

## **MSc in International Management**

### **For students entering Part 1 in 2011/2**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	
Faculty:	Henley Business School at Univ of Reading
Programme length:	1 years
Date of specification:	02/Sep/2011
Programme Director:	Dr Kleio Akrivou
Programme Advisor:	
Board of Studies:	School of Management (Postgraduate)
Accreditation:	None

### **Summary of programme aims**

The programme aims to provide a thorough postgraduate education in the field of international management for students who do not necessarily have a first degree in business or management studies. The programme is distinctive in its international management approach, with strong emphasis in a systems view and emphasizing complexity (organizational, societal and human) perspectives involved in managing global organizations. The compulsory modules provide a critical understanding of current theories and applications of contemporary strategic management and place a distinctive emphasis on the importance of ethical perspectives in problem evaluation and decision making. Key modules (optional or core) offer the latest thought and theory in corporate social responsibility and business and society, organizational behaviour and global marketing. Students will develop their understanding of applications of theoretical concepts in contemporary real world settings and they will learn to evaluate alternative theories and practices through discussing and debating on contemporary case studies, critical essays and reflective assignments.

### **Transferable skills**

The programme requires a substantial amount of independent reading, research and study, and students are expected to take personal responsibility and show initiative in developing their knowledge and understanding of the field of study, and actively participate in debates and class discussions during lectures and tutorials. In following this programme students will also have the opportunity to enhance and develop their reflective and analytical skills, skills relating to communication (oral and written), presentations, information handling, problem solving, team-working, and the use of information technology. Students will learn to work independently and in inter-dependent teams, under time pressures, and will learn to set priorities and manage their time in order to meet strict deadlines.

### **Programme content**

#### *Compulsory Modules*

Code	Title	Credits	Level
MMM001	International Strategic Management	20	7
MMM072	Professional Development and Practice	-	7
MMM031	Financial Management	20	7
MMM048	Managing People and Organisations	20	7
MMM069	International Management Business Project	20	7
MMM070	Study and Research Skills: Sources, Methods, and Practice	-	7
	EITHER:		
MMM006	Global Marketing Management	20	7
	OR:		
MMM043	Principles of Marketing	20	7
	EITHER:		
MMM034	Corporate Social Responsibility	20	7
	OR:		
MMM066	Ethics in International Management	20	7

Students must choose THREE option 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 Departmental Handbook. There is no guarantee that in any one year all modules will be available. New option modules may also be added

Students may choose to substitute MMM069 (International Management Business Project, 20 credits) with a dissertation, 40 credits plus only an additional 2 option modules:

MMM023      Dissertation (incorporating Study and Research Skills)  
Plus any other TWO optional modules

40      7

**Part-time or modular arrangements**

N/A

**Progression requirements**

Assessment of taught modules in May/June; re-sit failed modules in August/September; submit project by early September, or by a month thereafter if there are re-sits.

Students wishing to proceed to a higher degree by research should normally have obtained an average of at least 60% in the modules and at least 60% in the International Management Business project or dissertation.

**Assessment and classification**

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

Further information on the classification conventions, including borderline criteria, are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/web/FILES/exams/PGclassification-post-2008.pdf>

*For Masters Degree*

To qualify for Distinction, students must gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation, and must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for Merit, students must gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation, and must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for Passed, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.

In addition, no mark below 40 in module MMM069 International Management Business Project.

*For PG Diploma*

To qualify for Distinction, students must gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits and must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for Merit, students must gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits and must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for Passed, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.

In addition, no mark below 40 in module MMM069 International Management Business Project.

*For PG Certificate*

To qualify for a Postgraduate Certificate, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits.

In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.

In addition, no mark below 40 in module MMM069 International Management Business Project.

**Admission requirements**

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained a first degree the equivalent of a British upper second class honours degree. Applicants whose degree result is below the required level, or whose degree is from a university where the standard is not likely to be well known to the admissions committee, will require GMAT 600. IELTS Band 7 (or equivalent) is required for those whose education has not been undertaken in English. References are also taken into account. Acceptance is at the discretion of the Director of Studies.

**Admissions Tutor:** The Programme Director is responsible for admissions.

**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 Student Employment, Experience and Careers Centre (SEEC), In-session 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 advisers in the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and offers advice on accommodation, careers, disability, finance, and wellbeing. 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 and runs workshops and seminars on a range of topics. For more information see [www.reading.ac.uk/student](http://www.reading.ac.uk/student)

### **Career prospects**

Students who have followed this programme are working in a wide range of industries and management functions. Industries include finance, manufacturing, retailing, advertising, international consultancy, Civil Service, teaching and research. Graduates from this programme have found employment in many different types of firms from multinationals to small and medium enterprises.

### **Opportunities for study abroad or for placements**

None

### **Programme Outcomes**

#### **Knowledge and Understanding**

##### **A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

1. Fundamental theory on international and strategic management.
2. Ethical theory and specialized applications on business ethics and ethics in international management.
3. Most recent developments in relevant empirical work intersecting theory and management practices, and how these are applied in contemporary business cases in international business environment.
4. The structure and practices of international management as it relates to different stakeholders in business and society. Management within these enterprises.
5. An critical understanding of how international business is driving change in management practices, business cultures and society throughout the world.

##### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

1-5  
Formal lectures, guest lectures from industry, and tutorial sessions with emphasis in applied case study applications. Oral debates and discussions, individual and group presentation, group exercises, case studies, guided readings and guidance on key sources of reference material. Feed back and guidance are important elements complementing an emphasis on self-study

##### *Assessment*

Unseen examinations and coursework comprising of long essays. Seminar presentations are also used as a means of assessment in some modules. Team assignments and team oral presentations. Reflective essays.

#### **Skills and other attributes**

##### **B. Intellectual skills - able to:**

1. Structure, analyse, and evaluate theoretical issues, and practical business dynamics and challenges.
2. Read, understand and discuss the relevant literature in refereed academic journals and books.
3. Think logically and apply analytical principles.
4. Identify key business and management objectives and challenges, how they relate to ethics concerns and the changing societal needs and trends, and how they are observed in real business practice

##### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Students are frequently challenged in all teaching situations to complete logical arguments, analyse problems and alternative strategies, and justify statements. Long essays, debate, group work, and presentations provide the principal vehicle for developing intellectual skills

##### *Assessment*

Unseen examinations and coursework, case study

5. Comprehend the rapidly evolving state of international management and related complexities and factors influencing the long and short term effectiveness of an international organization.

**C. Practical skills - able to:**

1. Evaluate current theoretical and empirical research in the field of study.
2. Evaluate alternative business strategies.
3. Evaluate the behaviour, culture and strategy of firms.
4. Effectively apply key professional skills learnt in classes to the business world.

**D. Transferable skills - able to:**

1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means.
2. Write critical and academic essays.
3. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations.
4. Develop conceptual complexity as to the issues and challenges involved in ethically and successfully practicing international management effectively and understand the role of business in changing demands due to globalization and new trends in society.
5. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development (personal Development Planning).
6. Manage time, prioritise workloads and manage personal emotions and stress.
7. Understand career opportunities and begin to plan a career path.
8. Information management skills. e.g. IT skills.

analysis, dissertation.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Students are required to undertake and understand a wide range of reading, both of specific references and through researching their own sources of information. Discussion in lectures and seminars emphasises the use of statistical and empirical evidence and the strengths and weaknesses in alternative theories, methodologies, and international business practices.

1-4 are achieved through lectures, seminars, presentations, case studies, and group exercises

*Assessment*

Long essays, presentations, and unseen examinations.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Students are required to undertake and understand a wide range of reading, both of specific references and through researching their own sources of information. Discussion in lectures and seminars emphasises the use of critical thinking and (empirical evidence), and the demonstration of reflective skills and examples from the students' personal experiences (in relevant industries and their countries of origin). 1-3 are achieved through lectures, seminars, presentations, case studies, and group exercises

The presentation of well-researched written work is a fundamental element of the programme and requires the application of all the skills listed in 1-4. This is reinforced by the breadth and depth of the syllabuses for each module and the highly structured system of deadlines for assessed work, and examinations, which develop the students' skills of time management. Oral skills are developed through lecture and seminar discussions and individual and group presentations.

*Assessment*

Unseen examinations and coursework.

**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.**