



Cass Business School
CITY UNIVERSITY LONDON

The Cass PhD

Rise to the challenge



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Independent thinking in a supportive environment

“Sir John Cass Business School has a vibrant doctoral programme with around 100 students pursuing research in all fields of business management, finance, accounting and actuarial science. The School has an internationally recognised research community and we attract students from around the world who benefit from our expertise, energetic research culture and excellent facilities. Our learning environment is highly supportive in its encouragement of independent thinking and scholarship within the framework of an academic community conducting leading-edge business and management research. Whether your planned research relates to the fields of interest of our Research Centres, or to those of individual academic colleagues, your work is very important to us.”

Professor Ian Marsh & Professor Vangelis Souitaris
Co-Directors of the PhD programme

Rise to the challenge

Completing a doctorate is not easy. But if you have the intellectual capacity, dedication and ambition to become an acknowledged expert in your chosen area of study, a PhD marks you out as a research heavyweight in your field. Top-tier business school professors enjoy international recognition, competitive remuneration and the freedom to explore new ideas.

Study for your PhD at Cass

Part of City University London, Cass Business School offers a truly international perspective and an environment designed for business learning. A powerhouse of ideas and research, this is a place where students, academics, industry experts, business leaders and policymakers meet to share and enrich each other's thinking. We offer top-level training and a strong research culture; here you will find the people, the facilities and the philosophy to help you achieve your full research potential.

Real-world relevance

Situated in the City of London, Cass Business School provides a research culture focused on today's complex and fast-moving business world. Whether studying as an undergraduate, an MBA or an MSc, our students benefit from hands-on business experience, while the business community profits from the quality of our academic thinking and research.

As a doctoral student, you will not only benefit from real-world business experience as you progress through your chosen area of research, you will also be encouraged to balance academic theory with practical application. At Cass, we welcome people whose ambition is to build an academic career with the power to provide insight and inspire progress.

“Studying at Cass was a challenging and rewarding experience. The faculty is committed to high-quality research and provides a supportive and stimulating environment for students. It is a great place to study and to develop the skills and knowledge required for a successful future.”

Dr Anna Sarkisyan

PhD awarded in 2011
Lecturer in Banking and Finance at Essex Business School

Our student body is drawn from more than
27 countries
around the globe.

The Cass PhD programme

Around 100 PhD students are currently enrolled in our doctoral programme, making it the third largest business and management programme in the UK. It is consistently rated among the top 40 doctoral programmes in the world in the *Financial Times* Full-time MBA and Executive MBA rankings.

As a doctoral student at Cass you will:

- Work with a high-calibre faculty comprising experts in the disciplines of finance, actuarial science and insurance, and management
- Network from our location in the heart of Europe's premier financial centre
- Rapidly advance your studies via our unrivalled facilities and learning resources.

The research journey

The four-year Cass PhD programme leads to a doctorate in either Accounting, Finance, Actuarial Science and Insurance or Management. On registration, you will be matched with two supervisors who will help refine your ideas and offer support throughout your research project. The first year consists of intensive research training, addressing both theory and methodology. There will be opportunities to attend valuable research seminars organised in your faculty, at which a member of staff from Cass or an eminent academic will present their work. You will also be encouraged and supported in presenting your findings at major conferences. Funding is available from the School for this purpose.

“Throughout the course of my studies, the faculty supported, encouraged and challenged me, contributing significantly to the development of my research skills.”

Dr Maxim Zagonov
PhD awarded in 2011
Lecturer at Toulouse Business School, Université de Toulouse

Unrivalled facilities and access

Located in the City of London, Cass Business School has been designed specifically for business learning. The School consists of 15,000 square metres of transparent architecture, designed to encourage interaction and the exchange of ideas; numerous breakout areas surrounding Cass's Learning Resource Centre, one of the best-equipped library facilities of all UK business schools; and cutting-edge technology, including 5,000 network points and our real-time Bloomberg sponsored dealing room.

You'll have full access to:

- A wealth of books, journals, and over 40 specialist electronic databases
- Numerous computer rooms
- The Bloomberg sponsored dealing room
- The Reuters Room, where all terminals carry Reuters' premium desktop product, Reuters 3000 Xtra.

Learning takes place in a state-of-the-art, 200-seater lecture theatre, equipped with the latest audio and visual technology. In addition, there are several raked horseshoe-shaped lecture theatres, plus syndicate rooms for small-group work. Cass also has its own restaurant and café.



Acclaimed faculty and research

Cass Business School is ranked among the country's top ten business and management schools by the latest exercise to evaluate the quality of research undertaken by British higher education institutions. Rating more than 50% of Cass research as either internationally excellent or world leading, the report notes that the School has strong links with policy and practitioner communities and finds our doctoral research well organised and supported.

The research produced by our Faculty of Finance is ranked third in Europe by the *European Financial Management Journal* (2010). Our Faculty of Actuarial Science and Insurance is one of the largest and most established specialist departments in this field word-wide. Our faculty's research into actuarial science and insurance risk is consistently ranked among the best in the world. Research from our Faculty of Management is regularly published in leading journals, including *Harvard Business Review* and the *Academy of Management Journal*.

Research at Cass is organised into three broad-based faculties – finance, actuarial science and insurance, and management.

It includes the following subject areas:

Finance

- Accounting
- Asset Management
- Asset Pricing
- Corporate Finance
- International Finance
- Financial Econometrics
- Financial Markets and Microstructure
- Real Estate Finance
- Shipping and Trade Finance
- Mathematical Finance

Actuarial Science and Insurance

- General Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Mortality
- Pensions
- Long-term Healthcare

Management

- Corporate Governance
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Human Resource Management and Organisational Behaviour
- Management in the Charity Sector
- Management of Professional Service Firms
- Marketing
- Operations Management
- Strategy
- Information and Knowledge Management

“Cass Business School is a place for people who want to become serious academics. Your colleagues will be world-class researchers whose work makes an important contribution to understanding contemporary business phenomena.”

Dr Tori Huang
PhD awarded in 2012
Assistant Professor in Entrepreneurship at Nottingham University Business School China

“Cass offers comprehensive doctoral training within a vibrant research community, where we as young researchers learn from leading academics what it takes to deliver cutting-edge business research.”

Emanuel Kastl

Cass PhD student, started in 2010

Entry requirements

The programme operates on a full-time basis only and takes four years to complete. Admission to the programme is highly competitive, with around 10% of applicants obtaining entry. Students must be resident in London throughout the programme.

To apply for our PhD programme you must hold a first degree with top grades (a first or a very good 2:1 or equivalent) in a subject related to your proposed research topic.

The following qualifications are highly desirable, and would enhance your likelihood of being accepted:

- A Masters degree from a leading university with a top grade (a merit or distinction or equivalent)
- A top GMAT score.

Timings

Courses commence in October. You are encouraged to apply as early as possible in the academic year before you wish to gain admission. The deadline for application is normally at the end of May. For more detailed deadline information, go to www.cass.city.ac.uk/phd

Application details

Applications should be submitted online at www.cass.city.ac.uk/phd

Once we have received your application with the necessary documentation, it will be evaluated by the appropriate Director of the programme and passed to possible supervisors for their consideration. A final decision will then normally be taken on whether to offer you a place. You may be offered a place unconditionally, or subject to certain conditions being met.



Financial aid

Cass Business School and City University London award a number of full three-year scholarships annually. There are also opportunities for PhD students to undertake paid teaching.

Students who qualify as EU residents may apply for an award from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), which provides its own application forms.

Contact us

For enquiries concerning the PhD programme, please contact the PhD Admissions Office:

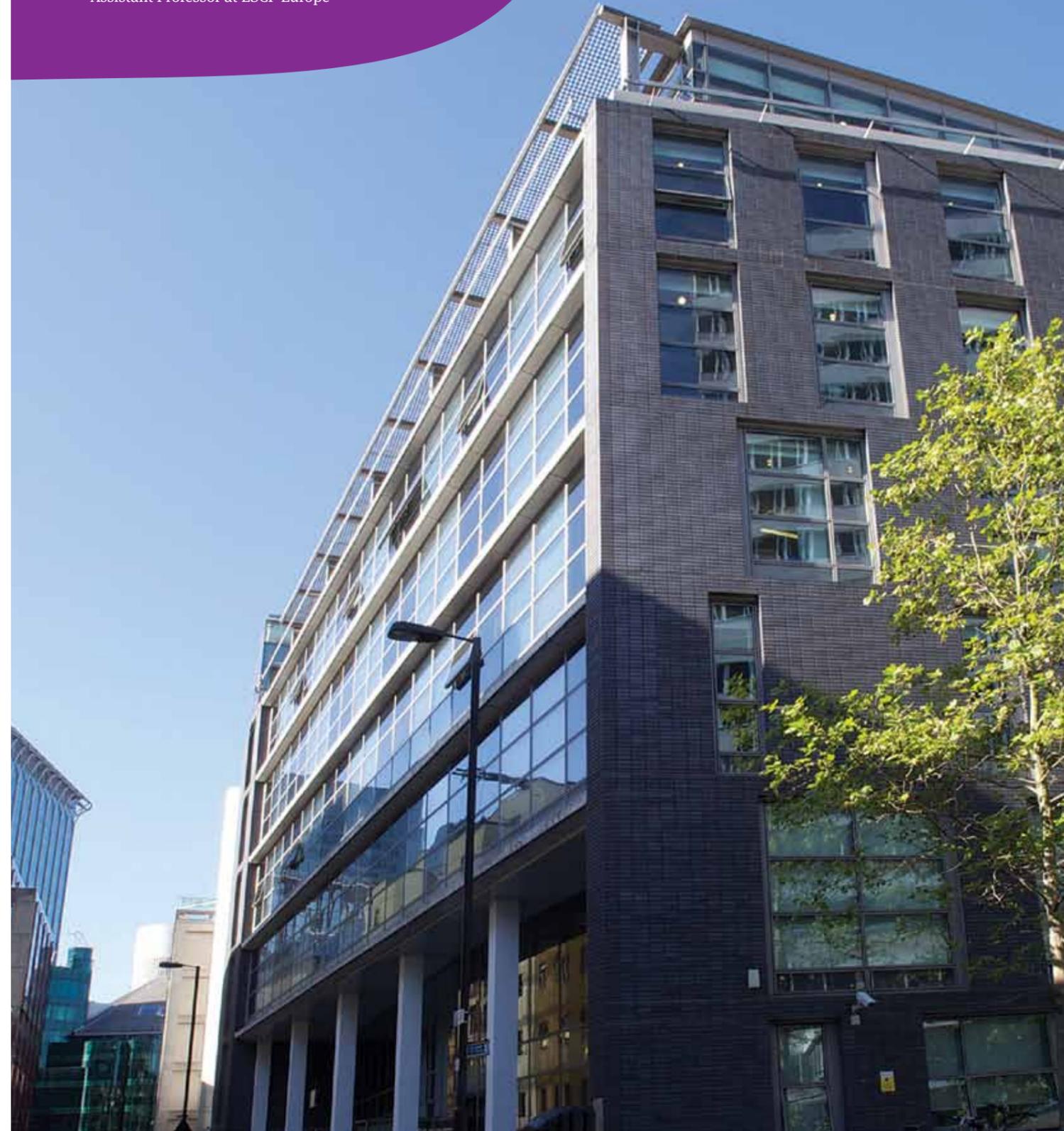
T: +44 (0)20 7040 8618
E: phd-enquiries@city.ac.uk

Cass Business School
PhD programme
106 Bunhill Row
London EC1Y 8TZ

“The PhD programme at Cass is rigorous, well structured, and academically sound. I have been able to produce high-quality research, publish in top journals, and acquire the teaching skills that helped me to land a job as an Assistant Professor in one of the world’s best business schools.”

Dr Minas Kastanakis

PhD awarded in 2010
Assistant Professor at ESCP Europe



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Cass Business School

In 2002, City University's Business School was renamed Sir John Cass Business School following a generous donation towards the development of its new building in Bunhill Row. It is known as Cass Business School for short.

Sir John Cass's Foundation

Sir John Cass's Foundation has supported education in London since the 18th century and takes its name from its founder, Sir John Cass, who established a school in Aldgate in 1710. Born in the City of London in 1661, Sir John served as an MP for the City and was knighted in 1713.

All the information contained within this brochure was correct at the time of going to print.