

Programme Title: MSc International Business



## 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)
QMUL programme code(s):	N1Q8
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	

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

n/a

Institution(s) other than QMUL that will provide some teaching for 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.

### Aims of the programme

By the end of the programme, the student should have acquired:

- knowledge and understanding of the key theories, approaches and issues in the field of international business;
- transferable cognitive skills in relation to the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of international business;
- the ability to appraise critically complex and contradictory areas of knowledge in the core and option subjects;

- quantitative research methods;
- a range of personal skills including presentation skills, argumentation, evaluation, problem solving, interactive and group skills, self-appraisal, autonomy in planning and management of learning.
- Have enhanced his/her career prospects by an understanding of the complexity of similarities and differences in policies and practices of international business.

### 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	Provide a critical programme of study which surveys the field of international business in both depth and breadth.
A 2	Prepare individuals for employment either related to their first degree discipline or in a management role.
A 3	The ability to conduct research into international business issues either individually or as a part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting.
A 4	Develop knowledge and skills in international business subjects.

#### Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Develop an understanding of theories, models, tasks and roles of economic policy together with rational analysis and other processes of decision making within governments and businesses and in relation to the external context.
B 2	Ability to recognise and address ethical dilemmas and corporate social responsibility issues, applying ethical and organisational values to situations and choices.
B 3	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.
B 4	Provide a range of cognitive and transferable skills that are generic and specific to the field of study of international business.

#### 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.

C3	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.
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### 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 full time and part time programme diets (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).

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Dissertation for International Business	BUSM103	60	7	Core	1	Semester 3
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
Finance for Development	BUSM020	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Corporate Governance	BUSM060	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Global Governance and International Organisations	BUSM068	15	7	Elective	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
Behavioural Finance and Decision Making	BUSM085	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
Environmental Change: Economics and Policy	BUSM135	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Continued Professional Development and academic skills workshops for MSc International Business	BUSM153	0	7	Study only	1	Semester 2

### 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

## 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

Attendance at the workshops for BUSM153 is compulsory.

### Specific support for disabled students

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.

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## Programme Specification Approval

**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Sophia Eglin Quality Assurance Administrator

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Dr. Deven Bathia Programme Director MSc International 

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

13 Mar 2018

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