

Advance Your Career with the

Advanced Diploma in Business Analysis (NQF 7)

iIBA® Endorsed
Course



Rhodes Business School
Leadership for Sustainability



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



Rhodes Business School is dedicated to fostering sustainable business practices. The Advanced Diploma in Business Analysis offers a crucial skill set designed to help organisations achieve sustainable business performance.

This International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA) endorsed course is registered as an NQF 7 level qualification (120 Credits) on the South African National Qualification Framework. It also serves as a direct pathway to NQF 8 programmes, such as the Rhodes Business School Post Graduate Diploma in Business Analysis.

Why Choose This Diploma?

The Advanced Diploma is specifically designed for

Business Analysis professionals. It equips you to strategically, operationally, and critically address relevant methods, processes, systems, and techniques essential for achieving sustainable business performance. The knowledge and skills gained are vital for:

- Developing effective business processes
- Management consulting
- Project management
- Software testing

Ultimately, this qualification enhances the competitiveness and organisational effectiveness, efficiency, and economy of organisations across South Africa and the wider continent.

Programme Structure and Delivery:

This is a one-year distance learning programme. Teaching is conducted synchronously via virtual meetings, complemented by Rhodes University's online Learning Management System, RU Connected. Synchronous virtual online sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 pm to 8 pm South African Standard Time.

The programme comprises:

- Two core modules
- One of two elective modules
- A Work Integrated Learning (WIL) capstone project

Core Modules:

Module 1: Sustainable Business Analysis

Focuses on providing a strategic context for Business Analysis and developing the capability to engage effectively with stakeholders to design and implement sustainable business models, processes, and systems.

Module 2: Management Consulting

Explores the role of both internal and external consultants, the value they bring, how knowledge is sourced, captured, stored, and used, the role of business analysis in consulting, and the importance of communication intelligence for management consultants.

Elective Modules (Choose One):

Module 3: Software Testing

Aims to better equip business and system analysts for producing higher quality software in the future.

Module 4: Project Management

Explores how project management influences the successful outcome of business transformation/improvement initiatives and compares the roles of the Project Manager and Business Analyst.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Capstone Project

Students undertake a problem-solving/project engagement where they apply learned theories

and practices to design and implement an intervention for an existing business process. This involves collecting results data and critically reflecting on next steps. Students apply knowledge from Modules 1, 2, and either 3 or 4 in a work context, submitting a written report for assessment.



Action Learning Philosophy

The programme is founded on an action learning philosophy, embodying four distinct elements:

1. Preparation prior to weekly sessions.
2. Lectures, seminars, discussions, and case studies.
3. Practical assignments, online tests, and self-learning between weekly sessions.
4. The capstone project with supporting portfolio of evidence based on an integrated work learning experience.

Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Requirements

You must be comfortable working in an IT and Data Analytics driven world. Essential requirements include:

- Your own laptop and/or desktop and internet connection.
- Good skills in Word and Excel.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Project and Visio is helpful.

Please note: If you use an Apple operating system, you will need to install a Windows emulator at your own cost, as the modelling software (Business Genetics W5 modeler) is ONLY compatible with Windows.

Suggested Minimum Laptop Specifications:

- Operating System: Windows 10 OR later or macOS 10.11 (High Sierra) or later
- Processor: 1.8 GHz or faster x86-compatible CPU
- Memory: Minimum 4 GB RAM
- Storage: At least 500 MB free disk space
- Internet Connection: Minimum 2-5 Mbps upload and download
- Display and Graphics: Minimum resolution 1024 × 768, Graphics card with at least 128 MB video memory
- Webcam & Microphone: 640 × 480 px recording at 15 fps, colour video, Built-in or external mic and camera



Admission Requirements

To qualify for admission, students require:

- A minimum of an NQF 6 Diploma or a Degree.
- Applicants must be currently working (or run their own enterprise).
- Applicants with qualifications from outside South Africa must provide South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) proof of NQF equivalency. This can be obtained via <https://www.saqa.org.za>.



Application Procedure

1. Complete the Rhodes Business School application form ([Rhodes Business School Diplomas Form](#)).
2. Visit the Rhodes Online Student Service (ROSS): <https://ross.ru.ac.za>.
3. Click on "Admission/Other".
4. Attach the following documents to your application:
 - Certified copy of your degrees/certificates.
 - Academic Transcripts.
 - Certified copy of your ID or Passport.
 - Rhodes Business School application form.

Fees and Funding

Fees cover all tuition, core textbooks, course materials, and assessments. Please note that fees do not include accommodation or meals. Fees are confirmed each November for the following year.

For more information contact:

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