



Isle of Man

International Business School

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Thinking of returning to study?

The benefits of Higher Education are well documented – A study commissioned by the Higher Education Funding Council for England found that graduates are more likely to experience better jobs, higher pay, better health, higher sense of well being and are even ‘more likely to help with their children’s education’!

Despite these obvious advantages, the idea of returning to study years after last picking up a book would be a daunting prospect for anybody, though for a growing number of Manx ‘Mature Students’ it has been well and truly worth the challenge as the finishing posts of graduation creep ever closer.

The term ‘mature student’ applies to any student over the age of 21. Mature students have different needs to the students that embark on a university course immediately after secondary school. Mature students have often been out of ‘academia’ for a number of years, they may have family commitments and many have to juggle a university course around demanding careers.

The IBS is attracting a growing number of mature students on all three of its academic programmes which are validated by Liverpool John Moores University: BA (Hons) Business Studies/Business Management, MSc in International Banking and Finance and the Masters of Business Administration (MBA) programme. (Note you must be over 25 to apply for the MBA) The IBS became part of the Isle of Man Department of Education during 2005 and in future aims to broaden its course portfolio by adding Law (LLB) and E-Business to its undergraduate degree portfolio

Head of Sales and Marketing Tiffany Jacobsen said:

“We have students from the age of eighteen up to their late forties. The IBS is ideally suited to mature students as it offers both convenience and a high level of student support. Without The IBS, many ‘would be’ mature students on the Island would find it impossible to start a degree programme at a UK university due to the logistics of getting ‘off Island’ and whilst distance learning offers some benefits, nothing compares to the interaction of attending face to face teaching, seminars and discussions and sharing the experience of studying with other like minded students.”

Studying at The IBS means that students don’t have to give up their day jobs as all programmes are delivered on both a part time and full time basis. Due to the modular structure of the Liverpool John Moores programmes, students can take a break during their studies if they need to as well as take extra modules to finish quicker.

Another reason why The IBS is so well suited to the needs of mature students is the level of support given by the academic staff. Students receive high levels of personal attention and the staff often go the ‘extra mile’ to aid students in achieving their academic goals. The IBS recognises that mature students may sometimes have not received the IT training that their younger counterparts will have experienced through the school system. A Learning Resources Manager gives basic training to all new students as part of their induction programme and gives on-going support to those who need it throughout their course.

Mature students may be eligible for government funding towards tuition fees. Full information regarding student grants and support can be obtained from the Department of Education, Student Awards Section Tel: 01624 685790

For a copy of The IBS Prospectus or to arrange a visit, please contact Lacey Cullen (Marketing Assistant) on 693709 or email l.cullen@ibs.ac.im

For further information, please contact:

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