

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Business School Lausanne (BSL) and Geneva Business School (GBS) Collaboration

1. Persons of contact

Academic Questions

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Doctoral School

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2. Legal & Institutional Status

Q: What is the legal relationship between BSL and GBS?

A: The legal relationship between BSL and GBS is a collaboration. The operations will be conducted in full cooperation between both institutions from September 1st 2025 on.

Q: Will BSL continue to exist as a legal entity?

A: Yes. BSL SA will remain a separate legal entity. However, operational functions related to BSL teaching and BSL academic administration will be conducted in full collaboration with GBS and through Geneva Business School SA.

Q: Will BSL continue to exist as a brand?

A: Yes. BSL will continue to exist as a brand. The BSL brand is intended to be preserved and maintained and it is transferred to GBS.

Q: Will BSL keep its BSL accreditations?

A: Yes. There will be no changes to accreditations.

3. General Academic Impact

Q: Will BSL degrees lose their value on the job market due to this collaboration?

A: No. BSL degrees will not lose their value on the job market. On the contrary, the collaboration will increase visibility, provide students with more degree options and networking opportunities and thereby enhance the value of BSL degrees.

Q: Will BSL degree issuance be affected by the collaboration?

A: No. The degree issuance will not be affected by the collaboration. Students will receive a BSL degree. Additionally, a dual degree option with GBS may be available, depending on program eligibility, and based on accreditations and administrative arrangements.

4. Academic Impact for BSL UGG students from BBA and MIB tracks

Q: How will the new collaboration impact BBA and MIB class location?

A: The majority of BSL BBA and MIB classes will be integrated into the GBS class schedule. Most BBA and all MIB courses will take place in Geneva. Certain BBA classes specific to BSL BBA students are maintained.

Q: Will commuting between Lausanne and Geneva be required from BBA and MIB students to attend classes?

A: Efforts regarding course scheduling are being made by both institutions to avoid split-day commuting.

Q: Will the BBA and the MIB curricula remain unchanged?

A: No. GBS programs are largely equivalent to BSL programs in terms of degree value, teaching style, program content, and professors' competencies. They are not identical in terms of organization (course names, schedules, professors).

5. Academic Impact for BSL Executive Education MBA, EMBA, CAS and DAS students

Q: Where will MBA, EMBA, CAS or DAS classes take place during the Fall-Winter semester 2025?

A: The planned MBA, EMBA, CAS or DAS modules will take place in Lausanne at the Sport Management School in Ouchy.

Q: Will all MBA, EMBA, CAS and DAS classes take place in the same new location?

A: Yes, MBA, EMBA, CAS and DAS classes will take place in the same location.

Q: When will MBA, EMBA, CAS or DAS classes take place during the Fall-Winter semester 2025?

A: The planned MBA, EMBA, CAS or DAS modules should take place according to the originally communicated schedule.

Q: Will there be any other changes to executive education academic programs due to the collaboration between BSL and GBS?

A: No. No immediate changes are planned to BSL executive education academic programs. The objective is to maintain the executive education programs' quality, features, as well as guidelines and timelines. Supervisors feedback and thesis evaluations will continue to be done with the same academic rigor and according to the same academic standards.

6. Academic Impact for BSL DBA students

Q: Will the academic structure, requirements, guidelines, features and output of the BSL DBA programs remain unchanged?

A: Yes. Currently there are no changes planned to the academic structure, requirements, guidelines, features and output of the BSL DBA programs. An academic evaluation will be conducted between both institutions.

Q: Where will the next DBA accelerations weeks take place?

A: The next DBA Acceleration weeks (DAW) will take place in Geneva on the GBS Geneva campus.

Q: Will there be joint courses between BSL and aSSIST BSL DBA students, and GBS DBA students?

A: There are currently no joint courses planned between the BSL DBA students and the GBS DBA students. The programs have a different structure and organization.

Q: Will there be networking and academic opportunities during which DBA students from BSL and GBS will meet?

A: It is under evaluation between BSL and GBS how academic networking opportunities may be provided to all DBA students.

Q: Will the DBA Thesis supervisors change?

A: No. There is no planned change to the Doctoral Thesis supervision relationships.

Q: Will the BSL academic DBA direction continue managing the BSL DBA programs?

A: Yes. Dr. Dominique Bourqui will continue overseeing and managing the Doctoral School of BSL.

Q: Will the other DBA academic team members, the faculty and the supervisors of the BSL DBA programs continue managing the BSL DBA?

A: Yes. There is currently no planned change to the Doctoral school team.

Q: Will new BSL DBA students continue to be admitted to the BSL DBA programs?

A: Yes. BSL DBA students will continue to be admitted to both BSL DBA programs (the BSL DBA and the BSL-aSSIST DBA program).

Q: Will the strict BSL admission criteria of the research topic proposal be maintained?

A: Yes. New DBA students will have to successfully complete the BSL research topic proposal entry requirements.

Q: Will BSL DBA students continue to receive a BSL DBA degree?

A: Yes. BSL DBA students will continue to receive a BSL DBA degree. The degree issuance will not be affected by the collaboration.

7. Faculty & Staff

Q: Will current BSL faculty continue teaching?

A: Efforts are being made to retain faculty, but the decisions of Faculty to continue teaching will depend upon the agreements that will be reached within the framework of the new organization.

Q: What will happen with BSL's academic team, administrative team and to BSL student services?

A: The leadership continuity of BSL is ensured. Some members of the BSL team may also continue working in adjusted roles. The Dean of BSL, Dr. David Claivaz will direct the new structure between BSL and GBS, and Dr. Dominique Bourqui will continue overseeing and managing the Doctoral School of BSL.

8. Student Experience

Q: Who can Students contact for further questions about their individual study plans and teaching schedules?

A: Dr. David Claivaz for both GBS and BSL.

Q: Will new students still be admitted under the BSL brand?

A: Yes. BSL will admit new students. New student admissions will continue for the Bachelor, the Master, and the DBA programs under the BSL brand. The MBA and the EMBA program admissions will be paused until Spring 2026.

Q: What will happen to the BSL Lausanne campus?

A: For the next academic year 2025-2026, operations will continue in Lausanne via a shared campus arrangement with the Sport Management School for the Executive education program modules. Bachelor, Master and Doctoral programs will transfer to Geneva. Longer-term campus decisions will be based on a strategic evaluation of student needs and partnerships.

Q: How will BSL ensure not to lose its brand identity if it has no campus in Lausanne, given the international reputation of Lausanne as an academic excellence hub, but is transferred to Geneva, a city known mainly for its international organizations but not for its academic institutions?

A: Strategic planning will be taking place to ensure that the BSL brand will maintain its reputation of being an active member of a vibrant academic excellence hub and community