

EDWARDS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
University of Saskatchewan

Master of Business Administration

MBA 850.0 Professional Development Program
Outline

Facilitator: Leslee Harden, Director, Edwards MBA
Office: 75 ESB
Telephone: 966-4798

Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the Edwards MBA.

Objectives:

This program is intended to introduce students to various aspects of business processes and professional skill areas. It will also link students with the business community through utilizing guest speakers currently practicing in the respective areas in addition to faculty members within the University of Saskatchewan. Management and organizational leadership require knowledge in the functional areas of business and how those areas integrate in order to make business decisions. However, the successful practice of management is enhanced through knowledge of and expertise in a variety of skills that are situational based.

Design:

The program will consist of an introductory orientation session, three weekend workshops, three evening workshops and a speaker series called “Executive Dialogue,” which will consist of a minimum of 4 sessions. There is the possibility of additional Executive Dialogue sessions depending upon availability of speakers. The weekend and evening workshops and speaker series will be offered over the course of the 12 month MBA schedule.

A total of 44 workshop hours will be offered; the Executive Dialogue Series will be additional.

Assessment:

The Professional Development Program is a required component of the MBA Program and students will be assessed a Pass/Fail based on participation and completion of a Learning Journal.

Attendance: Attendance at the orientation sessions is mandatory and students will be expected to attend 2 out of the 3 weekend workshops, 2 out of the 3 evening workshops, for a total of 32 workshop hours, and a minimum of 3 Executive Dialogue sessions. Students are expected to actively participate during the workshops and engage with the presenters. Student participation will be assessed each session by the presenter.

Learning Journals:

Learning Journals are a mechanism to promote reflective thought and learning; they allow you to make connections between what have experienced, reflect on those connections and create meaning from those experiences and your introspection.

To provide a reference source, students will prepare a short synopsis of each session attended, outlining the major themes discussed and record their reactions to those sessions, including “what have I learned, what is the value to me, what does this mean to my career, and how will I use this information.”

Topics:

Workshop topics will vary from year-to-year depending on emerging areas of interest, practice in the business community, content covered within other MBA courses, student feedback and the availability of experts in the area.

Potential topics covered will include but not be limited to:

- Communication Skills
- Presentation Skills
- Group Dynamics
- Team Building
- Conflict Management
- Diversity in the Workplace
- Labour Relations
- Performance Management
- Project Management
- Negotiation Skills

Speakers and topics within the Executive Dialogue Speaker Series will be chosen each year based on availability of speakers and their respective areas of interest and success. Speakers will typically be from industry and/or successful MBA alumni and will reflect on their career path to date, recommendations/strategies for business success, or topical areas of interest within their profession or business practice.

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to have read and understood the rules regarding academic dishonesty which are posted on the University of Saskatchewan website at: http://www.usask.ca/university_council/reports/09-27-99.shtml.