



Toyota Wessels Institute for Manufacturing Studies

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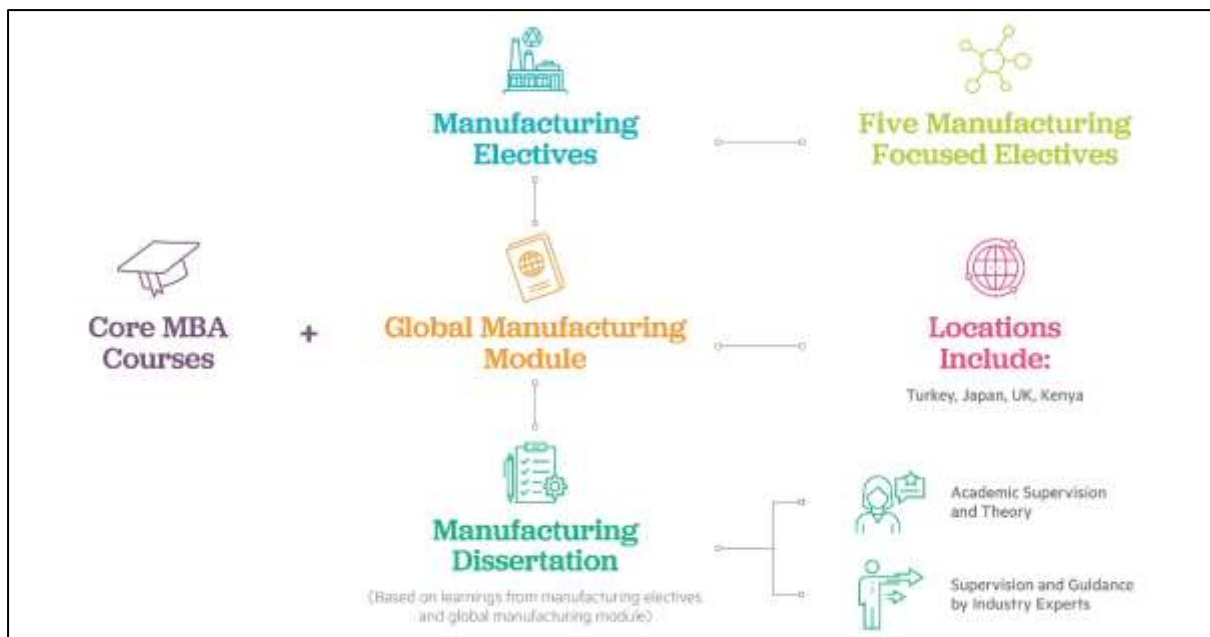
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Introducing the Toyota Wessels Institute for Manufacturing Studies

The Toyota Wessels Institute for Manufacturing Studies (TWIMS) is an independent, not for profit initiative, established through grant funding from the Toyota South Africa Education Trust. While TWIMS proudly carries the name of both Toyota and the Wessels family, which founded Toyota South Africa, the institution is a public body dedicated to the development of manufacturing executives in Africa.

As a tuition centre of the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS), the pinnacle qualification taught at TWIMS is the GIBS manufacturing focused MBA. GIBS, in partnership with TWIMS, has developed a range of manufacturing specific courses for this focused MBA. These include Future Manufacturing, Green Manufacturing, Lean Operations Management, Lean Supply Chain management, and African Trade and Industrialisation. In addition, the international study and independent research components of the MBA are manufacturing focused. For example, the international study component includes trips to leading manufacturing plants in countries like Turkey and Thailand, while the independent research component requires students to complete their MBA dissertation on a manufacturing related subject. The structure of the MBA is depicted graphically below.



The GIBS MBA (manufacturing focus) is only taught at TWIMS. It is delivered on an extended block release basis by GIBS faculty to the same standard of delivery on the main GIBS campus. In addition to the earning of formal academic qualifications, TWIMS has developed a range of manufacturing executive short courses that will be delivered at its state-of-the-art campus, while the campus itself has been designed to accommodate other training service providers and company strategy sessions. For example, the campus has a well-appointed 14 room boutique hotel, multiple executive seminar rooms, a resource centre and computer laboratory. By June of next year, TWIMS will also offer an 84-seater auditorium, a technology “sandpit”, gym, and a public coffee shop.

As a public institution, TWIMS would be delighted to host automotive manufacturing representatives to its facility and its various formal and non-formal academic courses. For queries related to TWIMS, please contact its Executive Director, Dr Justin Barnes, at justin.barnes@twimsafrica.com.