

NELSON MANDELA
UNIVERSITY

MASTERS OF COMMERCE
STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE



PROGRAMME

Applications are invited for admission to the Master of Commerce degree in Strategic Management Accounting and Finance conducted through coursework and research, starting in February 2025. The qualification, which is offered by the School of Accounting, is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). Students who successfully complete the MCom degree will be eligible to write the CIMA Strategic Case Study exam, subject to enrolling for the CIMA Finance Leadership Program.

The two-year part-time program is offered on a block release basis. This facilitates participation by candidates who do not reside in Gqeberha.

The aim of this Masters degree is to develop in candidates the skills necessary to provide organizational leadership and direction in the fields of strategy, strategic finance and risk, and to fast track their progress towards obtaining a globally recognized professional qualification. The MCom in Strategic Management Accounting and Finance qualification (MCom) offers a unique way to aspirant Chartered Global Management Accountants to a full CIMA membership.

Successful MCom graduates who intend to write the CIMA Strategic Case Study exam will be required to complete the CIMA Finance Leadership Program (FLP) in preparation for the CIMA Strategic Case study exam. The FLP integrates the MCom course work and prepares students for the CIMA Strategic Case Study exam. Upon successfully completing the CIMA Strategic Case Study exam, students will be awarded the Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) designation and membership of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

PROGRAMME LEADER

Lesibana Ledwaba

BCOM (VISTA) MBA (WITS) EDP (GIBS) CGMA (CIMA) FCMA (CIMA)

Lesibana has over 25 years corporate experience in the fields of leadership, finance, risk, strategy development and implementation, operational transformation, governance, and organizational leadership. He also has experience in academia, having lectured post graduate students at University of Johannesburg Business in the field of Competitive Strategy.

Lesibana joined Nelson Mandela University in the Department of Accounting Sciences where he currently lectures post graduate students in Strategic Management Accounting & Finance.

Guest Lecturers

While most of the meetings will be chaired by the programme leader, there may be contributions by other academics from the School of Accounting and experts in various fields who may be invited from time to time.

CURRICULUM

The MCom comprises course work (three modules) and a research report as per below:

- Strategic Enterprise Management
- Strategic Risk Management
- Strategic Financial Management
- Technical Research Report

STRATEGIC ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT (RKSV501)

- Interacting with the organisation's environment
- Fundamentals of strategic management
- Corporate objectives and stakeholders
- The environment and uncertainty

Strategic position and strategic options

- Resources and capabilities
- Identifying and evaluating strategic options
- Information systems and strategy

Leading change

- Understanding organisational change
- Leading and managing change

Implementing strategy

- Strategic performance management
- Performance measurement

STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT (RKOVS02)

Part A risks

- Introduction to risk
- Governance

Part B Strategic risks

- Ethics and reputation
- IS risks
- Financial risk
- Interest rate risk
- Exchange rate risks
- Financial instruments
- Investment risk

Part C Management risks

- Internal controls
- Control failures
- Internal audit

Part D Management risks

- Internal controls
- Control failures
- Internal audit
- Monitoring
- Evaluation

STRATEGIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (RKVF501)

Formulation of financial strategy

- Strategic financial objectives
- Strategic financial management
- Reporting issues

Financing & Dividend Decisions

- Dividend policy
- Long-term debt finance
- Managing the debt profile
- Leasing
- Equity finance

Capital Structure

Corporate Finance

- Strategic implications of acquisitions
- Introduction to valuation techniques
- Advanced valuation techniques
- Post acquisition issues

TECHNICAL RESEARCH REPORT

Research methodology with specific reference to compiling a technical research report. A technical research report relating to a specific organisation or corporate finance transaction, comprising:

- An introductory chapter;
- Chapters analysing strategic enterprise management, strategic financial management and strategic risk management issues relating to the organisation or transaction;
- A concluding chapter; and
- A reference list

CONTACT MEETINGS

Meetings for the first year are as follows:
An introductory meeting and registration at designated centres. These centres will be determined based on the applications received.

One compulsory block session each semester at the Nelson Mandela University (2nd Avenue Campus) in Gqeberha covering a Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

One other compulsory meeting each semester at each of the designated centres above. Dates for the contact meetings will be advised.

SELF STUDY

In preparation for the contact sessions candidates will be provided with a detailed study program. It is estimated that students would need to devote approximately 20 hours each week to this preparation.

Contact with the program leader will be available by means of e-mail or through scheduled Microsoft Teams meetings in between face to face class interactions.

ASSESSMENT

Examinations will be held at the end of each module. In addition, candidates must prepare a research report during their second year of study.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Unless the Senate decides otherwise, applicants shall be considered for admission to the programme if they have obtained a BCom (Hons) degree or equivalent thereof, or
- have, in the opinion of the Senate, attained through practical experience or otherwise, a level of competence which is adequate for the purpose of postgraduate studies in the relevant field.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Prospective students can apply online by following the link: <https://www.mandela.ac.za/Apply>

Closing date for applications: 30 November 2024

Please ensure when submitting your online application that the following are included:

Your application form must be accompanied by:

- a certified copy of your matriculation/school leaving certificate,
- certified copies of your diploma/degree certificates plus academic record(s) and certificate(s) of conduct,
- a certified copy of your ID,
- postgraduate (U24) application form.

Successful applicants will be notified via email and advised of registration details. The offering of the program is dependent upon sufficient successful applications.

If you have any queries regarding admission, please contact

POSTGRADUATE FACULTY ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION CONSULTANT:

Natasha September

Email: Natasha.September@mandela.ac.za

SECRETARY:

Ms Bashlique Hayes

e-mail: Bashlique.Hayes@mandela.ac.za | Telephone Number: (041) 504 2904

Students who after completing the MCom degree and intend to write the CIMA Strategic Case Study exam and gain the CIMA accreditation will be required to also register for the CIMA Financial Leadership Program (FLP). The FLP prepares students for the CIMA Strategic Case Study exam. This route is highly encouraged.

ABOUT THE FINANCE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

While you enrol in the CGMA FLP through your university, the guided, digital-first platform is independent of your other studies. Online courses use real-world case simulations to help you develop the entrepreneurial skill set, mindset and experience you need to become a trusted adviser, partner and leader in the business world of tomorrow.

The CGMA FLP is designed to assess your progress and performance as you learn each topic instead of quizzing you after the fact. The only exam you will take is the strategic case study exam to complete the strategic level.

Upon finishing the CGMA FLP, you'll become a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants® (CIMA®) and a CGMA designation holder.

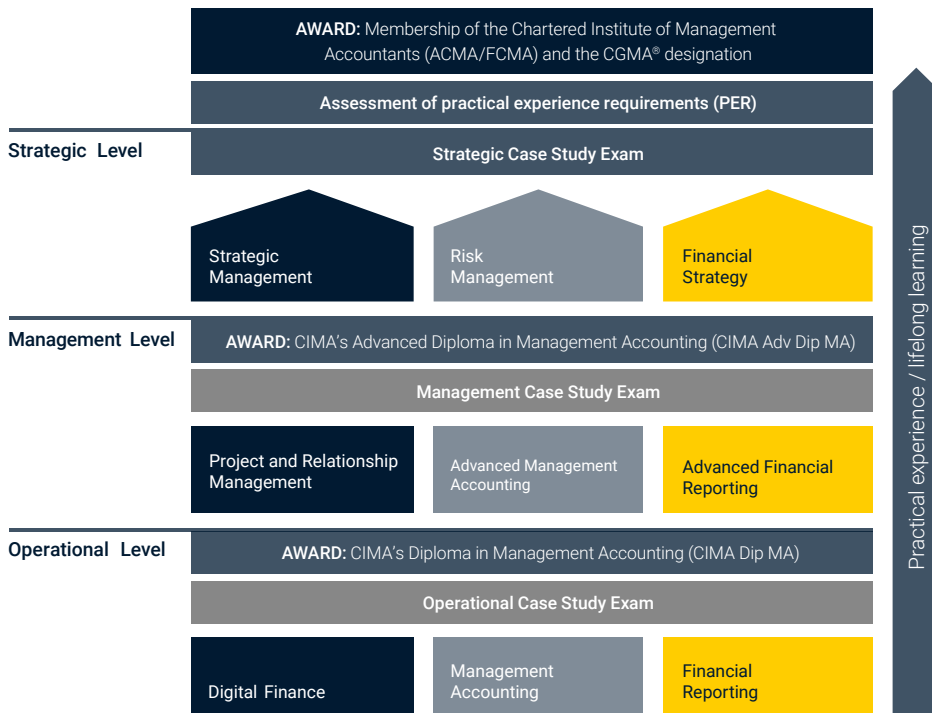
WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT CIMA?

CIMA is the world's leading body of management accountants. They've shaped the profession for over a century, and now they've partnered with universities around the world to show students the best way forward. When you join the CGMA FLP, you invest in your education and career development — and CIMA invests in you, becoming your powerful, lifelong partner.

Upon completing your studies with CIMA, you also become a part of an international family through the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants®. CIMA and its partner, the American Institute of CPAs® (AICPA®), power the Association around the globe and constantly develop new resources to help members excel.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM STRUCTURED?

The CGMA FLP is immersive, personalised and highly practical. You don't just study scenarios, you build the real-world experience you need to stand out as a new class of finance professionals. The curriculum is based on input from over 2,000 finance teams to make sure you focus on the latest, most in-demand skills and competencies. Here's how it breaks down:



Holders of the MCom in Strategic Management Accounting and Finance go through to the strategic level

WHAT ARE SOME KEY FEATURES?

- All learning and assessment materials you need to complete the programme in one place, including competency building and exam preparation
- Interactive exercises
- Business simulation assignments
- Access to tutor videos showing you how to approach case study exams
- Video analysis of pre-seen materials for your case study window
- Two graded mock exams with personalised feedback
- One ungraded mock exam
- Ability to skip topics you already know with pre-assessments

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Thanks to CIMA's special arrangement with your university, your cost may be far lower than you expect. Discounts and waivers may also be available — talk to your school administrator for more details. Depending on your university, the CGMA FLP may be offered in one-, two- or three-year subscriptions. The cost of each subscription includes all learning, assessments, study materials, CIMA fees and exam fees.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE?

How long you need to enrol for will depend on what level you enter the programme and how much time you're able to dedicate to studying. In certain situations, such as being enrolled in a graduate program, you may be able to start the CGMA FLP at an advanced level and earn the CGMA designation even faster.

Once you've completed the CGMA FLP, you'll need to log three years of practical work experience before applying for your CGMA designation. CIMA will continue to offer resources and support you every step of the way.

Skills Plus Is A Subscription Model Of The Cgma Finance Leadership Program

This program gives you everything needed to complete your learning and prepare for each respective Case Study exam to gain your CGMA designation.

Develop career critical competencies, plus advance your journey toward CGMA Designation by taking case study exams.	SKILLS PLUS
Competencies: Access to all competency areas across all levels to develop in-demand skills.	✓
Business Simulations: Test your practical application of learning using scenarios and solve real business problems.	✓
Skills Certificates: Earn digital certificates by completing competencies across each level.	✓
Registration and Student Fees: Get all registration and annual student subscription fees included in price.	✓
Case Study Exam Review Course: Prepare for exam with a full course concentrating on case analysis, exam techniques and with graded mock exams.	✓
Case Study Exam Fees: Use credits included in package to cover exam fees during your subscription for exams on all levels.	✓
Diplomas and Designation: Receive Diplomas or CGMA Designation on completion of each level.	✓
Expert Tutor Support: Contact a tutor for further help and support if you get stuck.	✓

WHAT WILL CANDIDATES LEARN?

The programme is structured into four learning areas. Each builds upon the previous level and candidates can start at the level that suits them, based on their knowledge and experience.

THE FOUNDATIONAL LEVEL

Key study areas:

- Introduction to Business and Finance
- Introduction to Financial Accounting
- Introduction to Management Accounting

THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL

Key study areas:

- Data Analytics
- Finance Function Transformation
- Regulatory Framework
- Cost Accounting
- Finance Technologies

MANAGEMENT LEVEL

Key study areas:

- Cost & Project Management
- Complex Group Reporting
- Leadership & Management
- Business Models
- Organisational Performance

STRATEGIC LEVEL

Key study areas:

- Digital Strategy
- Risk Oversight
- Internal Controls
- Strategy Formulation and Execution
- Regulatory Compliance

HOW WILL THEY PROVE THEIR KNOWLEDGE?

Candidates pass assessment questions after each topic, complete business simulations and must pass one case study examination per level to complete the programme.

BENEFITS OF CGMA FLP

- First-class learning built by finance professionals for finance professionals.
- Real-world examples and unique case-study-based exams place learning in the context of business situations
- Convenient scheduling where you can digest content in small, manageable chunks to complete training around your time.
- A scenario-based programme to quickly apply real-world competencies to business challenges.
- A completely digital, flexible, and self-paced online learning experience
- An alternative learning and assessment model where you don't have to pass Objective Test exams.
- Assessment built into the platform, leaving only the three Case Study exams to pass (dependent on your starting point)
- A comprehensive online CGMA FLP platform that provides all learning, assessments, and Case Study exam preparation.
- That same syllabus as the CGMA Professional Qualification
- An all-inclusive subscription model on a learning areas option that includes all registration, subscription, tuition and exam fees.
- The ability of any current or past student of CIMA at the Professional level to transfer to this route of study.

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