BSc Management with Information Technology   **UCAS code: N2G5**
For students entering Part 1 in 2009/0

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Business and Management
Faculty:	Henley Business School at Univ of Reading
Programme length:	4 years
Date of specification:	04/Apr/2011
Programme Director:	Dr Lucy Newton
Programme Advisor:	Dr Gerard McKee
Board of Studies:	IT/Management/Economics
Accreditation:	British Computer Society (can be applied for individually)

Summary of programme aims
This programme aims to prepare students for responsible professional leadership and managerial roles in the Information Technology industry, and provides a good understanding of a range of key functional aspects of business. It is distinctive in placing a strong emphasis on international business themes relevant for the emerging challenges facing business in a global context. Graduates will be well qualified to develop as professional career in the management or development of a firm within the IT industry

Transferable skills
During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills in line with the University's Strategy for Learning and Teaching. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of IT and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.
As part of this programme students are expected to have gained experience in the following transferable skills: IT (programming, word processing, databases and use of standard software), technical writing, oral presentations, team-working, problem-solving, use of library resources, time-management, career planning and management, and business awareness

Programme content
In the first year students spend 50% of their time on Management related subjects, and the remainder on their minor subject. More time is spent on the major subject in latter years. The third year is spent on an approved placement

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

MM1F4	Introduction to Management	20	4
EC105	Introductory Quantitative Techniques	20	4
SE1TQ5	Commercial off-the-shelf Software 1	20	4
SE1TR5	E-Business 1	20	4
SE1SB9	Software Engineering	20	4

Either
MM1F2	Introductory Financial Accounting	20	4

Or
MM1F10	Student Enterprise	20	4

Part 2 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
MM258	Management of Information Systems	20	5
MM256	Management Skills	20	5
SE2BS11	Business Systems Applications	20	5
SE2DB11	Databases	10	5
SE2FD11	Advanced Databases	10	5

MM1F2	Introductory Financial Accounting (if not taken at Part 1)	20	4

Optional modules at part 2 (to bring the total to 120 credits):
Students must choose TWO (one if MM1F2 is taken) optional modules to the value of 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant School Handbook. There is no guarantee that in any one year all modules will be available. New optional modules may also be added

Year abroad/Year away/Additional year (three terms)
Compulsory modules

SE2W9	Industrial Placement	120	5

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

MM332A	Strategic Management & Business Policy 1	20	6

Optional modules in Management to total 60 credits:
Students must choose THREE optional modules to the value of 60 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant School Handbook. There is no guarantee that in any one year all modules will be available. New optional modules may also be added.

Optional modules in IT to total 40 credits:
Students must choose TWO option modules to the value of 40 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant School Handbook. There is no guarantee that in any one year all modules will be available. New option modules may also be added

Progression requirements
To progress to part 2 a student must:
(i) obtain an overall average mark of 40% across all Part 1 modules;
(ii) obtain at least 40% in EC1F5 Introductory Quantitative Techniques, MM1F4 Introductory Management and a further 60 credits; and
(iii) achieve not less than 35% in the remaining 20 credits

To progress from part 2 to part 3 a student must:
(i) achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2:
(ii) obtain at least 40% in MM258 Introduction to Information systems Management, MM256 Management Skills and a further 60 credits
(iii) achieve not less than 35% in the remaining 20 credits

To be eligible for Honours, students must obtain an overall average mark of 40% and pass the placement year. Students who pass Part 2 are eligible to transfer to the Business Information Technology BSc (this degree does not include a placement year)

Summary of Teaching and Assessment
Teaching is organised in modules that typically involve both lectures and practical work. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. However, some modules are assessed only as coursework, while others are assessed solely by examination. Details are given in the relevant module descriptions. The weighting between Part 2, 3 and 4 is outlined in Faculty regulations

Admission requirements
Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:
UCAS Tariff: 320 points, from three A2's plus:
Mathematics either at A level or GCSE grade A; and
GCSE Grade A in English Language or at least a B in an essay-based A or AS level.
Equivalent qualifications are acceptable

Admissions Tutor: Dr Ismael Al-Amoudi

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support is provided by a wide array of services across the University, including: the University Library, the Careers Advisory Service, In-sessional English Support Programme, the Study Advice and Mathematics Support Centre teams, IT Services and the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@il) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, School Senior Tutors, the Students' Union, the Medical Practice and the Student Services Directorate. The Student Services Directorate is housed in the Carrington Building and includes the Careers Advisory Service, the Disability Advisory Service, Accommodation Advisory Team, Student Financial Support and Counselling. Student Services has a Helpdesk available for enquiries made in person or online (www.risisweb.reading.ac.uk), or by calling the central enquiry number on (0118) 378 5555. Students can get key information and guidance from the team of Helpdesk Advisers, or make an appointment with a specialist adviser; Student Services also offer drop-in sessions on everything from accommodation to finance. The Carrington Building is open between 8:30 and 17:30 Monday to Thursday (17:00 Friday and during vacation periods). Further information can be found on the Student website (www.reading.ac.uk/student).

The School of Management provides handbooks that outline programme and module content. In additional to lecture and class time, each module lecturer has appointed office hours during which they may be consulted without prior appointment. The School of Management has a resource centre with reference books and computers for student use.

Within the Computer Science Department additional support is given though practical laboratory classes. The development of problem-solving skills is assisted by appropriate assignment and project work. There is a Course Adviser to offer advice on the choice of modules within the programme. Course handbooks are provided for each Part of the course: these give more details about the modules which make up the degree. In addition, the School of Computer Science, Cybernetics and Electronic Engineering produces a Handbook for Students, which provides general information about the staff and facilities within the school

Career prospects
This degree is designed to be industry oriented. It is expected that graduates will work within the IT industry in managerial careers and may also be employed in IT management in other private and public sector organisations. Graduates in Management with Information Technology could be expected to have the following generic job titles:
- Systems manager
- Marketing manager-IT
- IT operations manager
- systems analyst
- analyst/programmer

- software engineer
- applications developer
- web developer
- project manager
- software/hardware trainer

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

Placements are a compulsory part of the programme in the third year. Students are expected to seek and secure a work placement in an appropriate firm. The work placement or internship should be of at least 30 weeks in an organisation approved by the Board of Studies. In exceptional circumstances (e.g. company failure) the Board may reduce this or approve a substitute or other alternative on the advice of the Director of Studies

Programme Outcomes

Assessment in business and IT:

Knowledge is tested through a mixture of formal examinations and practical work

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

a. the theoretical basis of management and key functional areas of business.
b. Current developments in the practice and theory of business management.
c. Fundamental concepts of business management relevant to the student becoming a manager in a UK business.
d. The environmental and ethical context of business management in the UK.
e. An understanding of the importance of international management and e-business.
f. Understanding of the drivers of change in business, including technology, management practice, business cultures and organisational behaviour.
In IT: Knowledge and understanding of:
1. Software including:
1a) Programming languages
1b) Software tools
1c) Packages
1d) Computer Applications
1e) Structuring of data and information
2. Practice
2a) Problem identification and analysis
2b) Design, development and evaluation
2c) Management and organisation
2d) Professionalism and ethics
2e) Commercial and industrial exploitation
3. Hardware
4. Communication and interaction
5. Theory
Note these are the five areas identifies in the Computing benchmark

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

in Business:
a-f Lectures; tutor-led tutorials; student and tutor-led seminars and problem-based learning. All Management courses. Guest lecturers from industry and directed self-study.
Teaching/learning methods and strategies in IT:
The course concentrates on aspects 1. and 2. with teaching of all aspects involving an introduction of the aspects in theoretical manner and re-enforcement by related practical work, with the first year providing the core, subsequent years involve deeper study, with the student concentrating on a single theme in their final year.
Aspects 3 and 4. feature within the COTS themes particularly from a practical perspective.
Aspects 3, 4. and 5. are presented as supporting material and taught in the context of aspects 1. and 2. as and when they are needed.

Assessment
Assessment in business and IT:
Knowledge is tested through a mixture of formal examinations and practical work

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

In Business to be able to:
a Apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry.
b. Evaluate research and a variety of types of information and evidence critically.
c. Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice.
d. Apply strategies for appropriate selection of relevant information from a wide source and large body of knowledge.
e. Utilise problem-solving skills.
f. Analyse, evaluate and interpret the assumptions and principles underpinning business management.
In IT to be able to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding related to aspects outlined above.
2. Apply such knowledge and understanding to the modelling of computer systems.
3. Recognise and analyse criteria and specifications appropriate to a specific problem.
4. Critically evaluate and test a computer based system.
5. Deploy appropriate methods and tools for creating computer systems.
6. Reflect and communicate
7. Recognise and conform to appropriate professional, ethical and legal practices

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In Business:
a-f. Lectures; tutor-led tutorials; student and tutor-led seminars; self-directed learning; research-based teaching materials and methods; problem-based learning scenarios. All Management classes to some degree.
b,e,f. Case studies
c-d. Independent research and self study
In IT:
1. and 2. As above in IT element.
3., 4. and 5. will be taught as part of the themes; Software Engineering; Programming and Design and COTS. The taught element will be re-enforced by practical work.
6. will be taught as part of COTS 1 and E-Business 1, throughout the course the students will be expected to use these skills.
7. will be pervasive throughout the course but be covered specifically in the Software Engineering theme and the compulsory material in the final year.

Assessment
In Business: Written exam papers; practical assessments; coursework (essay); case study analysis; dissertation.
In IT: These skills are tested through a mixture of formal examinations, presentations, reports and practicals. The individual project provides a major piece of work in which among other things the student will be assessed on their abilities to reflect and communicate. Oral presentations will be required in the Software Engineering and COTS themes and the Project, in the latter the presentation will be assessed by two members of staff not involved in the supervision of the Project

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

Understand the economic basis of the firm in its wider economic, political and social environment.
Recognise and understand basic financial accounting features of a firm.
Evaluate the behaviour, culture and strategy of firms.
Effectively apply key professional skills learnt in optional classes to the business world.
Practical IT skills. Able to:
1. Specify, design and construct computer-based systems.
2. Evaluate systems
3. Recognise Risks and Safety aspects
4. Effectively deploy software tools
5. Operate computing equipment effectively

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In business: a-d. Practical projects; placements; seminars; lectures; problem-based scenarios.
Lectures and workshops. c Case studies, placements, practical projects.
In IT:
1. will be covered both theoretically and practically, particularly in the Programming and Design themes.
2. will be particularly covered as part COTS themes.
3. Theoretical aspects of risk and safety, the compulsory material in the final year will also cover managerial aspects. Practical aspects will be presented in the IT themes.
4. will be covered theoretically and practically as part of the COTS, Programming and Design and Software Engineering themes.
5.will be covered as part the COTS theme in a theoretical and practical manner.

Assessment
In Business: Written exam; practical papers;

coursework; case studies.
In IT: Skills 1. to 5. will be assessed by a mixture of practical work and examination.

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

Business elements: able to:
a. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means.
b. Evaluate his/her own academic professional performance.
c. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations.
d. Manage change effectively and respond to changing demands.
e. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development (Personal Development Planning).
f. Manage time, prioritise workloads and manage personal emotions and stress.
g. Understand career opportunities and begin to plan a career path.
h. Information management skills, e.g. IT skills.
IT elements able to:
1. Effectively retrieve information
2. Present cases in a quantitative dimension.
3. Manage own learning and development.
4. Appreciate the need for continuing professional development (CPD), be able to plan and execute their own CPD
5. Organise and work as part of a team.
6. Plan and manage their own careers.
7. Communicate in a manner appropriate to the situation.
8. Effectively use Information Technology.
9. Ability to function in the work place

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Business elements:
a-h. Lectures, group work, group presentations, dissertation and project based methods.
b-c. Group projects, business simulation exercises, self assessment exercises.
IT elements:
1. Information retrieval will be covered theoretically and by practical work. It will be introduced in COTS 1.
2. Numerical skills will be introduced and exercised in the COTS 1.
3. Time management and organisational skills will be taught as part of Software Engineering. The students will also be expected to use a number of on-line learning tools.
4. Professionalism will be an important issue throughout the course. Students will be encouraged to join the BCS and participate in local meetings.
5,6 and 7. The University's Careers management skill module component will be taken in the second year through the Management department.
8. The COTS theme will specifically include the use of Information Technology

Assessment
In Business: Assessments include a wide variety of methods such as tutor feedback, critiques of presentations, interactive discussion in groups. Group feedback and peer assessment.
In IT: 1. to 3., 5. to 8. will be assessed by a mixture of practical work, presentations, reports and examinations. 4. will be assessed by formal examination. Communication skills (7.) will also be assessed with the Individual Project.
9. Is provided by the work placement and assessed through reports and oral examination

Please note - This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance process or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.