INSIGHT INTO AN UNDERSTANDING OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDY FOR DEGREE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

International business comprises trade practices wherein companies buy and sell products, services, technologies, and other commodities across global markets in various countries. Such trading takes place among those nations in which multinational companies seek to widen their consumer base, enhance their earnings, enter untapped markets, harness valuable resources, and gain a competitive edge over other companies. International business is affected by several complex regional and global factors, such as e-economic legislation, racial diversity, economic conditions, legal frameworks, and technological developments. Therefore, it is highly advisable for businesses seeking to venture into international markets to engage experts in the domain of international business, who are well equipped with sufficient knowledge of the essential requirements for successful international trading. In this context, the current paper explores the relevance of international business studies programs for prospective students as well as the additional inputs they require to incorporate their academic knowledge into the successful steering of international commerce.

Keywords: International Business, Business Study, Business Programs, Business Facility

Introduction

International business entails commercial activities facilitating the transfer of goods and services, such as technologies and ideas, across national boundaries. Learning about international business enhances business students’ knowledge and professionalism. This paper explores how lessons learned from international business programs/courses help to shape the understanding required for establishing and maintaining a successful business enterprise. A solid foundation in international business studies can empower one to make informed decisions and create a thriving company. This is because such a foundation consists of a thorough grounding in the value of international trade and commerce, the diversity of global economies, and the myriad external factors.
elements determining a company’s international success or failure. Further, understanding the nuances of international business assists in the effective management of global organizations by providing insights into risk taking and innovations in the global market. Finally, international business programs equip students with knowledge about the vast sphere of international business management practices. Such knowledge prepares them for graduate careers abroad or in global business organizations.

Lessons Learned from International Business Studies Programs

International Trade

A key foundational takeaway from an international business studies program is that it enables companies either to focus on the native market or to expand their operations to other countries. In addition to this, the program provides students with a better understanding of the differences between domestic and foreign trade and the processes involved in determining the local or global origins of a specific commodity (International Relation EDU, 2023). Learning about the benefits of international trade is crucial because it assists in comprehending citizens’ needs, the impact of increasing multiculturalism on creating new opportunities, and processes related to attracting new investors and employees.

Another important topic dealt with by international business studies programs is multinational corporations (MNCs). MNCs dominate or regulate the development of goods or facilities in more than one country besides the home country. Understanding the working of MNCs assists in comprehending globalization, a multifaceted process intertwining and enriching varied economic systems and cultural traditions via mass media, direct investment, commerce, population movement, and cultural exchange (Indeed Editorial Team, 2022). Globalization encompasses cross-border trading as part of international business; such trading varies widely among countries (Piekkari et al., 2022). The mutual dependence of two or more countries for items or services (which either they cannot produce or develop themselves or their domestic economy produces more efficiently) is a crucial aspect of internationalization (Nguyen & Paczos, 2020). The primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors all rely on one another for commerce.

The third aspect of international business studies programs pertains to global trade rules and regulations. Global trade involves trade barriers preventing companies from engaging in international commerce. Hence, it becomes necessary to understand trade partnerships and negotiations, which are crucial to easing barriers and facilitating international commerce. Thus, international business studies programs acquaint students with trade barriers, partnerships, and negotiations; they explain how business across national borders is rarely straightforward; and
they emphasize that companies must be aware of international laws and treaties before venturing abroad.

Politics, Economics, and Culture

Awareness of political, economic, and cultural differences among countries across the globe is an essential aspect of international business studies. International trade encompasses movements of goods and services among countries with varied cultures and traditions. Expansion into new international markets requires careful consideration of the political and economic conditions in those regions. Each country has regulations and taxes to guarantee that money is well spent and the final import or export takes place without a hitch. These policies and taxes differ from one country to another (International Relation EDU, 2023). Knowledge of the other party’s GDP per capita and of the possible advantages and disadvantages of working together may help to expedite and strengthen business talks. A business transaction between two nations with very different economies may be made or unmade by fluctuations in the value of their respective currencies, which are susceptible to market forces (Brunnermeier et al., 2019). Cultural diversity, political instability, and varied legal standards are just a few of the factors that must be considered while conducting business worldwide. International business studies programs offer an in-depth introduction to such issues.

Marketing and Sales Promotions

Marketing and sales are major domains of study in international business studies programs. Knowledge of marketing and logistics offers students insights into the nitty-gritty of selling and delivering goods and services from a bottom-up perspective. Creating commercials that connect with customers in a given area requires deep familiarity with the culture and politics of the specific market, thus making the marketing mix all the more important. The six pillars of the marketing mix are the product itself, the storefront, the pricing, the promotion, the clientele, and the rivalries in the market (Puthussery, 2020). Discovering the wants and needs of consumers in a foreign market is essential. While conceptualizing a marketing advertisement, it is vital to remember the consumer profile, which details the intended audience’s demographics, psychographics, geography, and purchasing habits. Hence, international business students are required to educate themselves about the market segmentation concept before commencing their studies.

Part of the marketing and logistics curriculum in international business studies programs entails creating merchandise commercials for expo sales. Further, students are educated about the most effective platforms on which to advertise companies globally. For instance, in India, Facebook has one of the most extensive user bases. Thus, the knowledge gained from the marketing and
logistics curriculum contributes to a deeper understanding of international trade, thereby helping students to adapt their marketing techniques better to meet client demands across different nations.

**International Business Ethics**

As part of international business studies programs, human resource (HR) professionals are required to learn the difference between ethical and unethical conduct in international business, how they pertain to HR, and how to handle specific situations involving ethical issues. Business ethics ensures that employees and other stakeholders in international business engage in acceptable behaviors promoting integrity (Luo, 2021). An organization that embraces a positive ethical culture improves employee morale, thereby boosting productivity and loyalty (Washington State University, 2021). A positive ethical culture helps companies to gain an international reputation for their responsible domestic business practices.

Ethical and legal compliance are essential factors in the operation of a business since they ensure the effective provision of services by creating a workplace environment wherein employees from across the globe are governed by fair and uniform laws. Legal compliance encompasses the setting up of rules to ensure that employees act as per the stipulated laws of a particular business (Baldeomar, 2016). In contrast, ethical compliance refers to the responsibility of employees to adhere to a specific code of ethics while operating in a business environment (Baldeomar, 2016). Ethical and legal compliance together help to create a working environment in which employees are treated with respect (Cross & Miller, 2020). Ethical and legal compliance requirements and responsibilities are vital to a business since they create a lawful culture that guides employee conduct and ensure that employees who follow due policies and procedures enjoy legal protection. Such an ambiance makes employees feel good about their work, thereby enhancing their productivity and leading to business success.

A well-crafted legal and ethical compliance policy helps managers and employees to make effective, day-to-day decisions for meeting the highest business goals. Local, state, federal, and society laws have been drafted collectively to define clearly acceptable and unacceptable behaviors in conjunction with their repercussions (Shaw, 2010). These laws help to guide the ethical policies of businesses. Ethical policies should embrace adherence to applicable laws (Yip et al., 2016). Both employees and management should collaboratively develop a work culture that abides by workplace laws and thereby reduces the impact of legal fines and lawsuits.

Further, ethical and legal policies create environments that leave the employees feeling positive about their workplaces. In addition, well-defined ethical and legal standards create a strong working relationship between employees and management (Shaw, 2010). Legal compliance also
helps businesses to evade unnecessary lawsuits, which may derail their operations (Yip et al., 2016). Overall, ethical and legal compliance improve business morale and increase business productivity.

Finally, companies’ ethical values play an important role in the public eye. Most companies adhere to corporate social commitments that are good for more than just the bottom line. For example, sustainable companies prioritize things other than profit, such as helping their local community and preserving their natural surroundings (Arnold, 2021). This aspect attracts customers who share the same values as the company. Corporations should therefore make positive contributions to society, which will lead to further success in international markets (Piekkari et al., 2022). The international business studies program under discussion in this paper explores ethical issues at Tom’s Shoes and their impact on society during its ethics presentations. This is a representation of the extent to which businesses and organizations can aid society and the environment through their socially responsible operations.

**Globalization**

The global community has seen stimulation in the progression of thoughts, products, mechanical headway, and monetary assets across global boundaries as 21st-century advances. The monetary expansions, more advanced lifestyles, and greater shopping choices that have emerged from complex supply chains and the extensive use of monetary assets have emboldened some business leaders and inspired others. However, some business leaders have voiced their anxieties about the weakening of regional environments, offshoring of businesses, and weakening of local authorities due to expanded worldwide exchange.

Given the above context, learning about worldwide business enables individuals to foster their administrative and thinking potential on a more global scale. Business leaders are said to have a worldwide administrative perspective when they possess a broad outlook on the possibilities of their work and organization. At the global level, all organizations, regardless of their size, are straightforward contenders (Arnold, 2021). Each business pioneer has their own perspective on their decisions’ impact on international commerce. Having leadership with a global perspective offers greater growth opportunities to an organization and enables it to provide more incentives to keen employees.

Cultural inconsistencies and rising multiculturalism within a wide range of organizations make it even more challenging to direct business and promote organizational productivity. Hence, for students to be satisfactorily prepared for administrative roles in interconnected and multicultural workplaces, the homeroom experience should include active preparation and coordinated guidance. The odds of emerging on top might be improved by understanding the ways of life and
existing situations in the location where one works (Reynolds, 2017b). The more branches an organization has in unfamiliar locations, the more open doors its leaders need to sharpen their abilities. With regard to the organization of the business institution’s board, knowledge of the lifestyles, outcomes, and necessities in foreign countries enables leaders to take better administrative decisions. Global business leaders need to communicate, educate, and anticipate on a far more extensive scale than exclusively regional business managers. Such an approach offers an innate upper hand to global business pioneers, irrespective of their areas of work.

The conditions prevailing in regional and global business sectors, the guidelines laid down by specific legislative organs, and the actions of international organizations all affect the decisions of business organizations. Consequently, those in control of business organizations find themselves in challenging positions as a result of the rising clout of global enterprises. Accordingly, students of international business are assigned the task of dissecting various kinds of social, monetary, and political dangers across nations and creating strategies and hierarchical procedures to adjust more effectively in such dynamic global settings. The resultant global administrative perspective empowers business pioneers to profit from managers’ experiences across different nations and domains. Learning about varied social orders and different ways to maintain businesses in such orders might offer new opportunities for business pioneers to expand their networks. Appropriate knowledge of internationalization can enable corporate leaders to share their expertise, consolidate their advantages, and raise their income levels.

Politics and international business are inextricably linked, with the former profoundly affecting the latter. Numerous factors highlight how politics affects international business. First, trade policies shaped by political agreements, such as free-trade agreements or tariffs, exert a significant impact on the global economy. Second, economic sanctions imposed by one country can limit international trade, which may ultimately negatively affect an organization through both lost revenues and market disruption. Third, different legal systems across countries create uneven playing fields for businesses that want to expand internationally. Fourth, political instability, such as war or civil unrest, creates unpredictable situations that damage businesses operating in the affected regions. Fifth, government regulations pertaining to labor laws or environmental protection can cause increased costs for multinational corporations looking to develop operations overseas. Sixth, exchange rates often fluctuate in response to political events, which could prove costly to companies engaging in currency conversion among various countries worldwide. Seventh, government decisions heavily affect taxation; therefore, multinational corporations have utilized tax havens and double-taxation measures, which arouse strong criticism over transparency issues associated with their actions. Eighth, social services provided by certain economies, such as education, health care, and large-scale amenities, act like incentives when considering the best solution for the location of operation growth but eventually
affect the pricing of products/services sold. Last, fraud supporting specific local industries at the expense of other foreign market enterprises, mainly based on high rates of employment producing unfavorable competing prices and local procurement delays, amongst others, become methods allowing government “outwitting” strategies indirectly attempting out-of-market commerce trapping the competition, thus limiting the abilities of MNCs. Some cultures in partner countries hinder effective trade; for instance, in Muslim countries, certain businesses, such as those in alcohol sales, are strictly controlled. Nevertheless, MNCs and respective governments formulate ways to help countries adapt to such changes by continuously reviewing trade agreements and amending them to fit into the new environment.

Further, the capacity to deal with the ramifications of activities in worldwide monetary business sectors has emerged as a major determinant of organizational productivity. This determinant progressively relies upon the interconnections among public and worldwide venture markets. Therefore, international business studies students are permitted to apply the fundamental aspects of financial matters to overall banking, monetary trade, and complementary business tasks, as well as worldwide security, values, and trade markets, through an educational program with a global focus (Rodriguez, 2021). Students additionally focus on internationalization at the miniature or organizational level by exploring why and how business tasks and practices are globalized in a worldwide enterprise. This permits them to analyze internationalization across a few scales. A significant spotlight is focused upon the difficulties presented by the actual partition of business activities across international borders and the numerous interconnections among global business activities. Hence, students with a strong grasp of these domains will be empowered to lead an organization’s assets, skills, and administrative practices successfully, enabling it to achieve productivity even in adverse circumstances.

Fostering a global point of view with regard to business initiatives, through international business studies, could open up ways for business expansion across various countries. Assuming that a manager possesses mindfulness, understanding, and regard for the ways of life of another nation, connecting with auxiliaries or creating business ties with that nation could become easier, thereby leading to all-round organizational growth. If an organization has a more settled overall presence, it can draw from a larger pool of possibilities to meet the requirements of dynamic situations in administration and other domains (Washington State University, 2021). When an organization works with a global viewpoint, it can avail itself of the services of industry specialists from its auxiliaries around the world. A business leader possessing an in-depth understanding of the experiences, customs, and traditions of their own and other countries helps in expanding the possibilities for big business and extending foreign business concerns worldwide.
International business studies impart global awareness to learners. This implies that these learners will emerge as future business leaders with adequate knowledge about the customs and traditions of the distant lands with which they engage in trade. Students’ global initiative is largely determined by the degree to which they comprehend the traditions, regulations, and current undertakings of an alternative country wherein they have either minor business undertakings or a total auxiliary (Rodriguez, 2021). This observation remains valid irrespective of the size of the business relationship with the other country. Leaders with a global business perspective are all the more likely to appreciate and collaborate with the residents of different nations. Likewise, information about global business initiatives might help a firm on both hierarchical and individual fronts, even if the firm concerned is extremely unobtrusive.

**Other Significant Uses of International Business Studies Programs**

International business studies open up interesting professional avenues for students seeking to comprehend how financial establishments, exchange regulations, and varied limitations influence profit levels in international business. This program trains learners to perceive how the existing global trade strategies affect organizational income and how organizations might change their variables to their advantage. Furthermore, this well-structured program enables learners to comprehend nine significant political gambling points in international trade. This program would be particularly useful for students keen on pursuing careers in finance, advertising, and trade. The program caters to the needs of students who are enterprising, enthusiastic, independent, self-motivated, and receptive. It trains students interested in global undertakings in understanding how international business establishments are set up and how they might be improved (Rodriguez, 2021). International business students are expected to be optimistic, insightful, and innovative, ready to work at both team and individual levels and to face challenges. Accordingly, this program offers them comprehensive knowledge of business management, financing, execution, and networking. Further, they learn about supportive center capabilities, including administration, multicultural participation, language capability, and corporate communication. They will be involved in real-time contextual investigations involving actual organizations. Students are also be briefed about the political and financial circumstances that they will face in international business as well as a host of related local and global business issues.

In particular, the international business studies program focuses on equipping learners to function in the vibrant and dynamic world markets that determine global economic conditions. Students are offered insights into how businesses and customers function and the tactics that marketers might use to succeed in the international marketplace. Students will also acquire knowledge regarding the political, legislative, economic, and social environments wherein businesses operate. Furthermore, they will hone their research and analytical skills to acquire a better understanding of the challenges encountered by international marketers (Tran, 2021).
to the growing importance of emerging markets (EMs), the focus of this course is chiefly on developing nations. This is highly relevant because contemporary business leaders are continually engaged in expanding their businesses in the fresh and uncharted markets of the world. Further, international business studies focus on how companies expand worldwide and how they profit from such expansion. This course explores how companies of all sizes respond to escalating global rivalries while covering both the idea of internationalization and the management of MNCs.

The international business studies program focuses on preparing students for global trading challenges. Business managers need to be aware of the added challenges (prospects and hazards) and complexities that accompany trading across borders or competing with other international businesses. Recent global events have underlined the significance of comprehending the risks and benefits associated with economic and strategic choices in both local and overseas markets. As such, it is essential for businesses to be aware of the dangers associated with global changes so that they are insulated from them. Accordingly, the international business studies curriculum acknowledges that the foremost responsibility of investment analysis is to ensure that a company has sufficient resources to finance its current operations so that value is added to its partners and its risk absorption levels are enhanced (Tran, 2021). To provide the ideas and tools required to accomplish these goals, the international business studies curriculum places particular emphasis upon the impacts of financial and economic threats and how they interact with a company’s vision statement and marketing strategies.

International business studies, which focus on the relationship between business and society, explore how sociological, ecological, and cultural factors alter the business environment for enterprises of all sizes, including start-ups. The curriculum raises the question of how sustainable practices could or ought to affect how profit is created, captured, and distributed. The program examines the timing of and reasons behind certain firms’ re-evaluation of their strategies to attain and maintain a strategic advantage as market capitalists. It also provides students with fundamental knowledge regarding the international economic exchange and its effect on other market players, including production, energy, environmental assets, business and investment financing, and financial planning. Such learning is crucial as business executives must have an adequate understanding of international marketplaces to mitigate financial or commodities risks.

In the increasingly globalized world of today, corporate executives must understand cultural differences and be prepared to address them, whether they affect individuals, groups, or entire businesses. Therefore, the international business studies program begins by introducing multicultural aspects before tackling a particular cross-cultural leadership challenge in each succeeding session (Everglades University, 2021). The core elements of the assessment for this course encompass the classroom presentation of a personal article that examines students’ cross-
cultural negotiating behavior and the submission of a project report wherein students evaluate real-world cross-cultural issues.

A grounding in international business studies is indispensable for contemporary business professionals. As the world is more connected today than at any other time in the recent past, even small and medium enterprises (SMEs) should know how to trade globally if they are to grow. International businesses and ventures are no longer the selective domain of global companies. Anyone who needs to remain relevant in business should acquire a more extensive viewpoint (Marbella International University, 2016). By investigating worldwide business, one might perceive how globalization has expanded the “connectedness” of economies, firms, peoples, and communication across countries. Naturally, organizations significantly esteem the abilities that students gain from an international business studies program, preparing them to deal with diverse settings and ventures.

Finally, international business studies are an unavoidable aspect of contemporary human life. Individual lives have benefited remarkably from worldwide trade. In particular, global trade has facilitated communities in connecting with formerly inaccessible commodities and amenities. For example, during the last 20 years, people have increasingly relied on technology, such as Facebook, Instagram, eBay, and Google, for carrying out diverse everyday activities. Despite enjoying their colossal benefits in day-to-day existence, most people do not know that such innovations were invented in other countries. Nevertheless, the usage of these foreign-origin innovations is now feasible due to global commerce.

Global commerce has also made it possible for people to buy high-quality items at fair rates by fostering a rise in competition. Customers now have more options for high-quality product purchases. For instance, international commerce encourages local businesses to improve the quality of their goods or services because doing otherwise would result in a decline in corporate earnings. Many global corporations have entered the hotel business. This dictates that suppliers should enhance their product offers and levels of customer service as a requirement for conducting business (Ul Hameed et al., 2022). Given this turn of events, customers are profiting at higher levels.

Additionally, a growth in employment opportunities is being brought about by global trade. This advantage applies to both advanced and emerging countries since trading in products and services has boosted job prospects for all nations. For example, foreign trade has led to the creation of more than 11 million jobs in the US. The US Department of Commerce claims that impending international agreements will open up more new opportunities. The job opportunities created by global commerce have also been improved by a hike in the gross wages for existing vocations. In other words, businesses are under more pressure to raise salaries across the board.
Essential International Business Skills

Strong Communication

Business professionals need to have a very strong ability to communicate, especially if they seek leadership or administrative roles. In the business sector, clear oral and written communication abilities are crucial. Enhancing communication skills is an essential prerequisite in a global business environment.

In this regard, identifying the languages necessary for achieving professional objectives should be the first step. Professionals might gain access to opportunities that they did not have earlier if they learn these languages. Next, they should enhance their effective non-verbal communication by focusing on their posture, composure, and physical interaction. Finally, it is important to be conscious of how individuals’ facial expressions might influence the messages that they are trying to convey because interpretations of facial expressions can vary greatly from one society or culture to another.

Emotional Intelligence

How well individuals comprehend and manage their own reactions as well as those of the community around them might serve as a gauge of their “emotional intelligence” (Cui, 2021). Emotional intelligence, like communication skills, is crucial for success in the corporate sector as it plays a critical role in overcoming the challenges posed by cultural and linguistic differences in international markets.

Cultural Sensitivity

The intricacies and unique characteristics of every culture make the world beautiful and fascinating. However, in certain situations, cultural differences might cause misunderstandings, breaches in agreements, or even diplomatic embarrassments (depending upon the gravity of the error). Therefore, familiarity with foreign cultures is among the most important abilities that one might develop through an international business studies course. As part of international business operations, individuals need to learn the culture, history, and values of other people to be able to connect with them fluently.

Individuals who have a better understanding of foreign cultures, languages, and values find it easier to engage with foreign communities during international business activities. Examples include developing a neighborhood-friendly marketing plan or cultivating mutual respect while negotiating. Conversely, failures in effective communication or in concluding business agreements are likely to emanate from insufficient cultural knowledge.
Solid Competencies

As part of solid competencies, both “hard” skills gained in the corporate world and “soft” skills like those mentioned above are necessary for international business. To thrive in international business, one needs to understand the fundamentals of economics, cost accounting, and entrepreneurship. It is also essential to be aware of global affairs. For instance, although macroeconomic theory has an impact on all firms, this impact could be more pronounced for firms conducting business abroad. Additionally, international corporations might find that certain political and societal circumstances, which do not affect domestic businesses, could make their profit margins more susceptible than in the past. Improper management of trade imbalances, tariffs, and taxes can quickly turn these into threats (and, occasionally, opportunities). Learning about the yield curve, trade, hyperinflation, and innovation, as well as their impacts, will help to develop strategic thinking abilities for global business. Therefore, international business studies should be considered seriously by anyone wishing to advance through the executive ranks of a globally engaged organization.

When it comes to soft skills, there are no substitutes for experience, which is essential for enhancing one’s communication skills and emotional as well as cultural sensitivity. Learners should therefore seek out effective solutions to overcome the challenges that they face in their current situation. Joining an online forum or finding an international business learners’ group will allow students to communicate with people from all around the world and learn from them. For instance, by taking the online course “Global Business,” individuals can learn about the economic, administrative, cultural, and political developments affecting global trade (Purdue Global, 2022).

Challenges of Engaging in International Business

The international business studies curriculum focuses upon several characteristics of international commerce, including the challenges that must be overcome for its successful execution. The challenges listed below constitute a crucial component of study in international business courses since qualified business experts need to be aware of these challenges before implementing their newly acquired knowledge in the workplace. Awareness of these challenges involves consideration of several important factors while planning global business expansion to face adequately the risks posed by global trade.

Discrepancies Caused by Language Barriers

Ineffective communication due to language barriers is a common problem in cross-cultural commercial settings. This is because international businesses cover broad geographical areas occupied by varied ethnic groups speaking diverse languages. For instance, MNCs face language
barrier challenges among their employees and customers (Thunderbird School of Global Management, 2021).

Further, language barriers can hinder the success of companies aiming to expand their customer base by entering new international markets. This issue might also cause disruptions in the effective execution of organizational duties when executives and staff lack a common language. As a result, it is crucial for firms to ensure that their promotional materials, packaging designs, and client assistance materials are all drafted in the same language as that of prospective clients. Such bridging of gaps through linguistic measures will ensure effective trading with foreign firms and in foreign lands.

**International Talent Acquisition and Integration**

According to reports in the magazine Entrepreneur, “Hiring only locally is so 2005. Other benefits of recruiting internationally include cost savings, access to unexplored developing markets, and round-the-clock service in addition to making it easier to find top talent. It will become harder for locally based businesses to keep their current competitive edge in the near future. In any international expansion, it is essential to locate and hire qualified locals with the necessary knowledge of the target market” (Thunderbird School of Global Management, 2021). Another significant issue for international firms is creating an HR structure that can handle the selection, hiring, integration, orientation, and extension of support to workers from various cultural backgrounds.

**Leading an Internationally Dispersed Team**

An issue peculiar to a global corporation is managing personnel who are geographically and culturally separated. An international business manager is required to be an expert in the complexities of global labor laws, payroll procedures, tax regulations, incentives required, employee privileges, and technological advancements if they seek to run the organization effectively (Hawksford, 2021). In addition, it is important to maintain unity within a geographically scattered team by staying in touch with them, encouraging them, and connecting with them frequently. In addition, to ensure continuous compliance, local organizational attorneys in each country must be knowledgeable about the employment laws in the respective countries.

**Rates of Interest, Inflation, and Currency Exchange**

Very few countries conduct their commerce using the same currency. It is conceivable that clients from different nations will pay the company using different currencies. All currencies experience occasional value changes (Reynolds, 2017a). These changes cause inflation, which,
in turn, affects international companies negatively since their customers have less purchasing power than when the currency performs well. Keeping up with current developments in global inflation and currency conversion is an essential requirement for the smooth conducting of international business.

**Payroll Problems**

Depending on where the company’s employees are located, an international business must adhere to diverse labor, tax, and payment requirements while processing payrolls. The HR department may face major obstacles in tax withholding, mandated and voluntary incentives, and other areas in which laws differ dramatically across countries (Reynolds, 2017a). In such cases, using a global payroll management service, such as Skuad, is advisable.

**Cultural Disparities**

The cultural experiences, particularly those of the employees of an international company, might be influenced considerably by the country wherein they operate. International business professionals need to be aware and respectful of cultural differences and make an effort to understand the varied customs of employees, coworkers, and clients to strengthen relationships and reduce the risk of upsetting others.

**International Politics, Geopolitics, and Border Relations**

The global economy is receptive to political and diplomatic developments. Comprehension of trade regulations, tax laws, and monetary systems within the countries where a business operates is crucial for it to grow internationally (Hawksford, 2021). This information may assist a business in avoiding legal troubles and protect its reputation and financial stability.

**Supply Chain Challenges**

Different local and regional regulations affect various aspects of global commerce. It can be hard to make sound decisions relating to all these dynamic aspects of the economy and anticipate associated problems in the supply chain. However, a global business manager can make some adjustments in logistical planning depending upon the nature of the company and the geographical area of operations (Reynolds, 2017a). The manager should examine the trade legislation, existing supply chain challenges, local resource supplies, and foreign effects on the distribution network before settling upon a logistics plan.

**Conforming to International Norms**
Certain prerequisites, such as a firm grasp of tax, payroll, and labor regulations, are essential for companies seeking to grow globally. Rules governing company operations, business fees, objectives, and tax rates differ across countries. Managers are required to ensure that their companies adhere to the laws of a given country to avoid severe consequences, including hefty fines, image tarnishing, and criminal prosecution (Hawksford, 2021). It is thus important for managers to read up thoroughly on international business operations and fill out any required documentation.

**Entering and Competing in a New Market**

In the contemporary marketplace, it might be challenging to offer a service or product that no other company provides. Companies face fierce local competition, but the stakes only rise when they strive to capture a larger share of the worldwide market. Increased commitment to the notion that healthy competition fosters innovation is required upon a company’s entry into the global economy (Hawksford, 2021). Products or services must be made exceptional to enable them to stand out from the competition. The company should offer services that no other firm offers. Furthermore, by forming reliable alliances with local customers and service suppliers, business leaders and managers might build a solid reputation for the company.

**Environmental and Long-Term Viability Challenges**

Climate change is causing major global effects. Hence, domestic and foreign companies should adjust their operations to ensure sustainability in the face of escalating environmental concerns. Firms should develop and execute ecofriendly, responsible, and long-term strategies to maintain a competitive edge in domestic and foreign markets.

**Brand Consistency**

Managers need to ensure that their firms stand out from the rest in the global market. Some of the aspects that can enhance a company’s brand image are its logo, corporate culture, promotional efforts, language, and brand extensions. In the global markets, firms should be highly aggressive about retaining a consistent brand image to attract potential and new customers.

**Critical Information about the International Business Studies Program**

One of the critical concerns in global trade is the debate between free trade and protectionism. A free trade policy encourages unrestricted international trade, whereas a protectionist one aims to restrict or stop it.
Both trade liberalization and protectionism have benefits and drawbacks. For instance, businesses might take advantage of the potential of expanding markets when there are no tariffs and other trade barriers (Fu, 2021). Free trade, however, has the potential to increase both regional and global competition, resulting in lower costs and fewer job possibilities. Conversely, protectionism can shield domestic businesses from foreign rivals, but this tactic frequently drives up consumer costs and reduces economic output. Therefore, evaluating the dispute between trade liberalization and protectionism is vital before engaging in any major international trade deals.

**Practical Applications of the International Business Studies Program**

**Day-to-Day Career Activities**

Effectiveness in business depends on one’s viewpoint. As businesses increasingly operate within a global market, anyone interested in a career in business administration today should have a strong foundation in international cooperation, international agreements, foreign relations, a variety of international corporate strategies, and the proactive judgment call of foreign corporations. Anyone considering starting their own private business, becoming a transnational brand ambassador, or becoming a Fortune 500 corporate executive can benefit from a Master’s in International Business Administration and Leadership (Purdue Global, 2022).

The graduate-level curriculum of an international business studies program thoroughly examines key strategic topics with a focus on global trade, global promotion, and global revenue challenges. Learners need to gain marketable skills that will enable them to find employment in any industry, regardless of their area of expertise, in a nation with a booming economy. Individuals who understand how to operate on a global scale are in great demand (Purdue Global, 2022). Numerous incoming first-year graduate students are drawn to international business degrees by the fact that many firms nowadays must operate beyond national boundaries. Corporate advisers, project managers, corporate investment bankers, HR management executives, financial analysts, sales executives, product managers, and supply chain managers are just a few of the positions becoming available to those who are prepared to integrate a global perspective into the corporate world.

**Extensive Contact and Collaborations**

Studying international business is essential in preparing students for careers requiring interaction and collaboration with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. An international business professional is required to overcome numerous cultural barriers to success; such barriers might result from differences in politics, morals, societies, and lifestyles.
Hence, this program can be beneficial and exciting to students who fancy traveling to new places and meeting new people since it focuses on international relations. International business students benefit from opportunities to interact with individuals from various countries across the world, enabling them to learn more about other cultures and lifestyles and thus aiding them in pursuing international business.

Gaining a Global Business Perspective

For those who desire to avoid being constrained by the limitations of a single job, set of experiences and expertise, or way of viewing the world, pursuing international business is a fantastic choice. International business studies present learners with an opportunity to learn more about “globality,” a term that describes internationalization according to the 1999 World Economic Forum. Additionally, learners can gain insights into a company’s global view and accompanying opportunities. Pursuing international business is likely to give a graduate more chances to move through the ranks in an international company.

Dissertation Writing

One of the major skills learnt from the international business studies program is dissertation writing, preparing learners for further research and doctoral studies in the field. A doctoral dissertation in international business is the result of an in-depth investigation into a significant and challenging topic in this field. The dissertation outlines the research problem, the main hypotheses, the background for the research study, the detailed data collection plan, and conclusions or suggestions based on the results. Such a doctoral research study must have clearly specified objectives, innovativeness, objective and analytical thinking, a suitable organization, and supporting documentation.

Students pursuing a Master’s degree in international business are required to write dissertations with an objective scientific component, which incorporate relevant conceptual knowledge and ideas from international business and related academic fields (Kingston University London, 2020). Such dissertations necessitate an understanding of the global framework wherein events, changes, operations, and their underlying causes and connections in international business, society, and management occur. This considerably improves students’ capacity to identify and comprehend such phenomena. Building upon prior knowledge of international business and pertinent learning areas, students will be able to perceive and assess the circumstances of firms operating in both national and global markets by developing their perspectives and making crucial decisions regarding the use of data and analysis techniques. Additionally, they can hypothesize about the causes, trends, and effects of global economic activities through such research studies and test these hypotheses. Further, students will be able to draft comprehensive
documents in an international language on any topic pertaining to international business, using sophisticated theoretical frameworks and a variety of reference sources. International business students will acquire the skills necessary for creating complex presentations in English, thoroughly referencing specific subjects, applying cutting-edge theoretical ideas, and drawing from a variety of knowledge bases. These acquired skills are useful throughout the pursuit of doctoral research studies.

**Individual Entrepreneurship**

An understanding of international business offers a key competitive edge to entrepreneurs. To establish and manage their businesses, entrepreneurs rely on a special set of skills. Their knowledge of global business operations has an impact on all aspects of their business. This factor influences and drives firms’ business operations, sales, and growth as well as distinguishing them from their competitors.

Further, the international business studies program offers priceless expertise to entrepreneurs in obtaining or hiring competence. Although the knowledge or skills gained from the program might take several forms, they are more extensive than those taught in the classroom; they encompass tactic, explicit, and embedded knowledge (Kingston University London, 2020). Tactic knowledge is gained through direct encounters or purposeful action (such as intuition or esthetic sense). As a result, it is difficult to make tacit knowledge concrete, to record it, and to impart it to others. Explicit knowledge refers to clearly stated facts and numbers that have been recorded or kept in a repository. Capturing, distributing, and transmitting explicit information is a straightforward process. Finally, embedded knowledge is information that is fixed within a system, such as a service, a set of rules, or a company’s culture; it comprises information that is difficult to extricate.

Natural expertise in conducting business internationally may or may not be possessed by business owners, teams, or an entire organization. Therefore, one can impart such skills to entrepreneurs through an international business studies program, thereby enabling them to work efficiently. Additionally, business owners hiring international business studies graduates gain knowledge and experience of global business operations across a variety of essential competencies, such as finance, administration, market research, strategy, and HR.

**Integration of Global Business Practices into Domestic Systems**

In the latter half of the 20th century, worldwide trade increased due to scientific advancements, trade liberalization, and investment liberalization. Nowadays, global competition poses a threat to enterprises of all sizes. Some businesses rely on local competition, whereas others depend on international vendors. International business continues to deal with a wide range of activities
from those of tiny organizations to those that multinational conglomerates conduct internationally due to their well-established worldwide networks of offices, factories, and distribution centers (Kingston University London, 2020). International trade differs from domestic trade in administrative structures, rules and policies, taxes and tariffs, currency markets, civilizations, and traditions across countries (Purdue Global, 2022). Both domestic and international commerce may strengthen economies while also posing difficulties. The benefits of expanding internationally should be weighed against the challenges presented by each country’s distinct governance structures, laws, cost structures, and monetary systems. Unfamiliar government regulations, shifting currency values, and language and cultural barriers are a few of the challenges that foreign businesses frequently encounter.

Over 200 distinct national markets exist on a global scale, offering those interested in this industry limitless opportunities for international trade. As a result, given the variety of alternatives available to students, a career in international commerce has several benefits. Careers in brand management, logistics administration, wealth management, and worldwide firm administration are all conceivable choices. Following graduation, individuals have a variety of employment and partnership options (Purdue Global, 2022). Some might work with foreign traders, trade centers, governments, and businesses. It is understandable why job seekers should be interested in international business given its rising trade volume and myriad employment options.

In this context, an international business studies program seeks to help students develop their critical thinking skills by educating them about the procedures used by corporations to develop and implement their global strategies. The program also helps learners to gain an awareness of the most recent scholarly research published in the field of international business, thereby enhancing their knowledge of the connections underlying strategies and achievements.

**General Applications of International Business Knowledge**

Knowledge of international business is crucial to the success of a corporation. SMEs might also apply this knowledge to gain insights into ways of penetrating the international market and the requirements for them to operate overseas. Furthermore, knowledge of international business has enhanced global links in the recent past, thus making business practices and investments more accessible.

Graduates of international business programs are well prepared to work in a variety of fields and environments because they have developed an understanding of a wide variety of global corporate management approaches. A company trying to contribute to protecting the environment, for instance, could pay extra for personnel to create its product in a location as
close to the client as possible to limit the amount of carbon dioxide produced by shipping the items (Purdue Global, 2022). A company’s employees may feel good about continuing to support the local economy if it can fill its positions with talented local residents.

In conclusion, those who desire to succeed as business owners should have a broad outlook. International business students are given opportunities to investigate in depth how organizations, markets, communities, and knowledge are more “linked” across nations as a result of globalization. Moreover, employers are becoming increasingly interested in the expertise acquired through such a curriculum. Hence, numerous vacancies across different sectors and businesses might be filled by international business graduates.

**Practical Applications of International Business Knowledge**

**Understanding Cultural Differences in Communication**

It is essential for businesses owners to be open minded since they command a multicultural workforce. Companies should respect the vast number of beliefs and customs of this workforce to attract a wide range of skill sets. However, experts should be keen and cautious while interacting with such a vast set of talents because what passes muster in one culture does not fit into another culture. Experts should make a serious effort to learn about varied traditions and beliefs to modify their language and greetings to suit them (Rodriguez, 2021). Along with carrying out their own research, they should look for “cultural champions” in the neighborhood and observe how they strike a balance in their relationships.

Anyone can stand out if they have the capacity to listen intently and answer correctly. Conversely, people will always have an advantage if they pay close attention to what is being said and comprehend the context of the entire conversation (Rodriguez, 2021). Additionally, speaking more than one language will offer a huge advantage to experts in the competitive employment markets of international companies.

Business professionals can avoid awkward gaffes and gain benefits by studying and following the cultural norms of the communities wherein they conduct business. For instance, most commercial goods and services are altered from their original state in the country of origin to ease their advertising in the target market.

**Networking**

Advancing an international business career requires practical networking abilities. Such a career requires a robust network of contacts in foreign countries to allow individuals to stay informed about the latest trends and developments in the business world and to explore new avenues
facilitating expansion. As a result, numerous learning institutions offer their students opportunities to participate in exchange programs and foreign workshops abroad to acquire knowledge about international business and to network with students and leaders from other countries (Rodriguez, 2021). There are also many online career development and networking sites, such as LinkedIn and AngelList, which assist individuals in worldwide networking with foreign experts for varied business roles. These networking programs play a major role in helping students to build long-lasting professional networks through interactions with top business leaders across various business fields.

**Employing Market and Environmental Sensitivity**

Possessing market and environment sensitivity is essential for successful international businesses. Individuals engaging in international business careers should understand the ins and outs of the industry, the local needs and distribution network, and the mechanisms that firms use to fit into and survive in the industry. Additionally, these experts should be capable of pinpointing competition quickly and determining its effects and advantages. This knowledge is helpful in determining the success or failure of a company.

Furthermore, business leaders should be knowledgeable about the financial and political landscape of the region where they currently operate or to which they intend to expand. Understanding the local environment, rules, population, and objectives may help practitioners to be ready for and succeed in international business. Business experts who possess such skills can better anticipate the stability levels, opportunities, and potential issues that their corporation may experience in the future.

**Effective Organization and Delegation**

Competent individuals who excel in organization and delegation will stand out in a worldwide corporate career. For example, a business or corporate entity can expand quickly in a foreign country by having its local management adopt a well-organized corporate strategy. The company can then proceed to enter a different market. A shorter ramp-up time and early market discovery are also made possible by effective delegation.

Experts are required to use organizational and delegating skills to maintain the organization at its top performing level to save time and resources in the long run (Washington State University, 2021). An expert should be competent enough to juggle numerous tasks at once, initiate strategies, design regular check-in intervals, and coordinate the entire workforce towards achieving the main goals of the company.
Prioritizing and organizational abilities are crucial for managing multiple projects at once and sticking to deadlines. By using effective delegation techniques, leaders can save time and enhance the contribution of their team to the business (McCarthy & Milner, 2019). Individuals possessing such skills will be able to meet deadlines and attain company goals.

Early certification in business-related fields, such as Six Sigma, is advisable because it will become essential as the business grows. In addition, Six Sigma provides a wide range of productivity-enhancing tools and techniques accessible to businesses of all sizes. Six Sigma may be a game changer, particularly in international trade, wherein large projects are frequently broken down into smaller, more manageable pieces (Takao et al., 2017). Quality assurance and cost reduction are the usual key contributions of Six Sigma.

**Adaptation**

Keeping up with the market’s continuous evolution presents several challenges. What makes sense today might not make sense tomorrow. Likewise, it is difficult to plan for every scenario, and it is occasionally logical to change course. Adaptation could keep a business ahead of the competition, save money, and put things into perspective (Azeem et al., 2021).

The rapid evolution of market conditions makes adaptive skills a highly sought-after competency among international business professionals worldwide. An international company will turn out to be successful if it has leaders who can quickly adapt their thinking based on new knowledge. Inquisitiveness, readiness to learn, humility, and self-control are qualities that support the development of adaptive thought. Some international companies have failed in their operations due to their lack of a rapid response to the demands of a dynamic market. The ability of a company to shift quickly in a changing business environment offers it a competitive edge over other international businesses.

**Using a Positive Attitude to Overcome Adversity**

Corporate management, particularly in international commerce, is difficult because of the need to meet constant shifts in expectations. The executives monitoring the site are subject to stress from several sources, including their work environment, shift schedule, cognitive functioning, physical well-being, personal ambitions, societal expectations, and times in which they live. Therefore, maintaining resilience in the face of adversity is necessary.

Developing a solid mentality and a can-do attitude is vital to overcome challenges in international business (Chakraborty & Ganguly, 2019). International business professionals must be able to recover quickly from failures to succeed. Self-discipline, emotional intelligence, consciousness, and flexibility serve to keep international business leaders robust. It is also
essential to have self-awareness and emotional control to see clearly in challenging times, which can be helpful in determining solutions that lead to commercial success.

**Conclusion**

Businesses need to increase their worldwide sales in the age of globalization. Any economic transaction involving individuals, businesses, or authorities from various countries is referred to as international business. International businesses encompass various trading activities involving goods, services, and technology among corporations located in diverse countries worldwide. Such trading might involve multinational conglomerates or individual companies across varied geographical locations. International trade aims to venture into new markets and to widen the consumer base by acquiring new customers, which in turn are reflected in increased earnings. International trading companies also invest heavily in hiring professional international business experts to help them with market analysis, offering them an edge over their competitors. International trade is affected by economic regulations, racial diversity, economic conditions, legal systems, and technological advancements. One could discover a number of unanticipated benefits as the company grows globally. However, many firms fail while expanding abroad for a variety of reasons, the most common of which are insufficient planning and incompetent human capital. Businesses that wish to succeed globally must maintain the agility to deal with the continuously changing global conditions and the adaptability to modify their business strategies according to the needs of various players and markets. Hiring qualified individuals with experience in international business will help to achieve success in the domain. Hence, an international business studies qualification is a precious asset in current times.

Further, international business knowledge aids in preparation for doctoral research. The international business studies program entails a vast amount of reading and analysis of case studies and scholarly articles, providing learners with in-depth knowledge about various aspects of international trade. For instance, enormous efforts have been made to produce a global definition of internationalization to add to the existing knowledge of international business. The program enables learners to test theories about the causes, trends, and effects of international economic operations. It also allows the internalization of documents in international languages on vast topics related to international business. These documents can be employed for complex theoretical constructs related to international aspects along with supportive and credible references for further research. Further, an international business studies program trains students in drafting complex presentations on various business topics in English, citing them appropriately, applying theoretical concepts, and referring to an enormous knowledge base.

Apart from theoretical knowledge, the program imparts practical skills. Graduates of an international business studies program will be better equipped to engage in professions needing
routine communication with individuals from varied cultural backgrounds, which is essential for the in-the-field application of their expertise. Such graduates will better comprehend the difficulties and opportunities related to conducting business across diverse cultures and nations. Finally, international business studies graduates could, in the future, at an advanced research or doctoral level, choose to concentrate on a certain domain of international business to gain further expertise and contribute to the knowledge of the domain.

References


