MSc Business Technology Consulting (full-time)
For students entering in 2016/7

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:	12 months
Date of specification:	10/Nov/2016
Programme Director:	Dr Vaughan Michell
Programme Advisor:	
Board of Studies:	HBS Pre Exp BOS
Accreditation:	British Computer Society (BCS) Professional Certificate in Business Analysis Practice through one of the modules

Summary of programme aims
Business technology concerns the integration of information and communications technologies to support, automate and innovate an organisation's business activities. The future of successful businesses relies on integrated and pervasive business technologies. This programme provides theoretical knowledge and practical methodologies and techniques of business technology analysis and consulting based on enterprise architecture. It also aims to enhance existing knowledge and expertise for those with professional technology and consulting experience. Students are taught using practical business technology consulting and enterprise architecture frameworks and methods (often in conjunction with consultant practitioners) to enable them to embark on a business technology consulting career This degree is designed to provide an opportunity for students who wish to become professional business technology consultants in global and international managerial environments with the following aims:
* To provide theoretical knowledge and practical methodologies or techniques; in business technology architecture based problem analysis, leadership and solution design
* To enhance the knowledge and expertise for those who have professional experience in the area of business technology
* To draw inputs from prestigious industrial partners and build upon the existing expertise and research within the Informatics Research Centre;
* To provide a clear framework, methods and techniques enabling students to conduct enterprise wide business and technology focused industry assignments applying consultancy skills learned.

The programme will primarily target the applicants with backgrounds of business, management, computing, engineering and related degrees with knowledge of technology applications in business environments.

Transferable skills
The programme enables transferable skills of business-technology problem analysis, solution design and problem solving, leadership and teamwork. It also aims to replicate business conditions and develop skills of determination, proactivity and an ability to work under pressure to tight deadlines. The ability to critically analyse, understand requirements and define problems together with skills in client communication and data gathering are vital. As is the ability to carry out independent research to solve practical business technology problems The skills and knowledge are developed through lectures, presentations, workshops, tutorials and problem solving exercises, both individually and in teams. There is an opportunity to be taught by, and work with, practising consultants to develop skills in client management, ethics, and expectation management. . Students will learn to set priorities and manage their time in order to meet strict deadlines. Students will also have opportunities to apply theories learned from the course to a real life cases and projects by working with consultants on a personal consultancy project which can include work on live client problems and research programmes.
Students who pass the module INMR66 Business Domain and Requirements Analysis with the mark of 60 or above will be eligible for British Computer Society (BCS) Professional Certificate in Business Analysis Practice.

Programme content
A total of 180 credits is required for this programme: 120 credits from the core modules (including a Consulting Project of 40 credits), and 60 from the optional modules.

Compulsory Modules

Code	Title	Credits	Level
INMR91	Business Informatics	20	7
INMR66	Business Domain and Requirements Analysis	20	7
INMR84	Architecture Leadership	20	7
INMR85	Business Architecture	20	7
INMR86	Business Technology Consulting	20	7
INMR83	Consulting Project	40	7

In addition to core modules, students must choose further optional modules so that 180 credits are achieved overall. A complete list of optional modules is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant Programme Handbook. There is no guarantee that in any one year all modules will be available. New optional modules may also be added.

An exemplary list of optional modules include: IT Project Management, Systems Analysis and Design, Business Intelligence and Data Mining, Business Service Design, Enterprise Systems, Big Data in Business, Business Communications & Negotiations and Managing Complexity Using Systems Thinking & Strategic Modelling.

Part-time or modular arrangements
Students can select either full-time or part-time study in the programme. The former mode will last for 12 months while the latter model may take three consecutive years.
There is one intake per year and normally starts in October.

Progression requirements
A student may undertake an optional module at any time, without necessarily being constrained by the completion of core modules.

The Consulting Project can commence as soon as the course has started.

Summary of Teaching and Assessment
All the modules will be delivered by a mix of lectures, tutorials and practical sessions. The method of assessment of each module will be determined in the individual module specification, some of which may involve team assessment to reflect typical consulting working practices.
Each module will be normally delivered over a typical 8-10 week term period. However, some industry focused modules may be taught in a week of concentrated teaching, followed by a week of supported learning to match commercial business arrangements of seconded tutors. One of the core modules will be delivered as a one-week residential course at Henley's Greenlands Executive Campus on the River Thames or a similar venue to enable students to interact with senior executives and managers on other courses in a realistic business setting.. Three exit points are built into the programme, and a student will be awarded the highest qualification he/she has achieved. A Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) requires 60 credits; a Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) requires 120 credits; an MSc requires 180 credits including a consulting project.

The Consulting Project will be conducted by the student individually under staff supervision.

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

For Masters Degrees
To pass the MSc students must gain an average mark of 50 or more overall including a mark of 50 or more for the Consulting Project. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and for all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.
Students who gain an average mark of 70 or more overall including a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Distinction. Those gaining an average mark of 60 or more

overall including a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Merit.

For PG Diplomas
To pass the Postgraduate Diploma students must gain an average mark of 50 or more. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and for all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.

Students who gain an average mark of 70 or more and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for the award of a Distinction. Those gaining an average mark of 60 or more and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Merit.

For PG Certificates
To pass the Postgraduate Certificate students must gain an average mark of 50 or more. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.

Admission requirements
Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:
- A 2.1 honours degree (or equivalent) in the fields of business, information technology engineering, technology or a related academic area.
- Applications can also be considered from candidates with two or more years of relevant graduate-level work experience; and the number of years required depends on the relevance of the work undertaken and the level of academic qualification the applicant attained in comparison to a 2.1 honours degree.
- For an applicant whose first language is not English, either a university degree taken in English, or an IELTS 6.5 or equivalent is required. Exceptionally, if an applicant has worked in an English language environment, an English test, organised by the University's CALS, may be conducted in lieu of formal qualifications.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Weizi Li

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, Placement and Experience Centre (CPEC), 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 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, academic issues (eg problems with module selection) and exam related queries. 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

Career prospects
This programme is designed and delivered in collaboration with Capgemini, one of the top IT consulting companies in the world. Graduates from this programme can work in a wide range of industries and management functions. These include for example consultancy, programme and project management, business consulting, systems manager, technical manager, IT operation manager, application architect, project leader, researcher/educator/trainer, and quantitative analyst.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
Students may carry out their consulting projects in organisations as part of placement or internship of up to six months in duration. This requires an approval by the Programme Director who ensures that the placement enables the students to satisfy the academic requirements of Consulting Project.

Collaboration with Industry
Capgemini will actively contribute to the teaching, consulting project supervision and the delivery of the programme. In addition the consulting projects will address a real business challenge provided by Capgemini.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. 1.1 Business Technology
2. 1.2 Business leadership and teamwork
       1.3 Business architecture and organisation, behaviour and practice
       1.4 The role of information and technology and processes
3. The Consulting process
       2.1 Models of consultancies
       2.2 Consultancy practices and processes, behaviour and ethics
       2.3 Business analysis and problem solving
4. Stakeholders needs and expectations
- 4.1 Organisational behaviour and teamwork
- 4.2 Management science
- 4.3 Information Systems formation and analysis
- 4.4 Process Analysis and management
- 4.5 Principles of Enterprise Architecture frameworks

5. Self management, consulting and problem solving skills as an individual consultant

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

All will be developed through the core modules and practised in the class tutorials, discussions and presentations.
5 will be developed as part of the problem solving and solution approach to an individual consulting project.

Assessment
All will be assessed through a combination of coursework, seminar, discussions, presentations, and consulting projects. Business informatics will include an exam.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

1. Problem solving
2. Critical Analysis
3. Solution Synthesis
4. Applied Research (project focused)

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Taught methods supported by tutorials and student examples and exercises

Assessment
The students will be given a series of different scenarios to practice the knowledge and skills learned in different modules. Formal examinations are also included for some of the modules. Real life case will be used for the final project.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. Apply the theories and methodologies to design business solutions
2. Employ appropriate methods for
- 2.1 defining problems in an enterprise context
- 2.2 Researching and applying best practices
- 2.3 eliciting requirements
- 2.4 analysing and synthesising specific focused data
- 2.5 Providing arguments and persuasion on courses of action
- 2.6 validating outcomes
- 2.7 Work skills: determination, proactivity and an ability to work under pressure to tight

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

2.1-2.5 will be taught followed by practical exercises 2.6, 2.7 will result from experience of multiple presentations and team exercises throughout the programme.

Assessment
All will be assessed coursework, presentations and consulting project.

deadlines.

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. Manage tasks, times, work load prioritisations, and stresses
2. Know when and how to apply specific critical and analytical thinking methods to solve problems and develop theoretical and practical solutions
3. Conduct effective leadership, communications and presentations in a professional manner
4. Compose technical and business reports

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These skills will be practised throughout each module. They will developed by practical exercises resulting from experience of multiple presentations and team exercises throughout the programme.

Assessment
Assessment
All will be assessed by coursework, presentation, and consulting project.

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 processes or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.

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