



UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

Programme Regulations 2025–2026

Global MBA

MBA

PGDip

PGCert

Individual modules

Important document – please read
This document contains important information that governs your registration, assessment and programme of study



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Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

About this document

Last revised: 11 March 2025

As a student registered with the University of London, you are governed by the current General Regulations and Programme Regulations associated with your programme of study. These Programme Regulations are designed and developed by the University of London.

In addition to Programme Regulations, you will have to abide by the [General Regulations](#). These apply to all University of London students and provide the rules governing registration and assessment on all programmes; they also indicate what you may expect on completion of your programme of study and how you may pursue a complaint, should that be necessary. Programme Regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations.

The relevant General Regulations and the Programme Regulations relating to your registration with us are for the current year and not in the year in which you initially registered. On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.

Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant Courses page of the [website](#). The Programme Specification gives a broad overview of the structure and content of the programme as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided, please contact us. You should use the *Ask a question* button in the [Student Portal](#).

Terminology

For the Global MBA programme, you should note the following language:

Module: Individual units of the programme are called modules. Each module is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

Core module: Core modules are central to the teaching and learning on the programme and often introduce concepts and ideas that appear in the specialist optional modules. The *Strategic Project* module is also core to the MBA award.

Optional module: A module selected from groups of modules making up the specialisms.

Study session: Each 15/30-credit module is taught over one 20-week session. Final assessments take place over the subsequent two weeks.

Throughout the Regulations, 'we' 'us' and 'our' mean the University of London; 'you' and 'your' mean the student, or where applicable, all students.

Significant changes made to the Programme Regulations 2025-2026

- Regulation 1.3 has been updated to clarify the requirements for achieving an MBA with a specialism and on selecting the Strategic Project in a relevant specialism.
- Regulation 1.8 has been revised to clarify the typical minimum credit requirements per academic year for completing your studies within your registration period.
- Regulation 4.1, 4.2, 4.5 and 4.13 have been updated to note that marginal compensation is now permitted for the Research Proposal coursework for the *Strategic Project* module. Marginal compensation is permitted for all assessment elements within modules, except the final Project report of the *Strategic Project* module.
- Appendix A – Syllabuses: Optional Modules – Law, has been updated to note that *Corporate Finance Law* [BAM500] is not currently available to study as part of the Global MBA or as an individual stand-alone module. You can still achieve an MBA with a specialism in Law if you select the three optional Law modules available and complete the Strategic Project in the same specialism.
- Appendix A – Syllabuses: The module syllabuses for *Corporate Governance and Ethics* [BAM505] and *Advanced Management Accounting* [BAM205] have been revised to reflect updates to the overall module descriptions.

1 Structure of the programme

Qualifications

1.1

The following qualifications are awarded under the Global MBA programme:

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration (Accountancy)
- Master of Business Administration (Entrepreneurship and Innovation)
- Master of Business Administration (Finance)
- Master of Business Administration (Health)
- Master of Business Administration (Law)
- Master of Business Administration (Leadership)

- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration
- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration (Accountancy)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration (Entrepreneurship and Innovation)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration (Finance)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration (Health)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration (Law)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration (Leadership)

- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration
- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration (Accountancy)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration (Entrepreneurship and Innovation)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration (Finance)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration (Health)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration (Law)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration (Leadership)

Qualification structures

1.2

The **Master of Business Administration (MBA)** is a 180 UK credit degree programme. For the MBA, you must complete:

- six core modules (90 credits total)
- four optional modules (60 credits total)
- a Strategic Project (30 credits) (core)

To achieve an MBA with a specialism, you will need to select four optional modules (a minimum of three being within the same specialism) and also complete the Strategic Project in the same specialism. You can achieve an MBA in the following named specialist areas:

- Accountancy
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Finance
- Health
- Law
- Leadership

1.3

To be awarded an MBA with a specialism, you must take a minimum of three optional modules from within the specialism, and the Strategic Project in the same specialism. If not, you will be classified with the MBA with no specialism attached. Note that a general Strategic Project may be in any specialism related to business administration, including specialisms of the programme.

See [Appendix A Strategic Project](#) for information about selecting the correct module code when registering for the *Strategic Project* module.

1.4

For the **Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration**, you must complete:

- any four core modules (60 credits total)
- any four other modules (either further core or optional modules) (60 credits total)

To receive a PGDip Business Administration with a specialism, you will need to have completed a minimum of three out of the four optional modules from within the same specialism. You can achieve a PGDip Business Administration in the following named specialist areas:

- Accountancy
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Finance
- Health
- Law
- Leadership

1.5

For the **Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration**, you must complete:

- any two core modules (30 credits total)
- any two other modules (either further core or optional modules) (30 credits total)

1.6

For a **Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration with specialism**, you must complete:

- a minimum of three optional modules from within the same specialism (45 credits total)

- any one other core or optional module (15 credits total)

You can achieve a PGCert Business Administration in the following named specialist areas:

- Accountancy
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Finance
- Health
- Law
- Leadership

1.7

The maximum number of modules you can register for at a time is six 15-credit modules or four 15-credit modules and the 30-credit *Strategic Project* module.

Over a 20-week study session, a 15-credit module will typically require seven to eight hours of work/effort per week, and the 30-credit *Strategic Project* module will typically require 15 hours of work/effort per week.

It is advisable to take only one module (preferably core) in your first study session and one module in your second session. This will help you develop the necessary skills to complete the programme successfully.

1.8

In order to complete within your maximum period of registration, you should normally register for at least 30 credits per academic year. Note that to complete the MBA within the 5-year maximum period of registration, you will need to complete more than 30 credits in at least one of those academic years to bring your total credits to 180 credits.

Note that if you are aiming to complete the MBA within a typical three-year period, you should aim to complete modules worth a total of 60 credits each year.

Individual modules taken on a stand-alone basis.

1.9

There is provision for individual modules to be studied and assessed on a stand-alone basis (subject to module availability) without being registered for a related qualification, with the exception of the *Strategic Project* module. Only four modules (a maximum of 60 credits) may be counted as credit towards a related qualification.

You are strongly advised to take only one module in your first study session and one module in your second session.

1.10

Credit for the stand-alone individual modules will be considered provided that the application for a related qualification is made within three years of the completion of the relevant modules. Neither progression nor credit is automatic.

1.11

The pass mark for an individual module taken on a stand-alone basis is 50%.

1.12

The maximum number of attempts permitted for any stand-alone individual module is two.

2 Registration

Effective date of registration

2.1

Your effective date of registration will be either:

- 1 January, if you first register before the December registration deadline,
- 1 April, if you first register before the March registration deadline,
- 1 July, if you first register before the June registration deadline,
- 1 October, if you first register before the September registration deadline.

Date of first assessments

2.2

If your effective date of registration is:

- 1 January, you will take your first end-of-module assessment(s) in June of the same year unless you defer,
- 1 April, you will take your first end-of-module assessment(s) in August/September of the same year unless you defer,
- 1 July, you will take your first end-of-module assessment(s) in December of the same year unless you defer,
- 1 October, you will take your first end-of-module assessment(s) in February/March of the following year unless you defer.

Period of registration

See the [Programme Specification](#) for the minimum periods of registration applicable to these qualifications. See the [General Regulations](#) for the maximum periods of registration applicable to these qualifications.

2.3

The minimum and maximum periods of registration to complete the programme are counted from your effective date of registration.

If the maximum registration period for your qualification changes during your studies, you will retain the period of registration initially given to you on registration. Your period of registration may still change if you change qualification as set out in Programme Regulations.

2.4

If you progress from the PGCert or PGDip to the PGDip or MBA respectively, your maximum period of registration will continue to be counted from your effective date of registration for the PGCert or PGDip.

2.5

If you start by taking individual modules and then register for the PGCert/PGDip/MBA, we will give you a new maximum period of registration for the PGCert/PGDip/MBA.

Order in which to take the modules

2.6

You may attempt the modules of the programme in any order. However, it is recommended that you complete some modules before others as detailed in the advice below.

If you have been admitted onto the programme via Entry Route 2, you are strongly advised to complete our online MBA Preparation Course, *International Business Essentials* (about 125 hours of study), and then take only one module (preferably core) in your first study session and one module in your second session. This will help you develop the necessary skills to complete the programme successfully.

Whilst you can attempt modules of the MBA in any order, you are strongly advised to have attempted the assessments for core and optional modules before registering for the *Strategic Project* module.

Before commencing study of the *Advanced Management Accounting* [BAM205] module, you are strongly advised to have commenced study of the *Accounting for Managers* [BAM200] module.

Before commencing study of the *International Accounting* [BAM215] module, you are strongly advised to have commenced study of the *Financial Reporting and Analysis* [BAM210] module.

Before commencing study of *Resource Management in Healthcare* [BAM710] module, you are strongly advised to have commenced study of the *Accounting and Finance* [BAM010] module.

It is strongly advised that students taking Health option modules have prior experience of working in the health or healthcare sector.

Progression within the programme

2.7

You may progress from the PGCert to the PGDip if you have satisfied the requirements of the PGCert.

2.8

You may progress from the PGDip to the MBA if you have satisfied the requirements of the PGDip.

On the basis of satisfying the requirements of the PGCert or PGDip, you will only be considered for progression to the PGDip or MBA once your final result has been ratified by the exam board and released to you. This may affect your module selection and session start date.

Module availability

2.9

In exceptional circumstances, we may not run a module if an insufficient number of students have registered. This is because we may not be able to provide an appropriate learning experience and/or assessment opportunity to meet the learning outcomes of the module.

We will make every reasonable effort to inform you of any such changes as early as possible and to provide you with reasonable alternative arrangements.

3 Recognition of prior learning and credit transfer

The rules for recognition of prior learning are described in the [General Regulations](#).

Please see the Recognition of prior learning tab on the [programme page](#) for details about recognition of prior learning, including automatic recognition of prior learning mapped against specific qualifications.

3.1

If you are registered for the MBA, you may be granted recognition of prior learning mapped against modules to a total of 120 UK credits. Prior learning will not be recognised for the *Strategic Project* module.

3.2

If you are registered for the PGDip, you may be granted recognition of prior learning mapped against modules to a total of 60 UK credits.

3.3

If you are registered for the PGCert, you may be granted recognition of prior learning mapped against modules to a total of 30 UK credits.

4 Assessment for the programme

Core and optional modules are summatively assessed by a coursework element (50%) and a written examination element (50%), with the exception of the *Successful Leadership* [BAM060] module which is assessed by a coursework element (30%) and a portfolio (70%).

The *Strategic Project* module is summatively assessed by a coursework element (30%) and a project report element (70%).

The grade awarded for each module will be based on all the elements of assessment. You will be required to pass each element of the assessment subject to the application of the rules for marginal compensation, where permitted.

4.1

Module	Element of assessment	Element weighting	To pass the element you must get:	To pass the module you must get:
Core modules (except for Successful Leadership)	Coursework	50%	A mark of at least 50% in the coursework (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	A mark of at least 50% in both elements (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)
	Written examination	50%	A mark of at least 50% in the written examination (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	
Core module: Successful Leadership	Coursework	30%	A mark of at least 50% in the coursework (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	A mark of at least 50% in both elements (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)
	Portfolio	70%	A mark of at least 50% in the portfolio (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	
Optional modules	Coursework	50%	A mark of at least 50% in the coursework (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	A mark of at least 50% in both elements (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)
	Written examination	50%	A mark of at least 50% in the written examination (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	
Strategic Project module	Coursework (Research Proposal)	30%	A mark of at least 50% in the coursework (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation)	A mark of at least 50% in both elements (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation for the Research Proposal)
	Project report	70%	A mark of at least 50% in the project report.	

See [General Regulations](#) Rules for taking assessments.

Coursework is submitted in the VLE by prescribed deadlines.

Marginal compensation for an assessment element

4.2

We will allow marginal compensation for an assessment element within modules, with the exception of the final Project report of the *Strategic Project* module, if both:

- the mark awarded for the assessment element is no more than 5% below the pass mark i.e. 45%-49% and

- the mark for the other assessment element is sufficient to produce an overall combined weighted pass mark for the module.

Taking assessments

Refer to the rules on assessment and assessment offences in the [General Regulations](#).

4.3

When you register for a module, you must take the assessments at the first available opportunity.

4.4

Written examinations commence in the two weeks subsequent to the 20-week study sessions, with retakes at the next permissible session.

4.5

For the *Strategic Project* module, if you submit a Research Proposal which receives a fail mark, or do not submit a Research Proposal by the deadline indicated in the VLE, the examiners may require you to (re)submit the Research Proposal within a prescribed period which may mean (re)submitting before or alongside your final Project Report. This would still be considered part of the same attempt. If you do not submit or re-submit within the prescribed period and you fail the *Strategic Project* module overall, you will be required to make a second and final attempt at the Research Proposal and/or Final Project in a subsequent session.

If you are permitted to re-submit the Research Proposal within the same attempt, the highest mark obtained in either the original submission or the re-submission will be used for assessment purposes.

Note that in order to pass the *Strategic Project* module, you will need a mark of at least 50% in both the Research Proposal and Project Report (subject to application of rules for marginal compensation for the Research Proposal element). Therefore, if you do not submit or re-submit the Research Proposal, you will receive a zero mark for the Research Proposal and will fail the *Strategic Project* module overall, even if your mark for the final Project Report is 50% or above.

Note that you should ensure the content you submit in the Research Proposal is developed rather than replicated in the final Project Report to ensure it is not considered as self-plagiarism.

Deferring an assessment

The deadline(s) and process for deferring a written examination are given in the Virtual Learning Environment. If you defer taking a written examination, you must pay a module continuation fee when you register for the session in which you wish to take the examination. You do not have to register for the deferred module in its next available session.

4.6

You can defer taking the written examination element of a module if you notify us by the deadline via the *Defer exams* button on the *My study* page in the [Student Portal](#). You may only defer once per module.

4.7

If you defer the written examination, the mark for the coursework element of the module will be carried forward if it is 50% or more. If your mark for the coursework element is below 50%, the rules for marginal compensation will not apply and you must resit all item(s) of the element.

4.8

If you do not notify us of your deferral and do not attend the written examination, you will be given a mark of zero for the assessment element and it will count as an attempt at the written examination.

4.9

We will not allow you to defer taking a coursework element or project element of assessment. If you miss a deadline for submission of coursework or a project, you will be given a mark of zero for the assessment item and it will count as an attempt.

Deadlines for items of assessment and submission guidance

See the Virtual Learning Environment for full details of all the assessment points, deadline dates and submission guidance.

4.10

Coursework items, the portfolio (for the *Successful Leadership* [BAM060] module) and project items must be submitted by the deadline dates given on the Virtual Learning Environment.

4.11

For coursework and project items, you should not exceed the maximum word limits by more than 10%. If the word count is between 10% to 20% above the maximum word limit, five marks will be deducted. If the word count exceeds the maximum word limit by more than 20%, you will receive a mark of zero for your work.

The content within the main body of text comprises the overall word count, including in-text citations, references, quotes, heading and sub-headings. The cover page, reference list and any appendices do **not** count towards the overall word count. Full submission instructions are included in the VLE with coursework submission forms.

Passing modules

4.12

To pass a module, you must get a mark of at least 50% in each element of assessment, subject to the application of rules for marginal compensation where permitted.

If you fail an element of assessment for a module with a mark between 45%-49% refer to regulation 4.2 relating to marginal compensation.

4.13

We will not allow marginal compensation for the final Project Report element within the *Strategic Project* module.

Research ethics

4.14

All Global MBA students undertaking the Strategic Project are required to obtain ethical approval. This is to ensure that any research involving participants and/or study of real-world data conforms to general ethical principles and standards. You should ensure you are able to identify ethical implications as well as act in an ethical manner when engaging in research.

Further information about research ethics and how to submit the ethics self-evaluation form is in the VLE.

Number of attempts permitted at an element of assessment

4.15

The maximum number of attempts permitted for an element of coursework, written examination, portfolio or project report is two.

Resitting an element of assessment

If you resit one or both elements of assessment for a module, you will have to pay a module continuation fee when you register for the module to resit the assessment. You do not have to take the assessment at the next available session; you have five years to complete your studies.

4.16

You may resit any element of assessment that you have failed provided that you have not exceeded the maximum number of attempts.

4.17

You will fail the element of assessment if the mark for the element is below 50% (subject to the application of the rules for marginal compensation, where permitted).

4.18

If you fail a module overall at the first attempt and achieve a mark for one or both elements in the compensatable range (45%-49%), and in your subsequent attempt to redeem the failure, achieve a further mark in the compensatable range, the highest mark obtained will be used if the rules for marginal compensation can be applied (see regulation 4.2).

4.19

You may not resit an element of assessment that you have passed.

5 Scheme of award

If your last assessments take place in the October session, the date of award will be 1 May in the year of the last assessments that contribute to the award.

If your last assessments take place in the January session, the date of award will be 1 August in the year of the last assessments that contribute to the award.

If your last assessments take place in the April session, the date of award will be 1 November in the year of the last assessments that contribute to the award.

If your last assessments take place in the July session, the date of award will be 31 December in the year of the last assessments that contribute to the award.

Mark scheme

5.1

The following mark scheme is used for the MBA, PGDip and PGCert:

Mark range	Outcome
70% and over	Distinction
60% – 69.99%	Merit
50% – 59.99%	Pass
0% – 49.99%	Fail

5.2

Each module is worth 15 credits and the *Strategic Project* module is worth 30 credits. To calculate the final grade for the award, the marks for the modules are weighted according to credit value.

5.3

For the MBA, PGDip and PGCert, to be granted the award with Distinction, the average mark for modules must be 70% or above.

5.4

For the MBA, PGDip and PGCert, to be granted the award with Merit, the average mark for modules must be between 60% and 69.99%.

Weighting of the assessments

5.5

The overall mark for core and optional modules (with the exception of the *Successful Leadership* module [BAM060]) is calculated by weighting the marks achieved for the coursework element and the timed written examination element in a ratio of 50:50.

5.6

The overall mark for the *Successful Leadership* [BAM060] module is calculated by weighting the marks achieved for the coursework element and the portfolio in a ratio of 30:70.

5.7

The overall mark for the *Strategic Project* module is calculated by weighting the marks achieved for the coursework element and the project report element in a ratio of 30:70.

Date of award

5.8

The date of award will correspond to the year that the requirements for the award are satisfied.

Award requirements

5.9

To be awarded the MBA, you must

- achieve a mark of at least 50% in each of the modules. The mark may be achieved through the application of the rule for marginal compensation, where appropriate.

5.10

To be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration, you must

- achieve a mark of at least 50% in each of the modules. The mark may be achieved through the application of the rule for marginal compensation, where appropriate.

5.11

To be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate in Business Administration, you must

- achieve a mark of at least 50% in each of the modules. The mark may be achieved through the application of the rule for marginal compensation, where appropriate.

Exit qualifications

5.12

Students may not request a lower intermediate qualification if studying on a higher qualification (except as an exit qualification) or accumulate qualifications as they progress from lower to higher qualifications.

5.13

If you are unable to complete the MBA or PGDip, you may be considered for an exit qualification of a PGDip or a PGCert (respectively). In such circumstances, you will need to have achieved the credit required for a PGCert (60 credits) or PGDip (120 credits).

5.14

The exit qualification of PGDip or PGCert will be with effect from the year in which you satisfied the requirements for that award. Your registration will cease once the exit qualification has been granted.

5.15

Under these regulations you may only receive one award (MBA, PGDip or PGCert).

Appendix A – Syllabuses

Topics covered in each module may be revised to ensure currency and relevance. Students will be advised of any changes in advance of their study.

Core Modules

Accounting and Finance [BAM010]

Accounting and finance is of critical importance in the support of all business activities. This module introduces a toolkit that enables a better understanding of the performance of businesses, and the decisions and problems they face. These issues are discussed daily by managers and the media. No prior knowledge of accounting is assumed: students learn how financial information is prepared and communicated and how it is used as an effective tool for decision-making and control. This information includes areas of financial and management accounting and the main principles of finance. The module adopts a global perspective and encompasses the regulatory framework adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The module provides students who lack an academic background in or practical experience of accounting and finance with a basic understanding of accounting and finance. The module assumes no prior knowledge of accounting and/or finance, starting at square one and taking a step-by-step approach through the concepts and application of techniques, with clear explanations and real-case examples. Upon completion of this module, students will have a holistic perspective on the importance of financial and management accounting, recording of financial transactions, preparation and interpretation of financial statements, effective management decision-making tools, costing and performance evaluation in a competitive environment, making capital investment decisions, financing a business, cost-volume-profit analysis and making management decisions.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Economics for Managers [BAM020]

The rationale of this module is to introduce students without economic background to basic concepts and models in Economics. The module aims to simplify complex economic concepts to enable the students to implement them in a business framework. Students seeking to proceed to an interdisciplinary working environment need to develop an understanding of these concepts and this module meets these needs.

The module is concerned with the application of economic principles and techniques to key management decisions within firms. Because economics underpins much of what is taught in finance, marketing, business strategy and many other modules in the programme, the primary objective of the module is to equip students with a good understanding of how fundamental economic theory can be applied to decision-making within a firm, as well as a better understanding of the external business environment in which a firm operates. It also allows students to understand contemporary economics events that shape the world economy.

In particular, the module assists students in understanding such basic principles as, market supply and demand, production and cost functions, industry structure, product and resource pricing, national accounting, money demand and supply. The idea is to navigate the students into a systematic approach about managing firms' resources, which in turn helps them to formulate strategic decisions to maximise value. Moreover, to understand the economic environment in which modern firms operate.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Marketing for Managers [BAM030]

The marketing function is of utmost importance for the survival and long-term viability of the contemporary business organisation. Marketing concentrates on concepts such as shaping consumer behaviour, conducting primary and secondary research, developing and implementing efficient marketing strategies, and serving and satisfying customers, in both domestic and international contexts. Participants who study this module familiarise themselves with the core marketing functions that assist them in decision-making and enhanced outcomes in the marketplace.

The objective of the module is to provide participants with an understanding of the marketing function. The module assumes no previous knowledge or experience in marketing and assists participants in building relevant knowledge through real-time cases, application of theories to the marketplace, and in-class activities. Upon completion, participants will possess an in-depth knowledge of the main functions associated with marketing, and in particular, will be able to define marketing, identify the various steps of the marketing process, explaining the importance of understanding customers and the marketplace, and identifying the steps of developing a marketing plan and successfully implementing a marketing strategy.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Organisational Behaviour and Human Resource Management [BAM040]

This module provides an understanding of key theoretical and practical issues relating to organisational behaviour and human resource management. Human resource knowledge from this module can be applied to different external contexts impinging upon organisations around the globe, yet managers need to adapt their internal organisational behaviours to deal with them. The module is best suited to those who wish to develop a reasoned and analytical understanding of human behaviour in organisations. This module aims to develop knowledge and understanding of how organisations behave and how they manage their people. It aims to provide students with the ability to lead people more effectively to enhance organisational performance. The module will critically analyse the purpose of HR within organisations and how strategic and successful HR policies are implemented.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Strategic Management [BAM050]

With businesses facing increasingly complicated and challenging environments, they need strategies to create competitive advantages to succeed and survive over the long term. It is important for managers to know how organisations intend to engage with their environment and consequently develop capabilities and competencies to fulfil their organisational objectives. This module focuses on models conceived by observing businesses in developed countries and applies to all sizes of firm including corporations operating globally.

The module introduces participants to the key concepts, frameworks and practices of strategic management. It prepares participants to respond quickly to today's challenging business environment and develop a critical understanding of the purpose, formation and implementation of strategy in maintaining or achieving competitive advantages. The challenges arising from complex and changing business environments and firm resources and capabilities are explored, as well as the impact on organisational strategies. Participants develop an in-depth understanding of the issues involved in managing strategic change and inertia.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Successful Leadership [BAM060]

This module prepares students for strategic leadership and transformational roles in organisations. The role of a manager requires organising, controlling, planning and motivating others to perform the work of the organisation. The module contributes to the programme as it examines a variety of literature (including articles, cases, novels, illustrations, and discussion) to develop student appreciation of the breadth of leadership. In preparing students for strategic leadership, this module helps students identify and analyse their personal leadership styles and critically evaluate these and is designed to help students develop and hone their personal leadership philosophies.

This module explores leadership as a relational and global phenomenon and describes, contrasts, and explains a variety of leadership theories. The module also explores the relevance and significance of current ideas concerning leadership and how they fit with organisations alongside contemporary expectations of people in organisations. Theoretical approaches are supplemented by empirical evidence on leadership, leadership in practice and the links between these and organisational performance. The module also explores applications in real-world contexts based on case studies.

This module introduces students to key theories of and ideas about leadership and explores their practical application in different organisational contexts. Through a personal engagement in reflection, students will link theory to real-world engagements with global leadership concepts and concerns. Working through issues of cross-cultural communication and ethical decision-making, students will tackle common issues with which global leaders are confronted on a regular basis and work through their pitfalls and possibilities.

Assessment: A portfolio (70%) and coursework (30%).

Optional Modules - Accountancy

Accounting for Managers [BAM200]

Management accounting is a dynamic discipline which interacts with many facets of the organisational environment in which it exists across nations, industrial settings and management functions. It entails the application both of long-established techniques and of newly-emerging concepts. Consequently, the module covers areas such as job costing and process costing, cost-volume-profit relationships, capital investment decisions and budgetary control systems in the light of changes in modern day operational circumstances. Throughout the module, students have the opportunity to explore emerging themes within the field of management accounting which are regarded as important for organisations seeking to evolve their management accounting systems. The module pays particular attention to concerns and issues within an international setting. The module endeavours to cover fundamental concepts and techniques of management accounting while also highlighting the diversity of approaches and practices which management accounting are viewed to encompass in different countries.

The module looks at accounting from the manager's view as opposed to the accountant's view of the decision process and related quantitative and qualitative information needs. Over the course of the module, students examine accounting information that helps managers achieve faster, better, and cheaper operations. A variety of strategic cost management models are explored and contrasted with traditional cost approaches to help students get to grips with the complexities of managerial decision-making and resource allocation in the light of accounting information.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Advanced Management Accounting [BAM205]

(You are advised to have commenced study of *Accounting for Managers* before commencing study of this module).

Management accountants act as a constant for businesses in a dynamic, changing environment, making them crucial to organisations and their success. This module provides students with an insight into contemporary management accounting issues at an advanced level. Taking an interdisciplinary perspective, this module explores the role of management accounting within the context of strategic management and management control.

By tracing and evaluating recent major changes in management accounting, it increases students' awareness of how management accounting is used in managing organisations and the impact of organisational and social context on management accounting practice and effectiveness. It also critically examines the impact of behavioural and social issues in the use and implementation of management accounting techniques.

In this module, students will apply strategic management accounting tools and techniques to assist managers in making profit planning decisions, controlling company performance and evaluating long-term investments to grow. They will learn how to analyse economic results, identify growth opportunities and advise managers on how to drive sustainable performance across their organisation.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Financial Reporting and Analysis [BAM210]

This module examines the financial reporting of companies, and how such reporting can be analysed to evaluate performance. A basic prior knowledge of accounting is assumed: students learn how accounts are constructed and analysed, then examine the impact of various issues on the reported numbers. These include the reporting of tangible and intangible assets; continued and discontinued operations, historic costs vs fair value accounting and business combinations. The module takes a global perspective and refers largely to the regulatory regime of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The aim of the module is to provide students who lack an academic background in or practical experience of accounting with a grounding in financial reporting and analysis of financial statements, focusing on a number of important current issues. The module focuses on the reasoning behind the rules, breaking away from the tradition of dealing with the technicalities of the regulation of financial reporting in a relatively unchallenging and uncritical way. Affording sufficient detail on the application of standards to enable the reader to appreciate the effects of the rules, the logic behind them is portrayed in terms of the reasoning and history behind their development, giving students a more informed insight.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

International Accounting [BAM215]

(You are advised to have commenced study of *Financial Reporting and Analysis* before commencing study of this module).

The trend towards increased globalisation has placed an important focus on many issues relating to International Accounting. This module provides an opportunity to gain real-world accounting expertise within an international context. It brings into focus the context of accounting information taking into account wider social, political, economic, natural and cultural environments. It is suited to students who wish to acquire an international perspective on contemporary issues relating to accounting and finance.

This module equips students with knowledge of the theoretical topics in international accounting and provides a range of skills with which to solve real-world problems. The global environment of accounting and financial reporting is critically examined in the context of comparative accounting to better understand areas of difference as well as areas where harmonisation has occurred. The module considers a range of strategic accounting techniques and examines their application internationally. Successful students acquire the skills with which to pursue careers in auditing, financial institutions and management consultancy.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Optional Modules - Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Entrepreneurial Finance and Private Equity [BAM300]

Entrepreneurial success requires the ability to both obtain finance and to manage it appropriately. Awareness of the characteristics of the various sources of funding is crucial to entrepreneurs seeking investment. Potential investors will want to be presented with a range of clear and detailed company financial information on which to base their investment decisions. Principal sources of funding may be oriented around developed countries, but investors invest globally. The ability to critically analyse this information is also essential for entrepreneurs to identify and overcome risks and challenges that a company may face during its growth.

Students learn the importance of financial information to entrepreneurial firms. They build an understanding of how a firm's financial information can be used for obtaining funding, to monitor a firm's growth, and to avoid some of the common pitfalls that entrepreneurial companies face. The module covers the wide variety of sources of finance available to entrepreneurs, together with the process of seeking investment as well as the investment harvesting process. The module sits alongside the optional *Venture Capital and Entrepreneurship* module, which focuses on the operation of the professional venture capital industry.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Entrepreneurial Marketing [BAM305]

Marketing is especially important in entrepreneurial situations, when there is often limited time, money and marketing talent to establish a presence in a crowded marketplace. This module views marketing from an entrepreneurial perspective, focusing on the different approaches required when compared to marketing for established firms and new ventures looking to act globally from the outset.

The module provides a thorough understanding of marketing as it applies to new products, start-ups and SMEs, and how it can help counter the risk of failure of a new venture. Upon completion of this module, students should be able to develop marketing strategies for entrepreneurial firms.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Innovation and Change [BAM310]

Many successful innovative organisations, from start-ups to large established firms, often have one thing in common - they are good at managing change to achieve sustainable competitive advantages in the form of new products and services or the way the organisation operates. Innovation thus plays a key part in the formation, development and growth of firms and innovation can involve combining knowledge from different parts of the world. The theories covered in this module can be applied globally. This module equips the participants with the knowledge and skills to manage innovation in today's rapidly evolving global marketplace.

The module provides participants with an understanding of the sources, process and strategy of technological innovation. It involves an evaluation of external industry innovation trends that allow organisations to envisage strategic change and the structures they need to use to foster an internal environment for innovation.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Venture Capital and Entrepreneurship [BAM315]

Venture capital has been the driving force behind some of the fastest growing sectors of today's economy. Companies famous for receiving venture capital or business angel funding, early in their development include Apple, Microsoft, Google and Amazon. From an entrepreneurial perspective, venture capital is a significant source of investment for innovative entrepreneurs with attractive growth prospects, including start-ups in the information technology, life sciences and advanced engineering sectors. Therefore, it is essential that entrepreneurs and business managers understand strategies, tools and techniques in securing venture capital finance. One topic of the module explores globalisation of the venture capital industry (e.g. China, the Middle East, India).

This module is intended for those interested in how funding is obtained from venture capital firms by entrepreneurs, and also how those working within the industry make and manage investments. It sits alongside the *Entrepreneurial Finance and Private Equity* module which takes a broad look at the production and analysis of company financial information for entrepreneurs, and the range of debt and equity financing methods available.

The module provides a detailed understanding of the operation of the venture capital industry by approaching it both from an entrepreneurial perspective, and from an investor's viewpoint. It looks in detail at the growth of the venture capital industry and its role in the economy, how venture capital firms operate, and what entrepreneurs need to know when seeking investment. The module provides a deep knowledge of the investment process including the decision-making process with respect to screening and selecting of business proposals, negotiating and structuring the deal, and following up on investments and exiting.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Optional Modules - Finance

International Corporate Finance for Managers [BAM400]

This module introduces students to corporate finance: how firms fund themselves, how they choose between different types of finance and how these choices influence investment decisions. This is the only finance module that looks at finance from the perspective of the firm rather than the investor. It is a key module for those planning to work in the finance area of a firm or for those who wish to understand the relationship between firms and financial markets.

The module introduces learners to investment appraisal and net present value, whilst giving them an elementary guide to corporate valuation – how a firm can be valued. It shows students how firms finance themselves and the procedures involved, introduces the concept of a firm's cost of capital, and demonstrates how firms choose between different types of finance and how those choices influence the cost of capital.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

International Financial Markets and Institutions [BAM405]

This module introduces students to international transactions and the role of foreign exchange markets. It also describes the role of key international institutions such as the IMF. Overall, it moves from the single-country focus of other finance modules and gives students an international

perspective on finance. Such a perspective is vital for students planning to work at international institutions or firms.

The module introduces learners to international capital flows and balance of payments accounting whilst showing them how the foreign exchange market operates and how standard foreign exchange contracts are valued. The role of foreign exchange policy is introduced as well as the key elements of international trade. The module analyses the role of key international institutions such as the IMF.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Portfolio Management [BAM410]

This module focuses on investment decision-making and improved portfolio management from both applied and theoretical perspectives. It develops skills based on modeling of asset price procedures and empirical research findings. It also takes a wider view considering a variety of issues concerning portfolio managers.

By the end of this module the student should be able to: understand major portfolio management and risk concepts, construct advanced portfolios, apply portfolio management concepts and techniques to their specific business problems, resolve critically general problems in selecting investments in a global market, formulate critically asset allocation models and decisions, and use different asset pricing models in portfolio construction.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Risk Management and Decision-Making [BAM415]

The module takes an applied perspective, concentrating on decision-making in risky environments, which is of paramount importance to the finance industry. Apart from identification of risk sources, the module offers a detailed analysis of tools and processes designed to manage these risks which are used by the financial industry. The latter is highly sought after in the financial industry.

The module is divided into three main components. The first introduces students to the use of the Value at Risk (VaR) approach in risk management and decision-making. The approach is then used to assess and measure the different forms of risk faced by financial institutions, including market risk, credit risk and operational risk. The module provides a complete discussion of the calculation of VaR, its underlying assumptions and illustrates its use with practical examples drawn from actual case studies. The second component of the module relates to the management of the risk portfolio through the analysis and applications of the ARCH(p) and GARCH(p,q) models. The models are developed in detail, and applications and examples are presented. The final component of the module is about decision-making, and the analysis of why firms tend to take biased decisions.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Optional Modules – Health

It is strongly advised that students taking Health option modules have prior experience of working in the health or healthcare sector.

Healthcare Systems [BAM700]

This module provides students with an overview of understanding the goals, objectives and functions of a health system. By comparing and contrasting different healthcare systems, students will develop a broad understanding of how healthcare systems operate, deliver services and finance those services. Healthcare systems examined will provide examples of different welfare state structures, different healthcare system typologies, different levels of development and wealth, and the resultant healthcare outcomes. Students will gain an understanding of how healthcare policy is

influenced and designed, and the means by which they are implemented at international, national, regional and local levels.

This module seeks to give students an in-depth understanding of healthcare policy analysis, development and implementation. It will equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to evaluate healthcare systems and make meaningful comparisons between different delivery approaches.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Innovation and Quality Improvement [BAM705]

This module helps to introduce the way in which healthcare Quality Improvement (QI) methods can be applied to patient populations, individual patients or address the reduction in per capita healthcare costs. It provides a robust understanding of QI methods and the ways in which they can be embedded in professional culture. It has a particular focus on the important differences that exist between traditional research methods and Improvement Science. The module provides students with an understanding of how the public, patients and healthcare professionals can work together to achieve improvements in healthcare, as well as an overview of how change can be achieved through organisational change.

This module seeks to define *quality* in healthcare, how it can be measured and how Quality Improvement might effectively be adopted into the culture of everyday healthcare delivery.

Through the use of real-world examples students will be introduced to common methods used in Improvement Science, gain an understanding of intervention designs, data display and analytical interpretation. Students will be encouraged to consider the challenges of real-world interventions and introduced to strategies for effective change management.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Resource Management in Healthcare [BAM710]

(You are advised to have commenced study of the *Accounting and Finance* module before commencing study of this module).

This module provides an introduction to financial and human resources management in healthcare organisations. It covers the ways in which the strategic and operational management of finances in healthcare organisations differs from other industries, and the importance of recognising and ameliorating economic risks. This module gives students an opportunity to consider how to set priorities in healthcare, how to approach long term and short-term financial decision-making, and potential avenues for healthcare organisations to diversify income streams. It also introduces students to the theoretical and practical considerations associated with recruiting, retaining, and looking after staff in healthcare organisations.

This module aims to provide students with an understanding of the unique financial and people management features associated with healthcare systems and organisations.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Risk, Governance, and Patient Safety [BAM715]

This module provides students with an understanding of risk and governance as it applies to healthcare organisations and systems. This includes the balancing of priorities for healthcare organisations, such as financial stability and patient care and safety, and the sharing of risk across individuals and organisations within a system. It supports students to learn how to assess, develop, implement, and monitor risk management plans with the goal of adopting a systematic approach to maintaining and improving the quality of patient care and minimising risk in the context of service standards, efficiency and sustainability. The module has a particular focus on systematic and

system-wide approaches to safety and security – as applied to patients, data, and research and development.

This module seeks to equip students with the knowledge, skills and understanding to apply the principles of risk management and governance effectively in all types of healthcare organisation, and, more broadly, across entire health systems.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Optional Modules - Law

Corporate Finance Law [BAM500] (currently not available) *

* This module is not currently available to study as part of the Global MBA or as an individual module.

The module is premised upon the notion that the student of corporate finance law ought to develop a sound understanding of the dynamics of corporate financing options, methods and techniques in the light of regulatory theories, applicable legal framework, shareholders' capitalism and public policy objectives. The module provides a critical and insightful view of current global legal developments and trends with the aim of identifying the most salient legal issues involved in corporate finance and M&As in the context of increasingly complex financial phenomena and international markets.

Primarily, the module aims to contribute to a critical understanding of the subject matter through the combined study of theories of regulation in general and corporate dynamics in particular, with a special focus on the different stakeholders involved in corporate finance. This module is a corporate law and financial regulation module analysing transactions using sophisticated methodologies. It focuses on issues such as: the use of debt and equity; why merge or acquire a business; core considerations of the process; due diligence, acquisition/sale agreements and contractual governance; the role of the board of directors in an acquisition/merger or financing; the permissibility and regulation of takeover defences in the UK, US and the EU and the protection of minority shareholders through the regulation of this bid process; the role of other constituencies such as employees affected by control transactions; and, financial assistance regulation in the UK, US and the EU. The views of shareholders, bankers, investment funds, stakeholders, management, and 'society' are all considered in the context of the multifaceted dynamics which operate in the international financial markets. The module is strongly committed to presenting a global and comparative perspective highlighting the contemporary principles and trends of corporate finance rather than the pointillistic and ephemeral details of national rule books.

The module focuses on understanding the literature related to these issues, how to do subject matter research, as well as how to structure the transaction and deal with policy-makers. The main purpose of this module is to provide students with the latest developments in corporate financing options, methods and techniques from a global legal, economic and policy point of view providing strong legal analytical skills (including the analysis of complex transactions using sophisticated methodologies).

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Corporate Governance and Ethics [BAM505]

This module will provide students with an insight into the importance of corporate governance, in general, and the board of directors, in particular, in enhancing organisational sustainability. This module will cover various aspects of corporate governance including the structural approach to corporate governance; the behavioural approach to corporate governance; the institutional elements of corporate governance; the board of directors' processes, behaviours, and task performance;

director individual attributes; international comparative corporate governance; CEO compensation, and corporate governance and organisational sustainability.

The module aims to inform and educate students on the systems by which companies are or should be directed and controlled. At the end of the module, students have an enhanced knowledge of core corporate governance issues as well as the various theories that seek to explain the position of, and relationship between, the company and its members, managers and other stakeholders.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

International Finance Law: Transactions, Policy and Regulation [BAM510]

This module provides students with a multidimensional understanding of the core issues in international finance transactions. Through lectures, case studies and other exercises, it provides students with the theoretical and practical building blocks and conceptual tools necessary to understand and master the more advanced intellectual challenges posed by the interaction of law and policy in international financial transactions.

The module examines the legal issues arising from the operations of the largest commercial banks, merchant banks, investment banks and sovereigns on the international banking and capital markets. In so doing, it considers the detailed structure and content of the main international financial transactions, contracts and negotiation skills involved. Although primarily based on an examination and analysis of current international principles, reference is made to relevant laws, including those of the EU, US and Asia and other national systems. The module has a strong comparative and international law content as well as being based on current market and practitioner insight and best practice in each area.

The module aims to analyse the different aspects of corporate, banking and sovereign finance from the international perspective. This enables students to identify common aspects in the dynamics and mechanisms to obtain financing and discover innovative trends in a continuously developing area. From a practical standpoint, the module provides the tools to recognise the key elements to implement a successful financing technique by means of the analysis of theoretical issues and actual case studies.

The module assesses general principles and financing techniques. It is a theoretical and practical module, with case studies, that enables students to approach an entity that needs capital (e.g. due to an enlargement of its business operations or because it faces a distressed situation) and understand the issues at stake and contribute to successfully obtaining the required financing.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Legal Aspects of Financing Development [BAM515]

Developing countries vary in size, resource endowments and income levels, but they face similar challenges to access capital for financing development and put it to good use. The module examines the legal framework underpinning the flow of different sources of external capital to developing countries, the terms and conditions upon which capital is provided and its development impact. Topics covered include private sources of capital (private debt financing, foreign direct and portfolio investment) and public sources of capital (IMF lending, Development Banks' lending, Official Development Assistance). The module discusses contentious issues in international development finance such as the conditionality attached to financial assistance provided by international financial institutions, sovereign debt restructure, and the policy space conferred by international investment agreements to maximise the development impact of foreign direct investment and aid effectiveness.

The module is particularly attractive to students interested in career paths in international financial institutions, development organisations, consulting firms, government bodies, law firms, commercial

banks and NGOs concerned with development finance. It provides students with the intellectual tools to analyse contemporary legal issues on financing development both from a theoretical and practical perspective. It considers transactional and regulatory dimensions of international capital transfers from a development perspective.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Optional Modules - Leadership

Leadership and Ethical Decision-Making [BAM600]

The module introduces students to some of the key components of and challenges to ethical decision-making in business and helps them develop their analytical and reflexive decision-making skills in the context of the range of moral issues that contemporary business presents.

This module prepares students for strategic leadership and transformational roles in organisations. Understanding what comprises ethical decision-making is crucial to today's leaders as both corporate and individual responsibility takes centre-stage in the public eye. To take effective and ethical decisions, corporate leaders must understand the systems in which they lead and how they delimit the possibilities for decision-making. The purpose of the corporation as an entity which exists to provide value to its stakeholders is the starting point for ethical considerations. This module explores who these stakeholders may be and what role the corporation plays with these various groups and in society in general in a variety of national and cultural contexts.

Ethical decisions are made in the context of the personal values individuals bring to their leadership styles. This module builds on the leadership skills already developed in the core module and helps students recognise how their personal moral approaches effect and determine leadership approaches when confronted with ethical dilemmas. A key component to this module is the exploration of case studies and examples of real-world ethical dilemmas.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Leadership and Management Models [BAM605]

The module introduces students to a variety of management models and approaches and their links to and/or complementarity with various theories of and ideas about leadership. The module prepares students for strategic leadership and transformational roles in organisations. Much ink has been spilt on the difference between leadership and management. Understanding management models (from the more classical to contemporary models focusing more on individuals or systems) is crucial to evaluating the effectiveness of leadership in these models.

The role of a manager requires organising, controlling, planning and motivating others to perform the work of the organisation. This module contributes to the programme as it examines a variety of scholarship (including articles, cases, novels, illustrations, and discussion) to develop student appreciation of a variety of management models. In preparing students for strategic leadership, this module helps students identify and analyse a complementarity of leadership theories with the management models explored. Theoretical approaches are supplemented by empirical evidence on management models and the links between these and organisational performance. The module also explores applications in real-world contexts based on case studies.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Leadership, Transformation and Organisational Change [BAM610]

The module presents three distinct but strongly interrelated topics. Leadership is an important concept that has dominated organisational research for decades and it relates to many different organisational levels. This module focuses on leaders and leadership at the apex of the

organisation. Therefore, special attention is given to Top Management Teams, CEOs and Boards of Directors. Leadership actions can transform organisations in terms of their overall strategy and consequently the way that they are structured, organised and performed. Organisations facing either external pressures or internal conditions are changing, developed and very often transformed through their life cycle. Through this module, students are supported towards a career in business and management so that they may apply knowledge and understanding of business and management to complex, dynamic issues and situations that will come up in their working environments. Applicability of knowledge is demonstrated through several case studies provided.

The module provides students with a deep understanding of the crucial contribution of strategic leadership to organisational change and transformation. Drawing on a range of theoretical perspectives across the social sciences, this module explores contrasting ways of conceptualising the 'organisational arena' within which the tasks of management take place.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Negotiation and Conflict Management [BAM615]

Negotiation and conflict management are the cornerstones of leadership. In order for a manager to lead and administer any organisation effectively, they must be able to negotiate with both internal and external constituents in a way and manner that can be utilised cross-culturally. Similarly, managers must be able to identify different types of conflict and manage and harness conflict to make it beneficial to organisational and personal growth of key constituents. Further, managers must be able to identify those conflicts that require the use of dispute resolution and the different types of dispute resolution methodologies that are available. So, the module applies practical skills, complemented with substantive knowledge to round out the skill sets of the participants to make them highly effective leaders and managers.

Students learn highly practical skills that have been developed and utilised for use in negotiation and conflict management in the public and private sectors. Skills taught to, and used by, employees of government agencies, judges, prosecutors, Fortune 100 companies, investment funds, hedge funds, through to small businesses, lawyers and others throughout the public and private sectors.

Assessment: one two-hour written examination (50%) and coursework (50%).

Strategic Project

Strategic Project (general and all specialisms)

This module is a capstone project involving the development of business research skills and their application to real-world business-related problems. Core to the project is the requirement for students to acquire an underpinning in research methodology, applying research skills to the collection and analysis of data within business- and management-related topics. This involves identifying and analysing data and information in relation to business challenges, researching alternative solutions, and applying a judgement based on assessment of the evidence.

At the end of the module, students submit a project report (similar to a dissertation) which provides an opportunity to demonstrate independent academic research skills and apply them in a professional context.

Students studying towards a specialism will submit a project report in their chosen specialism - You must also have attempted a minimum of three out of your four optional modules from within this same specialism, to be able to be awarded the MBA with a specialism. If not, you will be classified with the MBA with no specialism attached.

Students studying towards the general project or one of its specialisms will all study the same research topics together in the *Strategic Project* VLE module. However, students should ensure

they select the correct module code when registering for the *Strategic Project* module so that their research proposal and final project report can be considered in the relevant context, and their final award can be classified correctly:

- Strategic Project [BAM900] (general)
- Strategic Project in Accountancy [BAM905]
- Strategic Project in Entrepreneurship and Innovation [BAM910]
- Strategic Project in Finance [BAM915]
- Strategic Project in Health [BAM930]
- Strategic Project in Law [BAM920]
- Strategic Project in Leadership [BAM925]

Students studying towards an award without a specialism will select the *Strategic Project* [BAM900] (general) when registering for the module - You may submit a research proposal and final project on any approved business-related topic, including a specialism of the programme (e.g. in a law- or leadership-related subject).

Assessment: one 2,000-word research proposal (30%) and one 8,000-word project report (70%).

Appendix B – Assessment Criteria

This is an indicative description of expectations at each grade level. Overall grades comprise qualitative and quantitative elements. The setting of questions, tasks and requirements and the accompanying marking scheme should take account of the criteria below.

Distinction (80+%)

An answer falling into the mark range 80+% demonstrates:

- very significant ability to evaluate critically existing methodologies and suggest new approaches to current research or professional practice;
- very high levels of creativity, originality and independence of thought;
- very significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;
- very significant ability to evaluate literature and theory critically and make informed judgements;
- very significant ability to analyse data critically;
- outstanding levels of accuracy, technical competence, organisation and expression.

Distinction (70 to 79.99%)

An answer falling into the mark range 70 to 79.99% demonstrates:

- a capacity to develop a sophisticated and intelligent argument;
- clear evidence of wide and relevant reading, referencing and an engagement with the conceptual issues;
- original thinking and a willingness to take risks;
- a significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;
- rigorous use and a sophisticated understanding of relevant source materials, balancing appropriately between factual detail and key theoretical issues. Materials are evaluated directly and their assumptions and arguments challenged and/or appraised;
- significant ability to analyse data critically;
- correct referencing.

Merit (60 to 69.99%)

An answer falling into the mark range 60 to 69.99% demonstrates:

- a detailed understanding of the major factual and/or theoretical issues and directly engages with the relevant literature on the topic;
- strong evidence of critical insight and thinking;
- a capacity to develop a focused and clear argument and articulate clearly and convincingly a sustained train of logical thought;
- an ability to plan, organise and independently execute a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;

- an ability to analyse data critically;
- clear evidence of planning and appropriate choice of sources and methodology with correct referencing.

Pass (50 to 59.99%)

An answer falling into the mark range 50 to 59.99% demonstrates:

- a reasonable understanding of the major factual and/or theoretical issues involved;
- evidence of some knowledge of the literature with correct referencing;
- examples of a clear train of thought or argument;
- an ability to plan, organise and independently execute a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;
- how to introduce and appropriately conclude a text.

Fail (40 to 49.99%)

Fails to meet the minimum requirements of the assessment criteria. An answer falling into the mark range 40 to 49.99% demonstrates:

- some awareness and understanding of the literature and of factual or theoretical issues, but with little development and/or irrelevant/unrelated material or arguments are included;
- a limited ability to present a clear and coherent argument;
- a limited ability to plan, organise and execute a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;
- a limited ability to analyse data;
- incomplete referencing.

Fail (20 to 39.99%)

Fails to meet the minimum requirements of the assessment criteria. An answer falling into the mark range 20 to 39.99% demonstrates:

- clear conceptual or factual errors or misunderstandings;
- only fragmentary evidence of critical thought or data analysis;
- very limited ability to plan, organise and execute a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;
- fails to develop a coherent argument that relates to the research project or assignment or fails to answer the question or to develop an argument that relates to the question set;
- a lack of engagement with the relevant literature or demonstrate a lack of knowledge of the key issues;
- incomplete referencing.

Fail (0 to 19.99%)

Fails to meet the minimum requirements of the assessment criteria. An answer falling into the mark range 0 to 19.99% demonstrates:

- little or no knowledge or understanding;
- little or no knowledge of the relevant literature;
- no demonstrable ability to plan, organise and execute a research project, coursework assignment or examination question;
- no evidence of critical thought or data analysis;
- short answers and incoherent argument;
- major errors in referencing.