



August / September 2010 Fee Changes

Some comments on the Mountbatten fee increase for students joining the August 2010 programme in London and the September 2010 programme in New York:

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business Practice:

- Student participation fees for the Mountbatten programme have, historically, covered aspects of the interview and immigration procedures plus the cost of delivering the academic programme and apart from the inclusion of last year's postgraduate surcharge our fees for New York have remained unchanged for the past five years, and for London have been brought into line with those of New York. These fees have increased, from August 2010 to USD \$10,000 for the London programme and, from September 2010 to GBP £6,000 for the New York programme. There are reasons for this increase and we are happy to share them with those who are interested. In April 2009 Cambridge Local Examinations (CIE) announced it was phasing out their Diploma in International Management and, consequently, after 2009 we could no longer register students for the two modules we have been offering. We decided to move our academic programme to a higher level by replacing the two CIE modules with a Postgraduate Certificate which forms part of Mountbatten's MBA curriculum with St. Mary's University College, London. This is a significantly more expensive course than the CIE modules for the following reasons:
 - Class sizes need to be maintained at below 25 students per course.
 - The course is much longer than the CIE programme and we need to double the amount of teacher-student contact time.
 - We must, consequently, double the number of teachers working on the course.
 - The Mountbatten Institute will supply course textbooks as well as supplementary academic reading material for all students.
 - Our current classroom spaces, in New York and in London, are inadequate for the number of courses we are required to teach and we must, therefore, rent additional classrooms.
 - A portion of the fees are remitted to St. Mary's University College to cover their administrative, oversight and quality control expenses.
- The Mountbatten website reflects a full 12-18 months of advance information for potential applicants. We decided not to increase the fees for the September 2009 and March 2010 intakes as we had already posted the old fees for both cohorts. While Mountbatten was prepared to subsidise those students joining both of these cohorts, we were unable to cover the fees due to St. Mary's University College and, therefore, added a 'graduate surcharge' for both groups. From August/September 2010 the fees are being adjusted to reflect the 'real' cost of delivery of our academic programme.
- We feel that, with a recognized UK Postgraduate Certificate as an integral component to the Mountbatten year, our interns are gaining a valuable and portable professional qualification to augment their year of practical training in the workplace.

Master of Business Administration in International Business Practice:

The fee structure for the MBA has also increased from August 2010 in London and September 2010 in New York. The reasons are broadly similar to those listed above for the Postgraduate Certificate. We were aware some time ago that our MBA fees were significantly below the market for international MBA degree programmes but chose to keep them subsidised in order to develop and grow the programme.

The advent of the St. Mary's University College MBA has brought with it a number of changes, however, including the necessity for a more developed dissertation advisory programme which will cross over between Part I and Part II of the degrees plus a longer period of study in Bangkok, Thailand. All textbooks and supplementary reading material for all courses will be provided by the Institute.

We feel, however, that our fees, although increased, are still competitive when compared to similar MBA degree programmes that include international study components. In providing a year of international structured work experience integrated into an MBA degree, completed with a period of full time study in Asia, the Mountbatten Institute is offering not only a unique opportunity, but also a degree which is at the cutting edge of business education.