



Durham  
University  
Business School

Durham  
**EDGE**

# Executive short courses for career growth

Accelerate your professional development with focused, expert-led courses designed for today's business leaders.



[durham.ac.uk/business/for-business/executive-education](https://durham.ac.uk/business/for-business/executive-education)



# Durham EDGE

Durham EDGE is Durham University Business School's platform for business engagement, connecting world-leading academic expertise with real-world practice.

Through our executive short courses, we provide professionals and organisations with the knowledge, skills, and insights needed to navigate today's evolving business landscape. Designed and delivered by expert faculty and industry practitioners, our courses offer practical, impactful learning that supports professional growth, organisational success, and lifelong development.



"I thoroughly enjoyed the Leading People-centric Change course, led by Professor Julie Hodges. I particularly appreciated how the course integrated the latest theory with practical strategies, which I can directly apply in my role within the automotive industry."

**Chris Fitzpatrick, Plant Manager,  
Faltec**

# Why choose our executive short courses?

## Address critical skills gaps

Develop the capabilities and expertise needed to meet today's evolving business challenges and stay ahead in a rapidly changing workplace.

## Apply learning with confidence

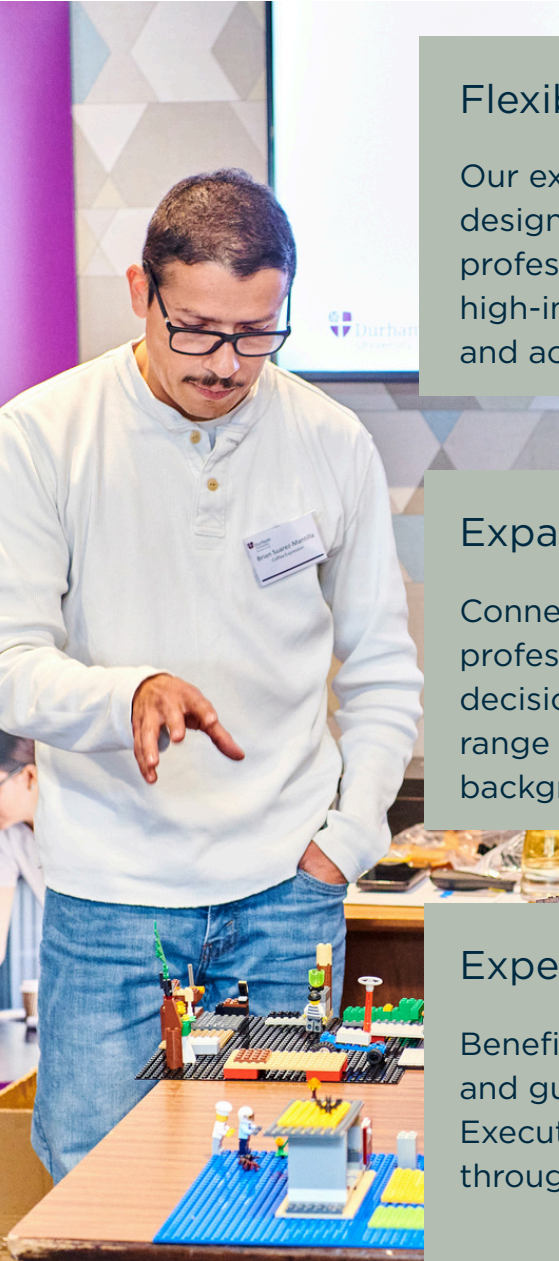
Benefit from practical, relevant content that can be immediately applied to real-world challenges, driving impact from day one.

## Boost your impact

Build the knowledge and confidence to strengthen your effectiveness and accelerate your career development.



# Designed for busy professionals



## Flexible and focused

Our executive short courses are designed to fit around demanding professional schedules, delivering high-impact learning in a concise and accessible format.

## Expand your network

Connect and collaborate with professionals, leaders, and decision-makers from a diverse range of sectors, industries, and backgrounds.

## Expert support

Benefit from dedicated support and guidance from Durham's Executive Education Team throughout your learning journey.

# Our executive short courses

Designed to be engaging, practical and accessible, helping you build skills, explore new interests, and grow in confidence.

Our executive short courses include:

Applied AI

Finance for Non-financial Managers

Strategic Management

Technology in Business

Leading and Managing People

Financial Analysis and Reporting

Leading People-centric Change

Strategic Innovation



"A very full and informative two days with great opportunities to share learning from other leaders across a range of diverse businesses. We were also very well looked after by the team at the Business School."

**Anna Disley,**  
**Executive Director,**  
**New Writing North**

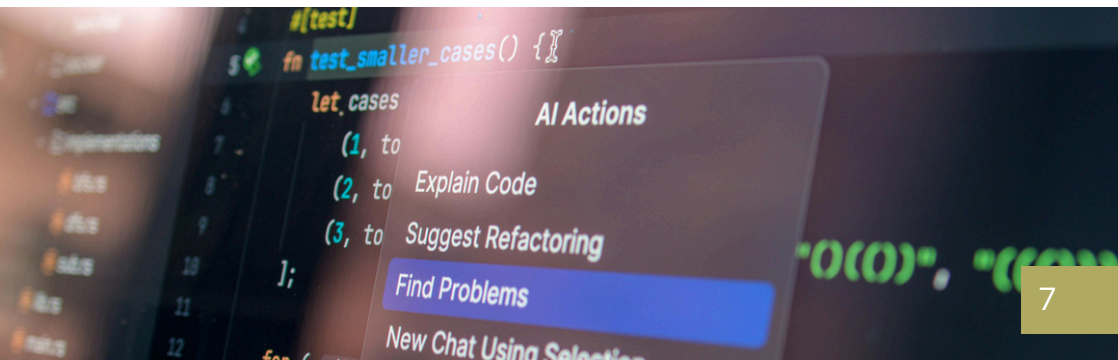
# Applied AI

Designed for professionals who want practical AI skills they can apply immediately, this programme focuses on real-world implementation rather than theory.

Ideal for individuals looking to build confidence, capability and practical experience in applied AI.

## On this course you will learn how to:

- Use AI tools to improve productivity and decision making.
- Create custom AI assistants and workflows.
- Understand AI governance and responsible use.
- Lead AI adoption and organisational change.
- Apply AI confidently without technical expertise.



# Finance for Non-financial Managers

Designed to build financial confidence and capability in managers who do not have a formal background in finance or accounting.

## **On this course you will learn how to:**

- Engage more confidently in financial discussions.
- Analyse business performance using core financial records.
- Support budgeting, forecasting and planning activities.
- Evaluate investment decisions using appropriate techniques.



# Strategic Management

Developing participants' capacity for strategic thinking and decision-making. This short course explores strategic analysis, competitive dynamics, organisational strategy formulation and implementation, and how to navigate uncertainty in complex environments. Participants will apply strategic frameworks to real challenges from their own organisations.

## **On this course you will learn how to:**

- Understand the process of developing strategy.
- Implement strategy, developing business models, cases and plans.
- Analyse competitive and contextual environments.
- Enhance ability to formulate strategic choices.



# Technology in Business

This course explores leveraging AI, digital transformation and data analytics for sustainable business growth. Exploring how technology is reshaping business and the manager's role.

## **On this course you will learn how to:**

- Understand key digital transformation frameworks and their application.
- Develop strategies for integrating emerging technologies like AI and blockchain.
- Lead organisational change to embrace digital capabilities.
- Measure the impact and ROI of digital initiatives.



# Leading and Managing People

Participants will develop knowledge and understanding of the nature of leadership and management in organisations. This intensive course critically evaluates leadership and management theories and how they apply in practice.

## **On this course you will learn how to:**

- Advance skills and critical understanding of the process of leadership and management.
- Understand the concepts of leadership as they relate to organisations.
- Enhance leadership skills to review and lead change in organisations.



# Financial Analysis and Reporting

Providing a practical foundation in financial reporting and analysis, participants will be guided through bookkeeping principles, interpreting financial statements and managing accounts.

## On this course you will learn how to:

- Understand key financial statements and their interrelationships.
- Apply financial ratios and metrics to assess business performance.
- Utilise financial data for informed strategic and investment decisions.
- Develop skills in forecasting, budgeting, and variance analysis.



# Leading People-centric Change

Equipping leaders with a people-first approach to transformation by drawing on relevant models, diagnostic tools and techniques.

## **On this course you will learn how to:**

- Engage stakeholders and lead inclusive change initiatives.
- Address wellbeing and navigate resistance during transitions.
- Develop practical tools for managing complex organisational shifts.
- Focus on the importance of the effects of change on individuals and teams.



# Strategic Innovation

Designed to equip participants with the knowledge to unlock the full potential of innovation within their organisation. This course centres on creating and capturing value through innovation, integrating proven models, cutting-edge research and effective management techniques.

## **On this course you will learn how to:**

- Overcome barriers to innovation within organisations.
- Develop skills to build and sustain a culture of continuous improvement.
- Gain practical tools to turn ideas into measurable business value.



# Expert faculty driving excellence

All our courses are delivered by experienced executive education facilitators combining rigorous research with practical industry experience to deliver immediate and applicable value.



**Professor  
Julie Hodges**

Over 20 years of consulting experience with PwC, Barclays, Shell, Nissan, and more. Julie brings world-class organisational expertise to every session.



**Professor  
Olga Epitropaki**

Deputy Executive Dean of Research, Olga has worked as a consultant and executive trainer with AstraZeneca, GSK, Nissan, PepsiCo and more.



**Professor  
Spyros Angelopoulos**

Co-Director of the Centre for Strategy, Technical Innovation and Operations. Spyros has been recognised by Google for his commitment to leading transformation in cloud computing research and education.



**Dr  
Stephanie Scott**

Focusing on Innovation networks, behaviours, process and business model designs, Stephanie works closely with multinational organisations, SMEs and policy makers.



**Professor  
Kostas Nikolopoulos**

Expert in Business Systems and Analytics and co-director in the Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience. Kostas has delivered executive training to many organisations including Siemens Energy.



**Gary Dewey**

Associate Professor of Accounting, Gary has over 20 years of experience working with industry for UK and global organisations.

# How to get started

1

## Choose your course

Browse our range of short courses to discover the one that matches your goals, interests, and schedule.

2

## Book your place online

Once you've chosen your course, secure your place quickly and easily through our online booking system [durham.ac.uk/business/for-business/short-courses](https://durham.ac.uk/business/for-business/short-courses)

3

## Join our community

Start your learning journey and connect with a supportive community of like-minded individuals committed to professional growth.

If you're not quite ready to decide, you can register your interest to stay updated at [exec.ed@durham.ac.uk](mailto:exec.ed@durham.ac.uk)

# Meet the team

Our dedicated team are passionate about delivering high-quality learning experiences and are committed to helping individuals and organisations reach their potential.



**Professor Amir Michael**  
Deputy Executive Dean  
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**Sue Boyd**  
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**Katherine Kirby**  
Senior Business Development  
Manager  
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# Beyond executive short courses

Built on over 50 years of experience with regional, national, and international clients across the public and private sectors, our executive education delivers practical learning with immediate impact for individuals and organisations.

Explore our full range of programmes at [durham.ac.uk/business/for-business](https://durham.ac.uk/business/for-business)

## Tailored programmes

Co-created with global companies for bespoke organisational needs.

## Build a programme

Choose from our selection of short courses to build a programme for your business requirements.





# Unlock your potential with Durham University Business School

 Durham University Business School

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