

## Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and programme title:	MSc International Business
Name of interim award(s):	N/A
Duration of study / period of registration:	12 Months (Full-time)
Queen Mary programme code(s):	PSIBU/N1Q8
QAA Benchmark Group:	N100 Business and Management
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	N/A
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	School of Business & Management

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

N/A

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

N/A

### Programme outline

This programme is designed to provide insight into the theory, policies and practices in the field of international business. The programme includes:

- the economic dimension that is international trade, finance and development and its implications for policy makers, business firms, their managers and households;
- the economic interaction between sovereign states and how and why economies differ;
- the policies of international macroeconomics and finance, trade and investment;

Particularly successful graduates will be able to use the qualification as an entry into PhD research. Most of our graduates work in international financial institutions, banks, business or have entered a PhD programme.

Quantitative Skills and Economics prerequisite experience is assessed by the Admissions Team by analysis of BSc/BA transcripts. No entry exams are required.

## Aims of the programme

The main aim of this programme is to provide top-level academic theory and professionally relevant education for students with a desire to break into a valuable career in international business. The programme is designed to enable you to face the challenges of a complex global and interconnected world. By the end of the programme, the student will:

- have quantitative techniques to apply reliably;
- be analytical managers for communication and evaluation;
- have problem solving skills;
- have knowledge and understanding of the key theories, approaches and issues in the field of international business;
- have enhanced his/her career prospects by an understanding of the process of globalization and the changing nature of global business over time.

## What will you be expected to achieve?

The School promotes active learning within a context of clear learning objectives. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Most modules have a weekly course element and in some this will require collaborative group work. We expect informal work groups to emerge particularly in the more numerically based subjects. Clear guidance on basic and supplementary reading is given.

### Academic Content:

A 1	Knowledge of key theoretical perspectives, approaches and issues in the fields of international business and management; specific to the programme of study.
A 2	Knowledge of key concepts and theories related to the collection and analysis of quantitative data using appropriate statistical techniques.
A 3	Knowledge of the economics of globalisation, including key terminology and main debates.
A 4	Demonstrate in-depth advanced knowledge in the focused area of international business through successful completion of an individual dissertation.

### Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Apply relevant tools, techniques and frameworks to investigate and solve complex problems in international business thereby converting theory to practice.
B 2	Identify problematic issues in international business context and apply creative problem solving and decision making techniques, including establishing criteria, identifying, formulating and solving business problems, identifying and evaluating options and implementing and evaluating the effectiveness of solutions.
B 3	Communicate effectively to a range of audiences using a wide range of delivery methods and channels and effectively working in cross-cultural teams.
B 4	Conduct research into international business issues either individually or as a part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting.

Attributes:	
C 1	Deliver an advanced study of the economy and organisations, their management and the changing external context.
C 2	Develop the ability to apply knowledge and understanding to complex issues, both systematically and creatively.
C 3	Enhance lifelong learning skills and personal development so as to be able to work with self-direction and originality and to contribute to society at large.

### How will you learn?

Teaching is by research-oriented staff (complemented where appropriate by visiting lecturers with professional expertise), who will combine professional knowledge of their subject with a critical attitude to its delivery. Students therefore work in a challenging, supportive environment.

#### Teaching:

Each module has an outline description, giving the aims, expected learning outcomes, assessment methods, outline syllabus and indication of primary reading. This information is available online on the School's Postgraduate webpage.

Students typically have 3 contact hours per week in each module. Within these three hours, each module has its own pattern of lectures, seminars/classes and other activities. Lectures emphasise dissemination of information, explaining the key ideas and determining the sequence and pace of learning. Seminars/classes make for a more active learning experience by facilitating student interaction in discussion, exercises, problem sets, case studies and presentations (as appropriate).

### How will you be assessed?

Modules are typically assessed by a combination of coursework (usually 20-40% of the total mark) and final (two hour) examinations; however there is considerable variation across modules, and some are wholly examined by coursework. Clear guidance on coursework requirements is given emphasising approaches to coursework of various types and the avoidance of plagiarism. Standard College procedures are followed in the setting and marking of examinations and in the determination of overall results

### How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Each module has an outline description, giving the aims, expected learning outcomes, assessment methods, outline syllabus and indication of primary reading. This information is available online on the Postgraduate webpages of the respective Schools. Students typically have 3 contact hours per week in each module. Within these three hours, each module has its own pattern of lectures, seminars/classes and other activities. Lectures emphasise dissemination of information, explaining the key ideas and determining the sequence and pace of learning. Seminars/classes make for a more active learning experience by facilitating student interaction in discussion, exercises, problem sets, case studies and presentations (as appropriate).

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Quantitative Research Methods	BUSM014	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
The Global Economy	BUSM022	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
International Macro Economics and Finance	BUSM041	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Managerial Economics	BUSM051	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Multinationals and Global Business	BUSM028	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Applied Empirical Methods	BUSM112	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Economics of Development	BUSM073	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
New Product Development and Business Ecosystems	BUSM084	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Business Strategy	BUSM089	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Complex Networks and Innovation	BUSM132	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Dissertation for International Business	BUSM103	60	7	Core	1	Semester 3

### What are the entry requirements?

A good upper second class (2:1) honours degree or equivalent preferably in social sciences with economic or business background. Professional experience and expertise will also be taken into consideration IELTS 7.0 (writing 6.0) or equivalent. Quantitative skills and prior knowledge of economics are required

Quantitative Skills and Economics prerequisite experience is assessed by the Admissions Team by analysis of BSc/BA transcripts. No entry exams are required.

### How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

There are both formal and informal channels of feedback within the School.

Each PGT programme has a dedicated Programme Director who also acts in most instances as the Academic Advisor for students in that programme. Students are introduced to their Programme Director during the induction week and are encouraged to approach them for academic advice or to discuss issues and/or concerns during their time of study.

Students may also speak with or write to the Director of Postgraduate Taught Programmes about their issues and concerns or to provide feedback.

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The Committee consists of student representatives from each programme in the School together with appropriate representation from staff within the school. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. The School's Staff-Student Liaison Committee meets formally once each semester. The minutes of the meetings are published to the School and the action points for these are noted and responded to accordingly.

Feedback from SSLC meetings, module evaluations and the PTES results are also considered by the School's Teaching and Learning Committee which has oversight on matters relating to the delivery and quality of taught programmes at School level.

The School operates a structure to address complaints raised by students and students can directly approach the Head of School if they deem every other channel as not having served their purpose. This information is available to students via the Student handbook, the Virtual Learning Environment and the School's website.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review (APR) of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES and module evaluations.

### **What academic support is available?**

The School of Business and Management aims to provide a high quality teaching and learning environment. Teaching will be by research-oriented staff complemented where appropriate by Teaching Fellows, who will combine specialist knowledge of their subject with a critical attitude to its delivery. Students will, accordingly, be working in a challenging, supportive environment

The induction week prior to the start of Semester A provides introductory talks on all of the services and support mechanisms available within the School and College.

Students on this programme will be supported by the individual staff members running modules on this program in terms of immediate advice on a specific module: course content, assignments and exam structure. Students are also assigned an academic advisor whom they are encouraged to consult for academic related support and a dedicated supervisor for their core dissertation module. Beyond this, the administrative staff also provide support services for non-academic matters.

The School uses various channels of communication to provide updates on teaching timetables, module information, events and support services (e.g. Plasma Screens, notice boards, Virtual Learning Environment).

### **Programme-specific rules and facts**

N/A

### **How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?**

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations and guidance for examiners
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one study skills tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Access to specialist mentoring support for students with mental health issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

### Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

The School works closely with the Careers Service to locate possible work placements/ internships and to prepare students for the recruitment process (e.g. assistance in creating effective CVs to reach potential employers, interview skills).

The qualities and skills a graduate from this programme might be expected to have include a range of cognitive and intellectual skills together with techniques specific to business and management, and relevant personal and interpersonal skills. These include:

- > The ability to think critically and creatively: organise thoughts, analyse, synthesise and critically appraise. This includes the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately
- > The ability to conduct research into business and management issues either individually or as a part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting
- > Effective performance within team environments and the ability to recognise and utilise individuals' contributions in group processes and to negotiate and persuade or influence others; team selection, delegation, development and management
- > Ability to recognise and address ethical dilemmas and corporate social responsibility issues, applying ethical and organisational values to situations and choices.

## Programme Specification Approval

**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Jenny Murphy /Fatima Bismillah

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Eun-Seok Kim

**Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Learning and Teaching Committee:**

**Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:**