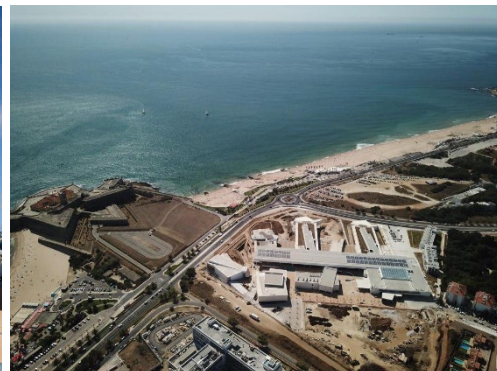


Information Sheet Dual Degree Programme UM/NOVA



Partner schools: *Maastricht University School of Business and Economics (UM) and NOVA School of Business and Economics (NOVA)*

Applicable UM study programme: *MSc International Business, various specialisations*

Programme duration: 1,5 year – *three semesters*

Programme structure: *semester 1 at NOVA, semester 2 and 3 at UM*

Application deadline: *1 February 2027*

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Dual Degree Programme UM / NOVA <i>MSc International Business MSc in Management</i>				
School	Month(s)	Course(s)	ECTS	
<u>Semester 1 in Lisbon</u>			At UM	At NOVA
NOVA	Sep – Dec	Marketing Management		7
		Human Resource Management		3,5
		OR Advanced Topics in Human Resources Management		
		Statistical Analysis		3,5

		Strategy OR Advanced Strategy		7
		Financial Management OR Advanced Financial Management		7
		Mastering your Career		2
	Jan	Skills Accelerator		2
Semester 2 and 3 in Maastricht			At UM	At NOVA
UM	Feb – Apr	Specialisation course 1	6,5	
		EBC4280 Research in International Business	6,5	
	Apr – Jun	Specialisation course 2	6,5	
		Elective	6,5	
	Feb – Jul	Writing a Master's Thesis Proposal	4	
	Jul – Jan	EMTH0001 Master's Thesis / Work Project	17	30
NOVA (online)				
Total ECTS credits per school			47	62
Overall total ECTS credits			109	

Specialisation at SBE Maastricht

Students choose one IB specialisation for their UM degree from the list below:

- Entrepreneurship and Business Development
 - Course 1: [EBC4266](#) Digital Entrepreneurship
 - Course 2: [EBC4275](#) Entrepreneurship and Sustainability
- Organisation: Management, Change and Consultancy
 - Course 1: [EBC4042](#) Leadership
 - Course 2: [EBC4045](#) Managers @ Work
- Strategic Corporate Finance
 - Course 1: [EBC4053](#) Behavioural Finance
 - Course 2: [EBC4057](#) Corporate Finance
- Strategic Marketing
 - Course 1: [EBC4076](#) Service Management
 - Course 2: [EBC4267](#) Marketing Intelligence
- Strategy and Innovation
 - Course 1: [EBC4269](#) Knowledge, Innovation and Technological Change
 - Course 2: [EBC4106](#) Business Innovation and Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Finance

- Course 1: [EBC4212](#) Impact Investment and Measurement
- Course 2: [EBC4055](#) Sustainable Real Estate Finance



Please be aware that the current course offer is subject to change without prior notice.

Participants in the Dual Degree Programme are responsible for getting acquainted with, and for abiding by, the rules and regulations of their host university in a timely manner, especially with regard to examination types, schedules and forms of resits, if any.

The Education and Examination Regulations (SBE MSc-EER) for the Master's study programmes at the School of Business and Economics of Maastricht University (UM) apply to all Dual Degree programmes. You can find the SBE MSc-EER on the Student Portal (My SBE Intranet), under "Regulations, rights and duties". For courses taken at NOVA the EER from NOVA will apply.

Fixed curriculum

Please note that all SBE Network programmes (including the Dual Degree programmes) have a fixed curriculum. It is not possible to switch/waive/cancel any of the courses offered in these fixed programmes.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Eligibility requirements

- Who can apply: Prospective students who have registered for the MSc International Business in one of the applicable specialisations (as shown in the programme outline above) for the academic year 2027-2028 with start date September.
- Eligibility criteria:
 - Students need to show proof of completion of a university-level bachelor's degree with an average grade of 7.0 or higher on the Dutch grading scale¹.
 - Students who at the time of application are in the last semester of their university-level bachelor's programme, need to show proof of an average grade of a 7.0 or higher on the Dutch grading scale in that programme at the time of application.

These students can only be conditionally accepted to the Dual Degree and be nominated to NOVA, however in case these students will not be able to finish their university-level bachelor's programme before the start of the Dual Degree, their acceptance and nomination to the Dual Degree Programme with NOVA will be cancelled.

OR

- Students need to show proof of completion of a pre-master's programme in business with an average grade of 7.0 or higher on the Dutch grading scale.

Selection procedure

¹ Inquire with the Dual Degree team on the grade conversion in case of non-Dutch degree.

Students can start their application for the Dual Degree Programme with NOVA as soon as they have a valid registration as shown in the eligibility requirements mentioned above.

- Before application: Interested students have to request an application form via e-mail to dualdegree-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl.
- Application: Applicants have to submit the filled-out and signed **application form**, together with a **motivation letter**, **CV**, **copy of passport** and **bachelor's transcript** via e-mail to dualdegree-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl. *

→ **Application deadline: 1 February 2027**

**Note that incomplete applications will not be considered!*

- Selection:
 - **Assessment**
After the application deadline, the Dual Degree team and the academic advisor will assess all submissions. This process typically takes approximately two weeks.
 - **Interviews**
Selected applicants may be invited to participate in online interviews. This process typically takes approximately one week.
 - **Results**
Applicants will be informed of the outcome via e-mail shortly after the interview.
 - **Confirmation**
Accepted students must confirm their participation via e-mail and pay the required administrative fee within a timeframe of one week.
 - **Nomination**
Once confirmation and payment are completed, students will be officially nominated to the partner institution in due time.

Available places

The number of available slots being offered for the academic year 2027-2028 is still to be confirmed.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Contact

Questions or remarks regarding the Dual Degree Programme with NOVA, can be directed to the Dual Degree Team of SBE Maastricht via e-mail to dualdegree-sbe@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

Tuition fee and additional costs

Students have to be registered at UM for the entire duration of the study programme, so even while abroad at the host university. This implies that students selected in the Dual Degree Programme pay tuition fee at UM for the entire duration of the programme. Selected students are exempted of tuition fee payment at the partner school.

Besides the tuition fees at SBE Maastricht, students selected for the Dual Degree Programme with NOVA will be charged an **administrative fee of € 1.000,00**. The Dual Degree Team will provide students with an invoice including detailed payment information and a due date for the receipt of the administrative fee.

Cancellation: The administration fee of € 1.000,00 will not be refunded if a student cancels their allocation after confirmation. Only in case of severe personal circumstances, confirmed by a study advisor of SBE Maastricht, the administration fee can be refunded.

At NOVA, students will be charged an administrative fee of € 36,50 (for school insurance, document issuance, etc.), as well as a fee of € 50,00 for issuing the Final Masters Certificate and € 120,00 for issuing the Diploma document (ref. anno 2026).

All costs that come with participation (such as health insurance and visa application, travel and accommodation, study materials and potential fees at the partner school) and other personal costs have to be covered by the students.

Please note that you are not eligible for an Erasmus grant if you participate in a programme for which you have to pay a fee beyond the regular tuition fee, which is the case for our Dual Degree Programmes as they come with an administrative fee.

It is your own responsibility to check with DUO whether you are entitled to retain your Dutch study grant, or “studiefinanciering”, while abroad for the Dual Degree programme.

Grading and results

As students in the Dual Degree Programme are pursuing two separate degrees, the grades counting towards their GPA are varying from one degree to another. The GPA for the degree from SBE Maastricht (on a 0-10 scale with a minimum passing grade of 5.5) will only be calculated based on the programme components completed at SBE. The GPA for the degree from NOVA (on a 0-20 scale with a minimum passing grade of 10) will be calculated based on all the components of the programme, including the SBE courses. NOVA will convert the SBE grading based on the Portuguese scale follows the directions of the DGES (Direção Geral do Ensino Superior) and the Portuguese Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education. At all times, it is the applicant's/student's responsibility to inform themselves about the specific grade conversion both at NOVA and SBE in order to avoid any misunderstandings.

Students in the Dual Degree Programme should be aware that any resits at SBE Maastricht will automatically disable students from obtaining a cum laude distinction for their SBE Maastricht degree.

Thesis

Students in the Dual Degree Programme with NOVA take part in the Writing a MSc Thesis Proposal skills training at SBE Maastricht during the second semester of the programme. After approval of their topic and assignment of a thesis supervisor, students complete the thesis writing during the final semester at SBE Maastricht. Students will also be assigned to a reader from NOVA who will take part in the defense and will be responsible for the Work Project evaluation on the NOVA side. The deadline for the thesis submission at SBE Maastricht is the start of period 3 of academic year 2028-2029 followed by a defense deadline at the end of period 3 of academic year 2028-2029.

Students should be aware that conducting a Thesis Internship Project (TIP) is not allowed within the Dual Degree with NOVA.

In case students fail to adhere to the thesis deadlines at SBE Maastricht, they have a final resit opportunity scheduled within three months after the first sit deadline. When students fail the resit opportunity, students have to find a (possible new) supervisor and depending on the supervisor and

the quality of the thesis, might have to start a new thesis, implying a study delay for which the student has to stay enrolled at SBE.

Differences in thesis grades between SBE and NOVA may arise due to variations in evaluation criteria, academic standards, and assessment procedures. Each institution applies its own independent grading system, which can lead to discrepancies even when the same work is assessed. It is important to note that both institutions operate entirely separately in this regard and have no influence or authority over each other's grading decisions. Consequently, neither institution has any say whatsoever in how the thesis is evaluated or graded by the other. If a student has any concerns regarding the thesis grade, he/she is advised to submit the complaint to the institution that awarded the grade in question.

Diploma and graduation

After successful completion of all the requirements of both the Dual Degree Programme, students will be awarded the degree of Master of Science in International Business – specialization Strategy and Innovation OR Organisation: Management, Change and Consultancy (60 ECTS credits) from SBE Maastricht and the Master's degree in Management (90 ECTS credits) from NOVA.

Students are eligible for graduation at both schools after completion of all the programme components at both schools. The schools will exchange the needed documents with regards to the graduation process.

In case of no study delay, the actual graduation ceremonies at both schools take place as follows:

- At SBE Maastricht: Spring Graduation Ceremony in April 2029
- At NOVA: June 2029

In case of a study delay, students should be aware that an extension of their enrolment at both schools is required and tuition fees will be due at both schools for the extended period.

Additional internships/MSc exchange

Please note that SBE Maastricht does not approve students enrolled in a Dual Degree Programme to apply for or participate in a Master's exchange or an extracurricular internship. Since the Dual Degree Programme already takes 1,5 years, another extension of the programme is not allowed.

Disclaimer

Should Dutch government deem a country unsafe for travel (because of sanitary crises, riots or other reasons), UM students will not be allowed to physically go to their exchange destination in that country. This also applies to students in the Dual Degree Programmes of SBE Maastricht. If that would happen, SBE Maastricht reserves the right to cancel the Dual Degree programme for its students and will enable them to continue and graduate in the regular master programme.