

THE OXFORD ADVANCED STRATEGY FOR DIRECTORS & LEADERS



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TRAINING CENTER



Introduction

The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders Training Course prepares directors and senior leaders to set corporate direction and hold it accountable. Participants work through strategic analysis, portfolio choice, financial stewardship, board governance, and enterprise risk as one integrated mandate. The programme connects the strategic role of the board with the leadership practice that carries decisions into the organization. As a result, learners gain a governance-aware strategic method rather than technical analysis alone. Furthermore, the course strengthens boardroom judgement, stakeholder accountability, and the capability to build leadership beneath them.

The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders Course Objectives

- Define the director's strategic role and fiduciary responsibility.
- Analyse corporate context using PESTLE, Porter's Five Forces, and scenario planning.
- Assess competitive position with the VRIO framework and value chain analysis.
- Apply portfolio decisions using the BCG and GE-McKinsey matrices.
- Interpret financial statements and key ratios for board-level decisions.
- Set enterprise objectives with the Balanced Scorecard and OKRs.
- Apply corporate governance codes, board committees, and separation of duties.
- Manage enterprise risk with risk appetite statements and risk registers.
- Lead strategic change with Kotter's eight steps and the ADKAR model.
- Build board effectiveness, executive succession, and leadership capability.

Course Methodology

- Board-level case discussions on strategy, governance, and accountability.

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- Workshops on strategic analysis, portfolio review, and governance design.
- Group work on enterprise risk, board reporting, and succession planning.
- Hands-on practice with Balanced Scorecard, OKRs, financial ratios, and risk appetite statements.
- Simulation of a board meeting, a contested strategy, and a governance challenge.
- Executive coaching and peer review on personal director development plans.

Who Should Take This Course

- Board members, non-executive directors, and directors.
- Senior executives reporting to boards.
- Executive and non-executive committee members.
- Company secretaries and governance professionals.
- Senior finance, risk, and audit leaders.
- Senior managers preparing for a director-level role.

The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders Course Outlines

Day 1: The Director's Role and Strategic Mandate

- What the director's role demands beyond senior management.
- Fiduciary duty, accountability, and shareholder expectations.
- Corporate strategy, mission, vision, and measurable objectives.
- Levels of strategy: corporate, business, and functional.
- Stakeholder expectations: shareholders, regulators, employees, and society.
- Director independence, judgement, and challenge.



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- Case discussion: a board that approved a strategy it never tested.

Day 2: Strategic Analysis and Portfolio Choice

- PESTLE and scenario planning for a shifting environment.
- Industry structure with Porter's Five Forces.
- Resource-based view and the VRIO framework.
- Value chain analysis and corporate advantage.
- Portfolio decisions with the BCG and GE-McKinsey matrices.
- Growth options: organic, merger, acquisition, and alliance.
- Workshop: reviewing a corporate portfolio and recommending moves.

Day 3: Financial Stewardship and Board Reporting

- Reading financial statements: income statement, balance sheet, cash flow.
- Key ratios: profitability, liquidity, leverage, and efficiency.
- Capital allocation, investment appraisal, and return expectations.
- Enterprise objectives with the Balanced Scorecard and OKRs.
- Management accounts, board packs, and performance dialogue.
- Assurance, internal control, and audit oversight.
- Exercise: interpreting a board pack and defending a decision.

Day 4: Governance, Risk, and Accountability

- Corporate governance principles and codes of practice.
- Board roles, committees, and separation of duties.
- Risk appetite statements, risk registers, and enterprise risk management.
- Compliance, ethics, and anti-bribery expectations.



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- Disclosure, transparency, and stakeholder reporting.
- Crisis leadership, reputation, and stakeholder trust.
- Simulation: a board meeting and a governance challenge.

Day 5: Strategic Leadership, Change, and Board Effectiveness

- Board dynamics, challenge culture, and decision quality.
- Leading strategic change with Kotter's eight steps and the ADKAR model.
- Executive succession and leadership pipeline development.
- Board evaluation, effectiveness review, and improvement.
- Personal director development and ethical judgement.
- Representing the organization to investors and regulators.
- Capstone: presenting a director-level strategy and governance plan.

Conclusion

By successfully completing The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders, participants will gain an integrated command of corporate strategy, financial stewardship, governance, risk, and board effectiveness. They will acquire skills in portfolio judgement, risk and accountability oversight, board communication, and executive succession. Gentex Training Center designs the programme to help directors and senior leaders set direction and hold it accountable.

FAQs





Q1 What is the "The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders" course about?

It prepares directors and senior leaders to set corporate direction and hold it accountable. The course spans the director's role and strategic mandate, strategic analysis and portfolio choice, financial stewardship and board reporting, governance and risk, and strategic leadership and board effectiveness.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders" course?

You gain a governance-aware strategic method rather than technical analysis alone. The programme sharpens boardroom judgement, improves portfolio and capital decisions, strengthens risk and assurance oversight, and improves your ability to challenge management constructively.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders" course?

You will develop four core skills: strategic analysis and portfolio decision making, financial stewardship and board reporting, governance, risk, and accountability oversight, and board effectiveness with executive succession.



Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders" course?

The programme covers PESTLE, scenario planning, Porter's Five Forces, the VRIO framework, value chain analysis, the BCG and GE-McKinsey matrices, financial statement and ratio analysis, capital allocation and investment appraisal, the Balanced Scorecard, OKRs, management accounts and board packs, internal control and audit oversight, corporate governance codes and board committee structures, risk appetite statements, enterprise risk management and risk registers, anti-bribery and ethics expectations, board evaluation practice, Kotter's eight steps, and the ADKAR model.

Q5 How is the "The Oxford Advanced Strategy for Directors & Leaders" course applied in real-world practice?

Participants apply it to real work such as challenging a management strategy in the boardroom, reviewing a corporate portfolio, resetting an enterprise risk appetite, and overseeing an executive succession plan. The same methods support board evaluation and investor reporting.