

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc International Management				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSINTMN_C				
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A				
6	Home Department	Department of Management				
7	Exit Award(s)	Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year (full-time); 2 years (part-time)				
9	Mode of Study	FT	x	PT	X	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	Level: 7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Group	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims				
	<p>Main Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overall aims of the academically rigorous taught postgraduate programme in International Management are to prepare graduates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to pursue a career in management with multinational companies or companies engaged in international business, more generally; and/ or - to progress, if desired, to one of the research degree programmes at Birkbeck. • To achieve those overall aims, the programme fosters the development of a broad-based knowledge and expertise in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the essentials of cross-border management theory and practice and the core principles and practice of business and organisations in an international context; - the design and implementation of strategy at different levels of the corporate organisation, particularly in an international dimension; - a range of optional subjects in international business and management as well as specific functional areas that will broaden the scope of learning in international management, and its interface with international business; - the study of conceptual and practical issues in international management through the pursuit of the dissertation, thus fostering powers of critical analysis and independent judgment to frame solutions to complex managerial problems in international business organisations; and 				

	<p>- personal skills development and generic skills that are transferable to a wide range of research, teaching and work situations. This includes the skills of self-discipline, reflection, analysis, communication, leadership and life-long learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance the fine reputation of Birkbeck, University of London and the Department of Management within the School of Business, Economics and Informatics by building on its track record of success in offering a range of postgraduate programmes in the International Business and related fields. <p>Distinctive Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme is distinct from other international management programmes because it promotes an interdisciplinary connection with the International Business field including strategy, and the opportunity to develop expertise in a range of functional areas of international management including human resource management, marketing and finance. • The compulsory modules are carefully designed to cover the core areas of international management to include organisational principles, strategy, human resource management, marketing and finance. • The part-time programme embodies Birkbeck College's mission which concerns the education of mature students in full-time employment or have other daytime commitments and who may have missed out on earlier educational opportunities. • Face-to-face instruction conducted during the evening. • Fair consideration to suitable applicants without standard entry qualifications and from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds. • The assessment of most modules by means of an appropriate mix of examination and various forms of coursework. • Opportunities for further academic development through research in the Department of Management.
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15	<p>Entry Criteria</p> <p>(1) Normally at least a second class undergraduate honours degree in any subject area from a UK university or a non-UK equivalent; other qualifications will be considered.</p> <p>(2) A professional or other qualifications obtained by written examinations approved by the College.</p> <p>(3) Evidence of English Language proficiency, for applicants whose first language is not English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS 6.5 (with 6.0 in each of the sub tests). Please note we only accept the Academic, not the General Test. • Pearsons PTE Academic test: 62 overall with 60 in each subtest • Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) and Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE): 176 overall with 169 in each subtest • TOEFL iBT: Overall 92 R=22, L=21, S=23, W=24
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	(4) Relevant work experience, supporting statements and references may be taken into consideration, especially in the case of non-standard applications.
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16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Subject Specific:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A critical understanding and awareness of the international dimensions of management, business, and organisation studies and related fields such as economics as academic fields of study, including knowledge of the foundation literatures and understanding and awareness of current research trends. • The ability to appraise existing views and debates in the theory and practice of international management, broadly defined, including the critical evaluation of the evidence. • The knowledge and understanding of international business organisations, and of the global environment in which they operate. • The development of competencies in the various processes of international management: planning, organising, leading and controlling. • The appreciation of how managerial processes play important roles in the attainment of efficiency and effectiveness of international business organisations. • A critical and thorough understanding of a broad range of qualitative and quantitative social science research methodologies, their epistemological underpinnings, and their specific application in management and business research methods. • Critical thinking and independent judgment to confront a whole range of managerial issues of international business, both in conceptual and practical terms. <p>Intellectual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic learning through the application of conceptual and theoretical awareness, understanding and expertise of the international dimensions of management, business, organisation studies and related fields to actual work/life situations where the processes of management are required and are applicable. • Analytical skills to identify and describe the international dimensions of management/business problems in academic or actual work/life situations, to study the problem(s) in depth, and to devise effective strategies for their resolution with the use of common sense, academic knowledge combined with qualitative and quantitative skills and techniques, if required. • Demonstration of a reasoned awareness and critical understanding in general, including the ability to synthesize diverse sources of information in academic or actual work/life situations, make sense of conflicting information, formulate and test hypotheses, construct theoretical and empirical arguments, and make informed decisions. • The ability to analyse both quantitative and qualitative data, including the use of advanced qualitative and quantitative methods. • General transferable cognitive skills in analytical and critical reasoning, including the ability to critically evaluate solutions to problems, deduce from incomplete information, and to understand abstract ideas and relate these to practice.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other cognitive skills, including the ability to appraise quantitative and qualitative work, critically assess and reflect on general principles revealed through practical exploration of specific tools, techniques and methods. <p>Practical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The acquisition of a range of study skills in the context of international management studies. • Development of financial, mathematical and statistical skills required in quantitative approaches to international management problems, and for data analysis. • The use of standard computer software (word processing, spreadsheets, databases) and information and communications technologies (ICT), and the application of ICT skills in both general and subject-specific contexts. • An understanding of research design and the formulation and analysis of research questions. • The ability to conduct an independent research investigation in an academically rigorous and ethically responsible way, selecting and employing sound research methods appropriate to the topic of study and relating the study to both existing research in the field and to practical real-world problems. • Research skills, including the ability to locate, extract and analyse data from different sources. • Bibliographic skills, including the ability to conduct literature searches using electronic databases such as the Social Science Citation Index. <p>Personal and Social:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical, transferable communication skills, including in presentation, discussion and writing. • Practical, transferable planning and organisational skills. • The ability to work both independently and in teams through the effective development of appropriate interpersonal skills. • Self-awareness, planning and organisational skills, managing time and working to deadlines • Identification and formulation of needs for further academic learning and the planning of such learning broadly defined either in employment or through further studies.
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17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>The principal methods of teaching and learning include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecturing • Directed reading • Class discussion of research articles • Small group and class discussion of case studies linking theory and practice • Student-led seminars and presentations • Supervised individual assignments • Supervised group exercises • Supervised independent research for dissertation • Online learning through Moodle <p>While lecturing is a major vehicle of knowledge transfer in the MSc programme in International Management, most modules use a mix of other methods of learning and teaching with lectures, all of which are peer reviewed (e.g. group exercises, case studies linking theory and practice, seminars involving group work and presentations). There are</p>
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several modules in which lectures are combined with small group discussions in which even more interaction between students and between students and group leaders are possible, thus helping to harness relevant social interactive behaviour and the ability to work in teams, while actively pursuing the advancement of knowledge. Active participation at lectures and individual assignments, including the supervised independent research for the dissertation, provide other avenues for interactive learning. Individual assignment and the supervised independent research for the dissertation are designed to assess the ability of postgraduate students to take responsibility for their own learning and time management, to search for information, and to carry out work to set deadlines.

Assessment methods:

The learning outcomes determine the method of assessment for each module of the programme. The assessment of most modules that form the MSc International Management programme is by a combination of coursework (of various forms) and an unseen formal, written examination at the end of the Autumn term, Spring term or Summer term. In order to arrive at an overall mark for each module, the marks awarded for the coursework and examination are combined in ratios that vary across modules, but in most cases a 25%:75% ratio applies in determining the respective weight of coursework and examination in the overall mark for each module.

Final Examinations provide a rigorous test of the core knowledge, understanding and analytical skills of students and encourage careful revision and the consolidation of core learning in general and specific subject areas.

The coursework aims at the development and assessment of students' critical understanding of academic knowledge and process-based research skills. All coursework assess the ability of students to take responsibility for their own learning and time management; to search for information; and to carry out work to set deadlines. They test a number of subject-specific, and other intellectual, practical and personal and social skills to include inter alia: the ability to locate, extract and analyse qualitative and quantitative data from different sources as a basis for decision making and justification of resource deployment; the ability to construct an argument in written English; to critically evaluate arguments and evidence; to appraise existing views and debates critically; and the ability to describe and justify international management and business decisions. Apart from providing quantitative assessment, the coursework provides opportunities for detailed qualitative feedback to students, thus enhancing the learning process on a regular basis throughout the programme. Coursework can take several forms:

- a) Written exercises and essays are used to assess the ability to work through quantitative and qualitative problems; construct an argument in written English; critically evaluate arguments and evidence; appraise existing views and debates; and assess the ability to describe and justify management and business decisions.
- b) Group Assignments are used to evaluate the ability to communicate appropriately with peers and supervisors (oral and written), foster co-operation, trust and loyalty; use computer technology for communication; and work in teams.

All assessed work is marked in accordance with the Common Awards Scheme. The criteria are linked explicitly to the learning outcomes, and distinguish clearly between the achievements required for each range of marks in the distinction, merit, pass and fail categories.

	<p>Timetables indicating when the various modules are taught or when the different forms of coursework for each module are to be submitted are published in the Postgraduate Handbook, which is updated annually prior to the start of each academic year. Careful attention is paid to the student workload and these schedules. There is a policy with respect to return of coursework: four weeks from the date of submission or six weeks in the case of large courses, the vacation period excepted. Advice is provided on time management through dedicated courses; and there is recourse to College procedures for dealing with late submission and mitigating circumstances.</p> <p>The Common Awards Scheme governs the award of the MSc International Management degree and intermediate awards.</p>
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18	<p>Programme Description</p> <p>This programme can be studied: full-time over 1 year or part-time over 2 years.</p> <p>Students complete eight modules and write a 12,000-word dissertation.</p> <p>Postgraduate Diploma: Requires students to have passed modules to the value of 120 credits.</p> <p>Postgraduate Certificate: Requires students to have passed modules to the value of 60 credits.</p> <p>Two sets of degree structure, 1 and 2 year studies, are provided below.</p>
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19	<p>Programme Structure</p> <p><i>Full-Time programme – 1 year</i></p> <p>Year 1</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">Level</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Module Code</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Module Title</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Credits</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Status*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>MOMN010H7</td> <td>Principles of Organization and Management</td> <td>15</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>MOMN011H7</td> <td>Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)</td> <td>15</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>MOMN009H7</td> <td>International Business Strategy</td> <td>15</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>BUMN074H7</td> <td>Multinational Financial Management</td> <td>15</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>MOMN025H7</td> <td>International Marketing</td> <td>15</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>BUMN004H7</td> <td>International Human Resource Management</td> <td>15</td> <td>Compulsory</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>BUMN061D7</td> <td>MSc Dissertation</td> <td>60</td> <td>Core</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option modules – from closed list, see below</td> <td>15</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>Option modules – free choice from any postgraduate modules in the Department of Management</td> <td>15</td> <td>Optional</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*	7	MOMN010H7	Principles of Organization and Management	15	Compulsory	7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory	7	MOMN009H7	International Business Strategy	15	Compulsory	7	BUMN074H7	Multinational Financial Management	15	Compulsory	7	MOMN025H7	International Marketing	15	Compulsory	7	BUMN004H7	International Human Resource Management	15	Compulsory	7	BUMN061D7	MSc Dissertation	60	Core	7		Option modules – from closed list, see below	15	Optional	7		Option modules – free choice from any postgraduate modules in the Department of Management	15	Optional
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7	MOMN010H7	Principles of Organization and Management	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN009H7	International Business Strategy	15	Compulsory
7	BUMN074H7	Multinational Financial Management	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN025H7	International Marketing	15	Compulsory
7		Option modules – from closed list, see below	15	Optional
Year 2				
7	BUMN004H7	International Human Resource Management	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory
7	BUMN061D7	MSc Dissertation	60	Core
7		Option modules – free choice from any postgraduate modules in the Department of Management	15	Optional
Indicative list of modules for closed options:				
7	BUMN070H7	Economics for Managers	15	Optional
7	MOMN074H7	Globalization: Forces, Players and Management	15	Optional
7	MOMN032H7	International Business Ethics	15	Optional
7	MOMN007H7	International Business: Theories and Issues	15	Optional
7	MOMN008H7	The Dynamics of Global Capitalism: Theory and Practice	15	Optional

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

24	Programme Director	Dr. Odile Janne
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2012
26	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2012
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2012
28	Date(s) updated/amended	February 2019