start sooner and graduate with a qualification that's studied 100% online and built for career outcomes.

Apply anytime, learn from anywhere, study in line with your schedule and focus on a single unit at a time in 6-week intensive study periods.

Join our worldwide network of alumni who are proving that postgraduate education can take your career to the next level.

Intakes

Jan | Mar | May | Jul | Aug | Oct



Explore Adaptive courses

Master of Business Administration (Executive)

Build vital skills for executive leadership while minimising career disruption. This MBA empowers you with the acumen to lead with confidence.

Learn more

Master of Business Administration (Health Leadership)

Gain the knowledge and skills to lead change, navigate complexity and build stronger health systems.

Learn more

Master of Business Administration (Educational Leadership)

Drive real change in education with the strategic, financial and leadership skills to lead at the highest level.

Learn more

Master of Cyber Security

Gain the tools, strategies and hands-on experience to tackle real-world threats and emerging risks with in-demand cyber security credentials.

Learn more

Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Executive)

Location:	100% Online
Duration:	Flexible
Intake:	Apply anytime. Start in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Aug, Oct
Exit:	Graduate Certificate (4 units/40 credits) Full MBA (12 units/120 credits)

Lead with confidence in a changing business environment.

Our Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Executive) is perfect for professionals seeking to strengthen their leadership, strategic thinking and evidence-informed decision-making capabilities.

You will develop a contemporary understanding of strategic management, business analytics, finance and investment, economics, marketing, organisational change and research. In addition, you will learn to interpret complex information, design effective and socially responsible strategies, implement sustainability initiatives, and understand environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosure and reporting.

The Master of Business Administration (Executive) will provide you with the opportunity to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of sustainable business practice in our rapidly changing world.

Career opportunities

This course is ideal for experienced and emerging managers, business owners, project leaders, consultants, marketing specialists and professionals preparing to move into broader leadership roles.

Graduates will be equipped to pursue leadership opportunities across business, industry, government and not-for-profit organisations in Australia and internationally and to respond confidently to the demands of a changing work environment.

What will I study?

You will complete units focussing on strategic management, human resource management, accounting, economics, leadership, data analytics, marketing, entrepreneurship and business research skills. In addition to the core units, you will be able to specialise in business units such as executive leadership, global human resources, accounting for managers and entrepreneurship.

As part of the course, you will apply your learning in a capstone professional project, addressing a real-world organisational challenge while gaining valuable practical experience and building industry connections through networking and collaboration.

A candidate must successfully complete units totalling 120 credit points as detailed below. All units are valued at 10 credit points unless otherwise indicated.

Compulsory core units totalling 80 credit points.

- BUS508 Business Analytics
- BUS521 Business Research Skills
- ECO500 Contemporary Issues in Economics
- FIN504 Finance and Investment for the Executive
- HRM504 Organisational Change and Development
- MAN500 Strategic Management
- MKT504 Marketing for Managers
- BUS622 Applied Business Project (capstone)

Specialist elective units totalling 40 credit points selected from the list below:

- ACT508 Accounting for Managers
- ENT502 Entrepreneurship
- HRM506 Global Human Resources
- MAN517 Executive Leadership

Why choose CDU's MBA (Executive)?

With an adaptive Master of Business Administration (Executive) from Charles Darwin University, you'll gain the essential C-suite capabilities to navigate competitive international landscapes and complex organisational systems with confidence: strategic leadership, corporate governance, financial acumen and sustainability expertise. Flexible exit points let you earn a recognised credential even if you don't complete the full MBA.



Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Educational Leadership)

Location:	100% Online
Duration:	Flexible
Intake:	Apply anytime. Start in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Aug, Oct
Exit:	Graduate Certificate (4 units/40 credits) Full MBA (12 units/120 credits)

Lead change across education and learning environments.

Our Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Educational Leadership) combines contemporary business expertise with specialised study in educational leadership and is perfect for professionals working across education, training, government, community, and organisational learning who want to strengthen their leadership capability and create meaningful, sustainable change.

You will develop a contemporary understanding of strategic management, business analytics, finance and investment, economics, marketing, organisational change, and research. In addition, you will learn to interpret complex information, design effective and socially responsible strategies, implement sustainability initiatives, and understand environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosure and reporting.

Through the Educational Leadership focus, you will explore contemporary educational issues, leadership, quality assurance, and intercultural communication while developing the capability to lead people, manage resources and make evidence-informed decisions across diverse contexts.



Career opportunities

This course is suited to teachers, principals, assistant principals, education managers, school and curriculum coordinators, training professionals, policy officers, learning and development specialists, and professionals seeking broader leadership roles across schools, tertiary education, government, community organisations and other learning-focused settings.

What will I study?

The Master of Business Administration (Educational Leadership) comprises 120 credit points of core and specialist units. You will develop advanced knowledge in strategic management, organisational change, finance, economics, business analytics, marketing, and business research, complemented by specialist study in educational leadership, contemporary issues in education, assessment and quality assurance in learning and teaching, and intercultural communication.

As part of the course, you will apply your learning in a capstone professional project tailored to an education or learning context, addressing a real-world organisational challenge while developing practical experience, strategic insight, and stronger professional connections.

Compulsory core units totalling 80 credit points.

- BUS508 Business Analytics
- BUS521 Business Research Skills
- ECO500 Contemporary Issues in Economics
- FIN504 Finance and Investment for the Executive
- HRM504 Organisational Change and Development
- MAN500 Strategic Management
- MKT504 Marketing for Managers
- BUS622 Applied Business Project (capstone)

Specialist Elective units totalling 40 credit points selected from the list below:

- EMG501 Contemporary Issues in Education
- EMG503 Assessment and Quality Assurance in Learning and Teaching
- EMG504 Leadership in Education
- TES505 Intercultural Communication

Why choose CDU's MBA (Educational Leadership)?

As an educator, you invest so much in others. Now it's your turn. Our highly flexible Master of Business Administration (Educational Leadership) is designed to meet your busy schedule. Alongside core competencies, you'll develop effective business strategies, design and implement sustainability initiatives and master environmental, social and corporate governance disclosure and reporting.

Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Health Leadership)

Location:	100% Online
Duration:	Flexible
Intake:	Apply anytime. Start in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Aug, Oct
Exit:	Graduate Certificate (4 units/40 credits) Full MBA (12 units/120 credits)

Drive innovation and transformation in healthcare.

Our Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Health Leadership) is perfect for current and emerging health leaders seeking to lead sustainable change, foster innovation and build high-performing teams across healthcare organisations and systems.

You will develop a contemporary understanding of strategic management, business analytics, finance and investment, economics, marketing, organisational change and research. In addition, you will learn to interpret complex information, design effective and socially responsible strategies, implement sustainability initiatives, and understand environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosure and reporting.

Through the Health Leadership focus, you will explore organisational culture, team performance in safety and quality healthcare, advances in digital technologies, and management of planetary health challenges.

Career opportunities

This course is suited to current and aspiring leaders, managers and senior professionals across hospitals, health services, government, community health and related organisations. Career pathways may include hospital administration, health service management, healthcare operations, policy and planning, and digital health innovation.

What will I study?

The Master of Business Administration (Health Leadership) comprises 120 credit points, comprising core compulsory units and four specialist elective units. You will develop advanced knowledge in strategic management, organisational change, finance, economics, business analytics, marketing, and business research, complemented by specialist study in health leadership, safety and quality, digital health and health informatics, and planetary health.

You will apply your learning in a capstone professional project tailored to a healthcare setting, addressing a real-world organisational challenge and strengthening your practical leadership experience.



Compulsory core units totalling 80 credit points.

- BUS508 Business Analytics
- BUS521 Business Research Skills
- ECO500 Contemporary Issues in Economics
- FIN504 Finance and Investment for the Executive
- HRM504 Organisational Change and Development
- MAN500 Strategic Management
- MKT504 Marketing for Managers
- BUS622 Applied Business Project (capstone)

Specialist elective units totalling 40 credit points selected from the below:

- HEA508 Leading Safety and Quality Across a Diverse Workforce
- HEA535 Leadership in Health Care
- HEA536 Digital Health and Informatics
- HEA538 Planetary Health and Health Care

Why choose CDU's MBA (Health Leadership)?

As a health leader you need to turn ideas into action and make a meaningful difference to the future of healthcare. Our Adaptive Master of Business Administration (Health Leadership) gives current and emerging health leaders the business knowledge, strategic insight and leadership skills to drive innovation, lead high-performing teams and navigate complex challenges across healthcare organisations and systems.

Adaptive Master of Cyber Security

Location:	100% Online
Duration:	Flexible
Intake:	Apply anytime. Start in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Aug, Oct
Exit:	Graduate Certificate (4 units/40 credits) Full Master's (12 units/120 credits)

Stay one step ahead of the threat landscape.

Our Adaptive Master of Cyber Security is designed to equip you with specialised expertise in the dynamic field of cyber threat management. With a focus on agile operations and best-practice in the face of emerging real-world cyber-challenges, this course combines theoretical foundations with hands-on experience using the latest industry tools and technologies.

You will explore risk management, ethical hacking and secure network design, while gaining practical insights. You will also explore opportunities to collaborate with industry professionals, expand your professional network, and build valuable connections within the sector.

Upon completion, you will be fully prepared to tackle complex cyber security challenges in various professional settings, with the technical and strategic skills to protect digital systems and respond decisively to emerging threats.

Career opportunities

Graduating from this course may lead to a career as an ICT Security Specialist, Network Security Analyst, Security Engineer or IT Risk Analyst.

What will I study?

The core units of this course will enable you to engage with a broad range of cyber security concepts, while also allowing you to explore specific areas of interest through directed study and a cyber research project at your own pace.

Compulsory core units.

- PRT510 Professional Issues in Technology
- PRT532 IT Service Management
- PRT565 Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence and Algorithms
- PRT571 Asset Security and Risk Management
- PRT572 Communications and Network Security Engineering
- PRT573 Identity Access Management and Security Operations
- PRT574 Security Assessment in Software Development
- PRT581 Principles of Software Systems
- PRT671 Cyber Security Practice (20cp)

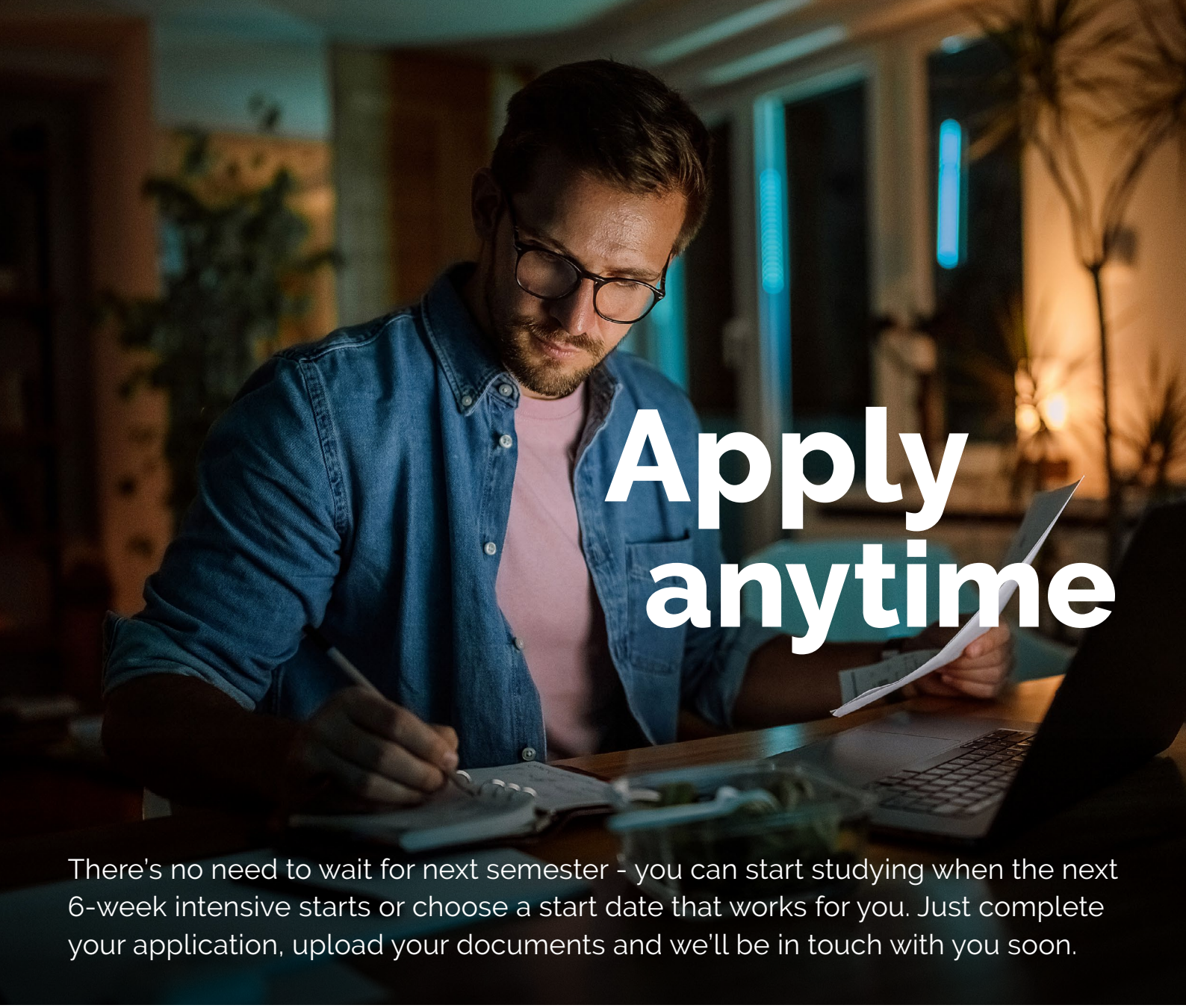
Select one of the units below:

- PRT604 Professional Experience (20cp)
- PRT840 IT Thesis (20cp)

Why choose CDU's Master of Cyber Security?

Cyber threats don't stick to office hours, and neither should your education. That's why we created the Adaptive Master of Cyber Security, built specifically for busy IT professionals. Whether you're handling incidents or pushing through project deadlines and on-call schedules, this degree moves with you. Apply anytime, study anywhere, and go beyond theory with hands-on learning in risk management, ethical hacking and network engineering.





Apply anytime

There's no need to wait for next semester - you can start studying when the next 6-week intensive starts or choose a start date that works for you. Just complete your application, upload your documents and we'll be in touch with you soon.

How to Apply

Step 1 – Apply via SATAC
Complete your application online via SATAC. With no fixed semester dates you can apply anytime and start sooner.

Step 2 – Accept your offer
Our admissions team will review your application, send you an offer via SATAC, or provide guidance on your next steps.

Step 3 – Start studying
Once you've accepted your offer you can begin in the next 6-week block or choose a start date that works for you.

Before you apply

We recognise that future leaders come from diverse academic backgrounds.

Successful completion of a recognised bachelor's degree, graduate certificate, graduate diploma, master's degree or equivalent international qualification in any field may gain you admission.

We also consider relevant equivalent capabilities. Five years of full-time, relevant work experience, including a minimum of three years in management or leadership roles typically demonstrates equivalent capabilities to a bachelor-level qualification. Applicants must provide full details of their employment experience in their application.

Start your Adaptive journey today. **Apply Now**

To study at Charles Darwin University, you will need to satisfy the University's English Language Proficiency Requirements. Visit our English Language Proficiency Policy to see accredited English courses, the minimum scores required to enrol and alternative pathways to achieve proficiency.

Call us

Freecall: 1800 061 963

E: study@cdu.edu.au

You make CDU

cdu.edu.au/adaptive

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

Adaptive

FLEXIBLE POSTGRADUATE STUDY

CRICOS Provider No: 00300K | RTO Provider No: 0373 | TEQSA Provider ID PRV12069 | ABN 54 093 513 64
Published October 2026. UniPrint 87958