International Business

Responsible professor: Carl Fey

The doctoral program in International Business at Aalto BIZ focuses on content relating to the theory, research, and practice of management with a cross-border or cross-cultural dimension or developing an understanding the unique aspects of how management in different areas of the world works. Our doctoral program warmly embraces quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method research, but it requires and facilitates doctoral students developing strong methodological skills in their chosen approach as well as some diverse method skills to be able to understand published research well. While we encourage methodologic rigor, doing research which is interesting and makes an impactful contribution is of great importance to our unit. The doctoral program focuses on helping doctoral students gain the skills needed to publish articles in top academic journals, however, we also encourage doctoral students to consider how their research can influence management practice. We warmly welcome cross-disciplinary research. To help develop the above-mentioned skills and facilitate publishing in top journals, doctoral students work closely with faculty in the unit.

The International Business Unit at Aalto is one of the leading and largest international business units globally. Currently about 15 doctoral students are enrolled in the program and the program has had over 60 graduates. While the IB unit has high goals and standards, it is also a unit that values interaction, a nice atmosphere, and having fun and believes that such an environment helps to foster good research.

We welcome doctoral students interested in any topic inside of international business to apply to our doctoral program. However, we have particular competence in the following areas: language diversity in international business, international HRM in different types of organizations including firms and business schools, effective management practices in large transforming economies like China and Russia, organization design and disaggregation of management functions in MNCs, qualitative research methods in international business, firm-level drivers of innovation in different countries, new ways of working in different countries, international mergers and acquisitions, international cross-sectoral partnerships and sustainability.

Degree requirements

Common studies 12 ECTS

Please see Common core studies for course selection.

Specialization area studies 48 ECTS

Specialization area studies (48 ECTS) include Common studies in specialization area (business) (12 ECTS) and Disciplinary studies (international business) (36 ECTS).

Disciplinary studies (international business)

The objective of the disciplinary studies is to develop specific competences related to discipline and field of research. The core of the International Business PhD Program is taking part in the NORD-IB Doctoral Program which is a set of six short doctoral courses totaling 30 ECTS run collectively by leading schools in the Nordic region. For more information see: http://nord-ib.fek.uu.se/ More specifically, discipline studies in IB include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26L888</td>
<td>The Nord-IB Doctoral Program organized by the Nordic Research School of International Business*</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>I-V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Third course from Aalto BIZ common core studies (or another individually agreed equivalent course, such as 26E02900 Doing Quantitative Research)</td>
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<tr>
<td>26L200</td>
<td>Research seminar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>I-V</td>
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<tr>
<td>26L302</td>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>I-V</td>
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<td>At least one national international business research tutorial (e.g. the FIGSIB tutorial at the Vaasa Conference of International Business) or in individually agreed cases a corresponding International tutorial in International Business</td>
<td>0</td>
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*In exceptional cases, the NORD-IB Program can be substituted with an individually agreed combination of doctoral courses organized by Aalto BIZ, other universities or graduate schools/networks. In this case, 26L30111 Theories and Research in International Business (or if this is not available, an individually agreed similar IB-focused core course from Aalto or elsewhere) has to be included.

International Business courses and tutorials outside the School of Business

We encourage our students to participate actively in international courses, workshops and conferences. Furthermore, we welcome students to consider doing a part of their studies or research at a foreign business school or university. Some key sources of information are listed below.

- The Academy of International Business: http://aib.msu.edu
- Academy of Management: http://aom.org/
- The European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management: (EIASM): http://www.eiasm.be
- The European International Business Academy (EIBA): http://www.eiba-online.org
Contact

International Business programme is organized by Department of Management Studies.

Doctoral studies in International Business: Professor Carl Fey (firstname.lastname@aalto.fi)

Other contact information is listed on page Contact.