





# About

## DAVINCI BUSINESS SCHOOL

The DaVinci Institute for Technology Management (PTY) Ltd (DaVinci Business School) offers online distance education with a unique focus on the Management of Technology, Management of Innovation, Management of People, and Systems Thinking in all its offerings. At DaVinci Business School you will have a bespoke learning experience and can study anywhere and at any time.

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*DaVinci graduates are agile, aligned and engaged managerial leaders equipped to co-create sustainable societies.*

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DaVinci Business School prepares managerial leaders for the 5th Industrial Revolution and ensures a business enhancement in any work context, by probing real business-based problems through business-driven action learning. DaVinci Business School uses TIPS® in all its qualifications. This is a trade marked business enhancement framework for managerial leadership, focused on a systemic approach to the Management of Technology, Innovation, and People. The TIPS Managerial Leadership Framework has been applied by hundreds of successful emerging, small, medium, and large enterprises, through their participation in the tt100 business innovation awards, which DaVinci has been involved with for many years.

## IMAGINE WHAT IT CAN DO FOR YOUR BUSINESS AND YOUR CAREER

DaVinci Business School was founded on the principles of Mode 2 knowledge production. While this approach has evolved beyond its original conception, DaVinci Business School continues to embrace the spirit of Mode 2, which ushered in the 4th industrial revolution, and by establishing an innovation value chain with an ever-growing number of stakeholders. This ensures a focus on the creation of knowledge that is transdisciplinary in nature, socially relevant, and actively promotes diversity and heterogeneity. The intention of Mode 2 is to apply situated learning, problem-probing, and decision-making to solve work-based challenges and contribute to the professional development of students and the teams that they lead.

# The DaVinci

## BRAND PROMISE

### Dream

We dream of influencing the co-creation of humane sustainable societies.



### Purpose

Strengthening the growth of agile, aligned, and engaged managerial leaders, who co-create innovative eco-systems

### Brand Promise

Co-creating realities



# Overview of

## THE DOCTOR OF BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

The qualification is aimed at business leaders, and or senior managers in private and public organisations who have the desire to contribute to advanced scholarship and knowledge production in the field of business leadership. Students participating in this programme must demonstrate advanced levels of scholarly engagement with the subject matter and make a significant and original contribution to the knowledge and understanding of the business management and leadership fields. Students must be able to develop perspectives that will change the way in which people view and respond to challenging situations in order to solve highly complex problems and to advance knowledge and practices in the field. Students who attain this qualification should generate knowledge in respect of highly complex social and economic issues in South Africa and other countries.

These Doctoral students should seek to advance the sustainability of societies. This qualification is thus directed at business leaders and/or senior managers in private and public organisations who seek to develop ideas that could alter the world by creating contextually relevant solutions.

### FURTHERMORE, THE PROGRAMME AIMS TO:

- Transform individuals, organisations, and communities through the application of management and leadership strategies built on the effective utilisation of technology, innovation, people and systems;
- Enable graduates to function optimally in complex local and global economic contexts;
- Produce graduates who are equipped to debate and address socio-economic transformation challenges in South Africa.

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*"I am a member of a remarkable community (The DaVinci Business School) that is committed to achieving the highest possible academic standards and has the ability to resolve current and pressing challenges ... As such, this (affiliation) has made it possible for me to positively impact people in different spheres of life thereby helping them to enjoy the fullness of life.."*

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**Dr Daud Taranike**  
Doctoral alumnus



# Delivery of the Programme

The mode of delivery is distance learning, which utilises a wide range of research methodologies, supervision support and digital support.

## WHY REGISTER FOR THIS PROGRAMME?

The DaVinci Institute provides a dynamic research environment within which Doctoral students can identify and solve meaningful business problems of relevance to their organisations, their own businesses, communities, and society at large. Students will be guided, supported and supervised in a personalised manner.

**01**

Supervision by academic and industry experts.

**02**

TIPS is a unique business enhancement framework for managerial leaders incorporated into this programme.

**03**

Operate in complex, unfamiliar contexts, requiring personal responsibility and initiative.

**04**

Take full responsibility for learning and research outputs.

**05**

Manage research tasks independently, professionally, and ethically.

**06**

Apply research processes that integrate with business contexts.

**07**

Analyse research problems seek to address issues that are socially relevant.

# Programme Structure

Min: 3 years  
Max: 6 years

## RESEARCH PROPOSAL

- Successful completion of a research proposal will result in admission to the thesis writing phase.
- Research proposal development is facilitated by a series of Research Support Workshops.

## THESIS: 360 CREDITS

- Successful completion of the programme requires submission of the final thesis and a publishable article.

## RESEARCH SUPPORT WORKSHOPS

All doctorate students are supported in their research journey with 6 research support workshops.

- Philosophical Frameworks.
- Research Philosophy and Paradigms – from Conceptualisation to Method.
- Research Topic, Aims and Objectives.
- Research Design and Methodology and Specific Underpinning Methods.
- TIPS Managerial Leadership Framework.
- Proposal Integration.

## MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A relevant NQF level 9 qualification in Economic and Management Sciences.  
**or**
- An MBA/MBL or a cognate Master's Degree.



## ADDITIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to this qualification must comply with the following additional requirements:

- Candidates registered into the degree programme are required to achieve a minimum mark of 60% for the research proposal module. This must be completed within 12 months of the registration date, and is included in the maximum completion period of 6-years for the programme.
- Candidates are encouraged to attend The Institute's Research Workshop series during the admission stage when preparing their draft research proposal.

## RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

Candidates who do not meet the minimum entry requirements for the programme, could potentially enter the programme via the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route.

The candidate must demonstrate suitability for admission as per The Institutional RPL policy and is at the Senate's discretion on a case-by-case basis. For more details contact the Registrar on (+27) 11 608 1331 or [admissions@davinci.ac.za](mailto:admissions@davinci.ac.za). Candidates requesting RPL for access must do so before commencement of the programme. Not more than 10% of a cohort in an academic year may be admitted via RPL.

# Application Process

The application fee for the Doctorate programme is R350 (non-refundable). Kindly ensure that you have the following documents ready before starting your application:

- A clear copy of your ID or Passport.
- Clear copies of your postgraduate qualifications - certificate and transcripts.
- If your highest achieved qualification is from a foreign institution, an official letter from the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).
- Should your Graduation Certificate be in a foreign language, a translation in English is required from a registered Translator.
- Your current CV.
- Letter of Application: How will this Doctorate degree align with your professional career goals (Min 600 words).



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