Programme Specification

MSc International Business and Digital Transformation (UoR-MIP partnership) (full-time)

PFTZIBDIGIHM

For students entering in 2024/25

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	MSc International Business and Digital Transformation (UoR-MIP partnership) (full-time) - 18 months
Accreditation	EQUIS and AACSB
Programme Start Dates	September
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	

Programme information and content
This programme is a master-level programme with POLIMI Graduate School of Management (MIP Politecnico di Milano) in partnership with renowned global firms (such as Oracle and EY). Students who successfully complete this dual degree awarding programme will be awarded the Masters of Science from the University of Reading and the Master di l livello from the Politecnico di Milano.

This programme aims to equip students with knowledge and skills to investigate, identify, and implement the strategic choices multinational enterprises need to make to compete in an increasingly digitalized global economy, while simultaneously paying close attention to the development and policy challenges that the actions of multinational firms create in an interdependent world, both from a developing and developed country perspective. This requires a holistic view of the international business environment in the digital era, in terms of the competitive and investment milieu, which in turn is determined by the development of new (digital) technologies and the policies and regulations established by governments and supra-national institutions. The programme introduces conceptual frameworks and practical methodologies that make sense of the strategic interaction among the key international business players, especially through digital technologies as well as the interaction between firm strategies, economic and development policies and changing environments in a rapidly globalising world.

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. They will also need to enhance their skills in communications (both written and oral), information handling, and analysis of context and cases in development. Students will work under pressure of time throughout the programme and will learn to set priorities and manage their time in order to meet strict deadlines. Career planning will be an integral part of the programme, both in the choice of programme and in its elective components. This programme will equip students with analytical and pragmatic international business knowledge and digital capabilities as well as cross-cultural interpersonal skills. Graduates will have developed an international and

multicultural perspective on business and the impact of digital transformation and will have also developed the managerial, professional and ethical skills required to become an effective global citizen in an international organisation facing digital transformation. Graduates will therefore demonstrate a range of cognitive, personal and intellectual skills and techniques specific to International Business and Digital Transformation. They should be aware of cultural differences and the different approaches of a range of international students and be able to make adaptations to their natural styles to overcome difficulties. They will therefore need to develop and demonstrate relevant personal and interpersonal skills.

Programme Learning Outcomes
-MSc International Business and Digital Transformation (UoR-MIP partnership) (full-time)

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	Acquire and apply complex academic knowledge of the key concepts within business and management, particularly in the context of international business and digital transformation
2	Assess and evaluate various sources of information relevant to the context of organisations to develop critical thinking skills
3	Synthesise academic and practical knowledge to support original creative thinking, particularly in the context of international business and digital transformation
4	Apply investigative, inquiry, and research skills required for gathering and making sense of various sources of information
5	Apply approaches that encourage positive outcomes, demonstrating an appreciation of diversity and multiculturalism in order to promote fairness and inclusivity in the context of international businesses, working in teams as a microcosm of wider society
6	Communicate complex information persuasively, drawing on relevant evidence for a variety of purposes and audiences (both specialist and non-specialist) within your chosen professional field
7	Develop and reflect critically on your ability to work effectively and professionally including in diverse business teams
8	Develop practical experience of real business situations (where appropriate via simulations or case studies) where you will enhance your skills of analysis, evaluation and making judgements about business situations

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits (90 ECTS), allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MMM001	International Strategic Management	20	M
MMM163	Advanced Project	60	M
MMM173	The Evolution of Multinational Enterprises	20	M
MMMP001	Digital technologies for Internationalization and global competitiveness	10	M
MMMP002	Digital export and international distribution	8	M
MMMP003	Legal and fiscal aspects for international and digital business	6	M
MMMP004	Cross-cultural and digital agility	6	M

A student must complete all compulsory modules listed above.

The remaining credits will be taken from the list of optional modules from the Henley Business School - UoR, and from an approved list of modules from POLIMI Graduate School of Management (MIP Politecnico di Milano).

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

This programme is only available for full time study.

Placement opportunities

Students may have a chance to do a project work/internship during their project module based on the availability. Project works involving external clients/organizations are competitive and may require the participating students to pass a company interview to be accepted for a project.

Study abroad opportunities

This is an 18-month programme, students will experience studying for a term in Reading (UK) at Henley Business School, a term in Milan (Italy) at POLIMI Graduate School of Management, and have their final term dedicated to working on their final project. In detail:

Part 1 (First Semester), students will study at Henley Business School, University of Reading, in Reading (UK). Modules will be delivered by Henley Business School [60 credits].

Part 2 (Second Semester), students will study at POLIMI Graduate School of Management (Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy). Module will be delivered by POLIMI Graduate School of Management [60 credits].

Part 3 (Third Semester), students will work on their final project as a research project or internship. This could be in Reading or Milan, or even in their home country (if possible) [60 credits]. More information can be obtained from the Programme Director.

Optional modules

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Teaching and learning delivery

Teaching is organised in modules. The delivery of material varies among the modules, especially in the proportion of time allocated to lectures, classes and seminars. Total study hours/contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

EQUIS and AACSB

Assessment

All modules involve coursework, which takes a variety of forms reflecting the aims of the module. Final assessment of the modules usually involves examinations/in-class tests and coursework. A project supervisor is appointed for each student. Students will have the opportunity to re-sit any failed modules.

Progression
N/A

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

For Masters Degree

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Master's degree:

Award of a Master's degree

i. 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 project module (MMM163- Advanced Project) and must not have any mark below 40.
ii. 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 project module (MMM163- Advanced Project) and must not have any mark below 40.
iii. To qualify for a Pass, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits and a mark of 50 or more for the project module (MMM163- Advanced Project).
iv. 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.

For Postgraduate Diploma

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma:

Award of a Postgraduate Diploma

i. 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.
ii. 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.

	iii.	To qualify for Pass, students must gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits.
	iv.	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.

For Postgraduate Certificate

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate:

Award of a Postgraduate 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.

Additional costs of the programme

There are no textbooks which you must buy, and students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of textbooks or other resources with the module convenor before purchasing. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Business School Library.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically.

Students will study one semester at Henley Business School in Reading (UK), one semester at POLIMI Graduate School of Management in Milan (Italy), and one semester at either Henley Business School or POLIMI Graduate School of Management. More information can be obtained from the Programme Director.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2023.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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9 August 2023
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