

Course Specification template

Section One: ABOUT THE COURSE			
1	Name of course and highest award	MA	<i>International Business (Management)</i>
2	Entry Year	2019	
2	Level of highest award (according to FHEQ)	Level 7 (PG)	
3	Possible Interim Awards	Postgraduate Diploma	International Business (Management)
		Postgraduate Certificate	International Business (Management)
4	Awarding/validating institution	Nelson College London/ London Metropolitan University	
5	Teaching institution(s)	Nelson College London	
6	Total credit for course (for highest award)	180	
7	School responsible	Guildhall School of Business and Law	
8	Pattern of attendance, Mode of Study, and length of course	Autumn start	Full Time Length of course: 12 months
		Spring start	Part Time Length of course: 24 months
		Other	Distance Learning Length of course: 24 months
9	About the course and its strategy towards teaching and learning and towards blended learning/e-learning.		
	<p>The Masters in International Business Management programme is described and designed as “International” to reflect the perception of today's global business economy and the ability to think and work across geographic and political boundaries is imperative to not only conduct business in an international context but also to survive in such a competitive, globalised environment. In this respect business management professional and practical skills have multinational implications, indeed many businesses operate globally and employ staff who can think and act in an international business environment.</p> <p>Nelson College’s prime aim is to educate its students to Postgraduate level to be work and industry-ready graduates, equipped in knowledge, skills, and experience required and expected by employers. A variety of interactive learning activities support the achievement of the course learning outcomes. Learning involves both classroom engagement and out of classroom activities including industry visits and guest talks. Flexible and interactive opportunities are a feature of learning using the College’s Virtual Learning Environment. Personal reflection and reflective learning are vital components of this course and students are expected to participate fully. Students encounter varied and challenging learning activities during a variety of formal lectures, seminars, and tutorials. The modules which form this course make use of case studies, problem-solving activities, discussions, evaluation of online and documentary resources, guest speaker inputs and industry visits. Students are expected, and directed, to read from a range of academic sources relevant and appropriate to Postgraduate studies, such as academic journals, books, and industry publications. Students work autonomously as well as interactively within-group exercises to develop relevant skills. To progress and show knowledge and skill at Master’s level students are</p>		

required to undertake self-directed as well as lecturer directed reading and other academic activities. This forms a significant part of the course. Both formative and summative assessment tasks enhance opportunities for learning. Learning activities encompass several approaches that are designed to ensure a holistic overview of the subjects studied. These typically include, but not be restricted to research, critical analysis, ethical approaches, systematic problem solving, presentations, teamwork, and academic, personal and employability skills development.

Students benefit from access to Nelson College London’s library and London Metropolitan University’s online library. Students’ learning is supported by a Virtual Learning Environment platform. This is where students access study materials, lecture handouts, course materials and other information related to the academic aspects of their course. Students are supported by a dedicated course leader and a personal tutor. The course leader monitors the academic and experiential quality of the course through award boards, formal and informal feedback opportunities and other channels. The course leader also supports and directs students on the course, both collectively and individually, and responds to inquiries and requests from students about the academic programme of study. Personal tutors offer individual course support, personal development support, guidance and relevant signposting to deal with students’ issues and any other necessary guidance.

The course aims to develop students at an advanced level for a professional career in International Business Management by developing knowledge and understanding of the subjects pertinent to the discipline, encouraging critical reflective thinking and developing independent personal development skills. The course covers a range of topics in the field of International Business and Management including business research methods, team development, digital marketing, finance or entrepreneurship, and innovation.

This industry-focused course is anticipated to be popular for business or related degree graduates who wish to establish their career in any industry or division of the business environment. The course is designed to enable students to flexibly and creatively apply knowledge, deal with complex business issues, synthesize ideas and information in innovative ways, and generate transformative solutions through sound analysis and judgement.

A survey we undertook of our students currently following Pearson HND in Hospitality Management/HND Business (including London Metropolitan University “Top-up” students) in the same subject areas, indicates substantial student demand for a progression to a relevant taught Master’s course. Student consultation revealed an interest in students to continue their Postgraduate education in two areas: business management and hospitality management.

Maximising local advantage and responding to requests from current NCL hospitality and business management graduates and Alumni, this programme has been designed to meet a range of business management students who wish to complete a postgraduate degree. This programme will appeal to full time and part-time students with a grounded yet unique programme that builds on the strengths that are related to studying locally in East London and SE Essex.

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Course aims.

The MA in International Business (Management) aims are to develop critically informed graduates who can:

1. Understand how to undertake a range of diverse operational and strategic management roles.
2. Demonstrate and apply critical knowledge and skills to be competent managers in the changing international business environment.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the core business disciplines and methods of working in the international business environment 4. Develop an analytical and creative approach to problem-solving through independent judgement and critical self-awareness working as individuals or as part of a team. 5. Take responsibility for managing their learning and self-development. 			
11	<p>Course learning outcomes.</p> <p>On completion of this course of study, students should be able to develop and demonstrate their ability to :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critically analyse key theoretical concepts of International Business and apply them to professional practice to provide effective business development problem solving and decision making 2. Critically analyse contemporary issues, challenges, and problems that impact on business and management at functional, strategic and sector levels 3. Critically evaluate the relationship between the organisation, its leadership, and team performance and the importance of change and adaptability in a global environment 4. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of key functional areas of marketing, HR, finance, and entrepreneurship related to the global context 5. Critically evaluate the International Business environment for future employment and continuing personal and professional development 6. Synthesise and interpret appropriate secondary and primary data to effectively address contemporary International Business problems and evidence in an independent business research project. 			
12	<p>Describe the arrangements for promoting reflective learning/personal development planning (PDP) on this course</p> <p>International Business (Management) encompasses key functional areas evaluated in a global context preparing students for a wide range of industries and sectors. The course is written in a way that allows students to tailor the learning and assessment in the area of their interest. The breadth of material covered allows students to get a wide scope of exposure to international business management concepts and potential careers and opportunities. This includes employment and self-employment. The nature of the assessment is reflective and aims not to just test knowledge but also to develop essential employability skills, such as report writing or presentations. Students are given curricular and extracurricular opportunities to engage with career consultants, lecturers, and industry partners to support their career goals and contribute to their development plan.</p> <p>Designed to give students at Masters level an advanced understanding of managing business and a managerial perspective of how to run business organisations. This programme is intended to address industry's need for Masters Graduates with the knowledge, skills, and understanding to take up managerial roles within various business environments and provide students with the opportunity to tailor the learning and assessment in the area of their interest</p>			
13	<p>Teaching site(s) for course</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"><i>Other Collaborative</i></td> <td style="width: 33%;">Gants Hill, Ilford</td> <td style="width: 33%;"><i>Other</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>Other Collaborative</i>	Gants Hill, Ilford	<i>Other</i>
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18	Admissions requirements, to be demonstrated through certificated or experiential learning (up to 300 words)			

	A good honours undergraduate degree (minimum 2.2) in a relevant subject discipline. Candidates with other qualifications may be considered in exceptional circumstances. Students whose medium of study at degree level qualification is not English are required to produce evidence of English language proficiency at IELTS 6.0 (with 5.5 in each component) or equivalent or must pass an entry diagnostic assessment organised by Nelson College.
19	<p>Details of organised work experience, work-based learning, placement, sandwich year or year abroad available during the course</p> <p>This course highly encourages and supports the students in the development of employability skills. To support the students in developing relevant employability skills the course offers several curricular and extracurricular opportunities throughout its duration. These include industry guest speakers, industry site visits, field trips, real-life case studies or real-life project dissertations. Students are supported to find paid and voluntary job opportunities, summer placements, and graduate jobs. There is also ongoing support for students in terms of CV writing, application writing, mock interviews and interview presentations to help students and graduates compete for graduate roles. Students also have access to London Metropolitan University's careers website, which contains a wealth of resources and support.</p>
20	<p>Career, employability, and opportunities for continuing professional development.</p> <p>Successful completion of this Master's programme provides a sought after academic qualification which enhances students' career prospects in several managerial and leadership roles in a wide range of international business industries and sectors. This Master's degree provides the basis for further academic study at Ph.D. level or professional study in business-related subjects.</p>

Section Two: COURSE STRUCTURE AND ASSESSMENT

21	<p>Course assessment strategy</p> <p>Formative, summative and peer assessments plus self-assessment and reflections are all part of the assessment strategy for this course. Summative assessments are internally moderated and aimed to assess performance against the aims and their learning outcomes. These are also externally scrutinised following LMU's Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Enhancement (QE) procedures.</p> <p>A range of assessment methods including essays, reports, portfolios, case studies, and oral presentations will be used to measure student performance academically and concerning life and work experiences. The assessments will be both individual and group. The assessments which form a part of this course develop an independent learning culture and provide a challenging learning experience. The design facilitates real-world learning, for example, through the use of case studies or real-life dissertation projects and includes the business problem-based assessment. Teaching, learning and assessment strategy is designed to be appropriate to postgraduate study and reflect the module learning outcomes. They were developed by academic colleagues in association with industry partners to ensure their relevancy to the industry and desired employability skills development.</p> <p>Nelson College has well-established classroom support. Staff are educated to a Master's or Ph.D. level and have relevant teaching qualifications to develop appropriate and intellectually stimulating teaching, learning and assessment materials. The College also promotes an open-door policy that allows students to engage with academic teachers and tutors for guidance and help outside the classroom. Additional group and one to one opportunities are provided for students who require further learning, teaching or assessment guidance.</p> <p><i>Module Business research and study skills</i> prepare students for postgraduate study. The module develops relevant academic skills, builds knowledge and understanding of expectations of studying at</p>
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postgraduate level and develops students' research skills in preparation for the module

International Business Research Project. Additional, extracurricular opportunities, such as workshops or one to one sessions, are available for students seeking further guidance on academic or research skills.

Assessments are appropriate to postgraduate level modules. The assessment strategy considers employability skills in its design. As such, assessments were written in a way that helps students develop valuable employability skills, such as report writing or presentation, not just test the knowledge. For the same purpose exams were not included in the assessment strategy.

Every module provides an in-class assessment unpacking session which introduces students to the assessment and provides detailed guidance. There are also in the class and drop-in/ email opportunities for students to gain formative assessment feedback. The aim of this is to provide further guidance, ultimately helping students succeed in the assessment.

Nelson College has a policy on assessment feedback which is returned to students within four weeks of assessment submission. This forms a part of the College's commitment to ensuring student success and satisfaction. Assessment feedback is provided in a written format, giving students constructive information on the strengths of their assessment and areas for further future development. There is also regular staff development to ensure academic staff are up to date in giving good quality feedback. Students are made aware of the assessment processes which take place at Nelson College. All assessments are subject to London Metropolitan University's internal and external moderation and quality assurance.

22 Course Structure Diagram

Level Seven

Semester	Module Code	Module Title	Status	Credits	Notes <i>E.g. Detail pre-requisite; co-requisites; barred combinations; alternative cores.</i>
Autumn Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Business research and study skills	Core	20	
Autumn Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Assembling and managing high performance teams	Core	20	
Autumn Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Transformation and change leadership	Core	20	
Spring Period (15 weeks)	TBC	International digital marketing	Core	20	
Spring Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Managerial applications of finance	Core	20	
Spring Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Entrepreneurship and innovation in a global context	Core	20	
Summer Period 15 weeks	TBC	International business research project	Core	60	Prerequisite - Business research and study skills

Level Seven Spring Entry								
Semester	Code	Title	Status	Credits	Notes			
Spring Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Business research and study skills	Core	20				
Spring Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Managerial applications of finance	Core	20				
Spring Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Entrepreneurship and innovation in a global context	Core	20				
Autumn Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Assembling and managing high performance teams	Core	20				
Autumn Period (15 weeks)	TBC	Transformation and change leadership	Core	20				
Autumn Period (15 weeks)	TBC	International digital marketing	Core	20				
Summer Period (15 weeks)	TBC	International business research project	Core	60	Prerequisite - Business research and study skills			
23	Mapping matrix of modules (at para 22) delivering the course learning outcomes (at para 11)							
			LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	LO 4	LO 5	LO 6
Module Title	Module Code							
Business research and study skills	TBC						√	√
Assembling and Managing High Performance Teams	TBC			√	√	√	√	
Transformation and change leadership	TBC			√	√	√	√	
International digital marketing	TBC		√	√	√	√	√	
Managerial applications of finance and accounting	TBC		√	√		√	√	
Entrepreneurship and innovation in a global context	TBC		√	√	√	√	√	
International Business Research Project	TBC		√	√			√	√
24	Which modules are required to be taken to gain specific awards?							
<p><u>Postgraduate Diploma International Business (Management)</u> - Business research and study skills, Assembling and managing high-performance teams, Transformation, and change leadership</p> <p><u>Postgraduate Certificate International Business (Management)</u> - Business research and study skills, Assembling and managing high-performance teams, Transformation and change leadership, International digital marketing, Managerial applications of finance, entrepreneurship and innovation in a global context</p> <p><u>MA International Business (Management)</u> - Business research and study skills, Assembling and managing high-performance teams, Transformation, and change leadership, International digital marketing, Managerial applications of finance, entrepreneurship, and innovation in a global context, International business research project</p>								

Section Three: COURSE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS	
25	<i>Courses shall conform to both framework and University Academic Regulations. Where a course in addition has course specific regulations which have been formally approved by the University, these should be included below.</i>
	There are no specific regulations. Sufficient work experience and the personal ambition to benefit from the course.

Section Four: OFFICIAL USE AND CODES – responsibility for completion is as indicated		
26	(School) Course Leader at time of approval	Dr Paul Ridoutt
27	(School) Source of funding	<i>[click to select source of funding 1]</i>
		<i>[click to select source of funding 2]</i>
		<i>[click to select source of funding 3]</i>
		<i>Other: please complete as appropriate</i>
28	(QEU) Original date of approval	
29	(QEU) Course approved to run from	
30	(QEU) Course specification version number	
31	(QEU) Revision date (specify cohort)	
32	(Student Journey) London Met course code	
33	(Student Journey) Route code	
34	(Planning Office) JACS code ¹	

¹ JACS codes - <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/jacs3>