

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

MSc in Human Resource Management and Training

Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management and Training

Postgraduate Certificate in Human Resource Management and Training * Notes

a) **HECOS Code**

HECOS Code	%
100085	100%

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study Part-time

b) Type of study Distance learning

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration for the MSc in Human Resource Management and Training is 2.5 years (30 months).

The accelerated route period of registration for the MSc Human Resource Management and Training is 2 years (24 months).

The maximum period of registration for the MSc in Human Resource Management and Training is 4 years (48 months).

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management and Training is 2 years (24 months).

The standard maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management and Training is 3 years (36 months).

5. Typical entry requirements

To be registered for a taught postgraduate programme, a candidate shall hold a degree with first or second class honours in a relevant field, or a higher degree of a University of the United Kingdom or of the Council for National Academic Awards, or an approved professional qualification, coupled with three or more years suitable professional experience.

^{*} An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Accreditation of Prior Learning will be accepted for the MSc programme for students who already hold 120 credits from the Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management and Training Programme studied at the University of Leicester provided that students return within 5 years of completing the Postgraduate Diploma. We will not accredit prior learning from any other programme. The available maximum period of registration for a returning student who hold 120 credits will be allocated on a pro-rata basis (according to the students intended award).

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to meet the learning and professional development needs of students seeking to pursue careers in human resource management and/or training. Students will acquire the latest academic and professional knowledge in the areas of employee development, workplace learning, human resource management, organisational performance, change management and work-related technology. On completion of the programme, the student should be able to:

- i. Systematically and critically apply theoretical perspectives and contemporary approaches to human resource management and training
- Demonstrate detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the principal ideas, concepts, models and practices underpinning Human Resource Management and Training
- iii. Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences
- iv. Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively
- v. Apply human resource management knowledge of ethical, responsible and sustainable practice in work and employment at local, regional, national and international levels
- vi. Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and practical skills to research contemporary human resource management and training issues in order to inform evidence-based solutions
- vii. Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering social inequalities and issues of social justice and demonstrate an awareness of diverse standpoints

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- University Education Strategy
- <u>University Assessment Strategy</u> [Login required]
- University Transferable Skills Framework [login required]
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals



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9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s). To ensure students meet the programme specific learning outcomes the following competences are mapped to the programme learning outcomes as described in 7.

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate, Diploma Students should be able to: i)Systematically and critically apply theoretical perspectives and contemporary approaches to human resource management and training.	Online materials, synchronous seminars, asynchronous discussions, case study activities, directed reading, self-directed private-study, assignment feedback: formative and summative.	Online seminar discussions and online module activities.	Essay assignments, Online timed assessments. Individual report, Case study assignment.
Masters In addition to the above students should: vi) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and practical skills to research contemporary human resource management and training issues in order to inform evidence-based solutions research human resource management and training. v) Apply human resource management knowledge of	Online materials, synchronous seminars, directed reading, self-directed private study, feedback on the dissertation proposal (formative and summative), 1-to-1 dissertation supervision, independent research.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-1) independent research.	In addition to the above: The Dissertation proposal; Dissertation.

ethical, responsible and		
sustainable practice in work and		
employment at local, regional,		
national and international levels.		

ii) Concepts

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: ii)Demonstrate detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the principal ideas, concepts, models and practices underpinning Human Resource Management and Training.	Online materials, synchronous seminars, case study activities, directed reading, self-directed private-study, assignment feedback: formative and summative.	Online seminar discussions and online module activities.	Essay assignments, Online Timed Assessments, Individual report, Case Study Assignment.
Masters In addition to the above students should be able to: In addition to both of the above graduates should be able to explain and critique core concepts used in quantitative and qualitative methods and methodologies in the social sciences. This includes differentiating between positivism, post-positivism and interpretivism; discussing the differences between probability and non-probability sampling; discussing the differences between various statistical tests, demonstrating in-	In addition to the above: Feedback on the dissertation proposal (formative and summative), 1-to-1 dissertation supervision, independent research.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process. 1-1 independent research.	In addition to the above: The Dissertation proposal; Dissertation.

depth knowledge of grounded theory		
and saturation point analysis.		

iii) Techniques

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: iv) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively.	Assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, self-directed private-study, seminars.	Group work and online seminar activities.	Academic Practice portfolio assignment (formative), Essay assignments, Online timed assessments, Individual report, Case study assignment.
Masters	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:
In addition to the above students should be able to: iii) Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences.	dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research, online module materials designed to support the preparation of the research proposal.	Apply and practice methodological tools used to investigate topics in human resource management and training (including, interviews, questionnaires, focus groups, documentary analysis, case studies).	The Dissertation Proposal and the Dissertation.

iv) Critical Analysis

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma	Online materials, synchronous	Online seminar discussions and online	Academic Practice portfolio
Students should be able to:	seminars, assignment feedback:	module activities.	assignment (formative), Essay
i)Systematically and critically	formative and summative.		assignments, Online Timed
apply theoretical perspectives			

and contemporary approaches to human resource management and training.			assessments, Individual report, Case study assignment.
Masters In addition to the above students should be able to: v)Apply human resource management knowledge of ethical, responsible and sustainable practice in work and employment at local, regional, national and international levels.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	In addition to the above: Online seminar discussions and online module activities. The dissertation supervision process. 1-1 independent research.	In addition to the above: The Dissertation Proposal and the Dissertation.
vii)Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering social inequalities and issues of social justice and demonstrate an awareness of diverse standpoints.			

v) Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: iii)Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences	Assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, self-directed private-study, online materials, synchronous seminars.	Online seminar discussions and online module activities.	Academic Practice portfolio assignment (formative), Essay assignments, Online Timed Assessment, Individual report, Case study assignment.

Masters	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:
As above.	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), communicate and arrange independent research in research proposal and dissertation	The Dissertation Proposal and the Dissertation.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma	Online materials, synchronous seminars: formative and summative;	Online seminar discussions and online module activities.	Academic Practice portfolio assignment (formative), Essay
Students should be able to: iii) Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences	directed reading, self-directed private-study.		assignments, online examinations, Individual report, case study assignment.
Masters In addition to the above students should be able to: vii)Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering social inequalities and issues of social justice and demonstrate an awareness of diverse standpoints.	In addition to the above: the dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), appraise evidence collected as part of independent research in research proposal and dissertation.	In addition to the above, the dissertation.

a) Transferable Skills

i) Research Skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: iii) Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences	Online materials, synchronous seminars, assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, self-directed private-study.	Online seminar discussions and online module activities.	Academic Practice portfolio assignment (formative), Essay assignments, Online timed assessments Individual report, Case study assignment.
Masters In addition to the above students should be able to: vi)Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and practical skills to research contemporary human resource management and training issues in order to inform evidence-based solutions.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), project-based learning in terms of a dissertation, practice of research skills.	In addition to the above: The Dissertation Proposal and the Dissertation.

ii) Communication skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma	Online materials, synchronous	Online seminar discussions and online	Written skills to be assessed using the
Students should be able to:	seminars, assignment feedback:	module activities.	Academic Practice portfolio
iii) Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex	formative and summative; directed reading, self-directed private-study.		assignment, essay assignments, case study assignment, individual report,

HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences			Online timed assessments. Oral skills to be assessed using formative assessment based on informal qualitative feedback on content and performance from teacher and peers in small group online seminars.
Masters In addition to the above students should be able to: vi) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and practical skills to research contemporary human resource management and training issues in order to inform evidence-based solutions	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), project-based learning in terms of a dissertation.	In addition to the above: The dissertation.
vii) Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering social inequalities and issues of social justice and demonstrate an awareness of diverse standpoints.			

iii) Data Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: iv) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively	Online materials, assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, self-directed private-study.	Online seminar discussions and online module activities.	Academic Practice portfolio assignment (formative), Essay assignments, Online timed assessments, Individual report, Case study assignment.

Masters	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:
In addition to the above, students should be able to:	The dissertation, independent research.	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), project-based learning in	The dissertation.
iii) Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences		terms of a dissertation	
vi) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and practical skills to research contemporary human resource management and training issues in order to inform evidence- based solutions			

iv) Information Technology

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: iii) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively	Online materials in the induction module (Academic Practice) from the Programme Leader and Library Personnel; Online resources produced by the Library and the Academic Skills Centre.	Accessing and utilising learning resources and materials on Blackboard site, and online databases and resources.	Academic Practice portfolio assignment (formative), Essay assignments, Online timed assessments, Individual report, Case study assignment.
Masters In addition to the above, students should be able to:	In addition to the above: The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	In addition to the above: Application and practice of using research tools and software to	In addition to the above: The dissertation.

vi) Demonstrate knowledge,	support dissertation (SPSS, NVivo,	
understanding and practical skills to	etc.)	
research contemporary human		
resource management and training		
issues in order to inform evidence-		
based solutions		

v) Problem Solving

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma	Online materials, synchronous	Online seminar discussions and online	Individual report, case study
Students should be able to:	seminars, assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed	module activities.	assignment.
iii) Collate, analyse and communicate research and a variety of complex HRM and training concepts using formats and language appropriate for academic, practitioner and policy audiences	reading, self-directed private-study.		
iv) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively			
Masters	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above, the:
In addition to the above, students should be able to: vii) Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering social inequalities and issues of social justice	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), project-based learning in terms of a dissertation	Dissertation proposal and the Dissertation.

and demonstrate an awareness of		
diverse standpoints		

vi) Working relationships

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma	Online materials, synchronous	Online seminar discussions and online	Formative assessment based on
Students should be able to:	seminar discussions.	module activities.	informal qualitative feedback on content and performance from
iv) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively			teacher and peers in online seminars and groups; Individual report based on a group activity.
Masters	In addition to the above:	As above.	In addition to the above:
As above	The establishment of a working relationship with the dissertation supervisor (or the resolution of any problems through consultation with the Personal Tutor and the Programme Leader).		The dissertation.

vii) Managing learning

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma	Online materials in the induction	Online seminar discussions and online	Academic Practice portfolio
Students should be able to:	module (Academic Practice); synchronous seminars; self- directed	module activities.	assignment (formative), Essay assignments, online timed
iv) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively	private-study; self-reflection on assignment feedback; formative and summative.		assessments, Individual report, Case study assignment.

Masters	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:
In addition to the above, students should be able to:	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	The dissertation	The Dissertation proposal and the Dissertation.
vi) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and practical skills to research contemporary human resource management and training issues in order to inform evidence- based solutions			

viii) Career Management

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Certificate and Diploma Students should be able to: iv) Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident practitioner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively	Personal tutor system, self-reflection on assignment feedback, online materials in the induction module by careers service professionals.	Research seminars (optional), careers learning activities and events	Formative assessment based on informal qualitative feedback from personal tutor, formative assessment from careers service professionals.
Masters	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:	In addition to the above:
As above	The dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research.	The dissertation	The Dissertation proposal and the Dissertation.



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10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in <u>Senate Regulations</u> – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing postgraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

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In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

a) Course transfers

n/a

b) Year in Industry

n/a

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of postgraduate award and classification set out in <u>Senate Regulations</u> – see the version of <u>Senate Regulation governing postgraduate programmes</u> relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

The programme meets CIPD accreditation requirements. This means that students who have successfully completed this Masters programme will be able to apply for Associate Member status of the CIPD. For CIPD accreditation, students must pass all assessed elements of the MSc HRM&T programme with at least 50%. Compensation is not allowed by CIPD. Where students do not meet this requirement CIPD accreditation will not be obtained.

Students who do not meet this requirement, but who do meet the awarding criteria for the MSc under Senate Regulation 6, will be awarded as normal. Students enrolling on the Postgraduate Certificate will not be eligible for CIPD membership.

The MSc HRM&T programme is offered via the standard route (30 months) and the accelerated route (24 months). For the latter, modules 2 and 3 are studied contemporaneously.

12a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
	The HRMT programme provides a thorough grounding in the theory and practice of
	managing people in order to drive change in organisations, adapt to change and
	evolve their skills to shifting organisational and labour market trends. This is
	underpinned by a critical analysis of the organisational context in which managers
	and employees work. Throughout the programme, students will be supported to
	think critically, identify and analyse HR and organisational problems, and evaluate
	potential solutions to real-world issues. Students will be empowered with the
	expertise, knowledge and skills needed to pursue a career in HRM and training. CIPD

accreditation by the professional body for HR and people development further ensures that the knowledge and skills acquired by graduates align with the expectations of the profession and the profession map.

Researchbriefed

Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.

Research briefed – Students in the programme will be exposed to world-leading research and outputs from academics within and external to the university, as well as members of the HRM professional community. Students are exposed to both disciplinary and interdisciplinary research from ULSB's research clusters. Teaching staff on the programme are engaged in relevant research and professional activities that are integrated into the programme content and teaching.

Researchbased

exploring existing knowledge.

Research based – module materials draw from real-world situations and contemporary issues impacting and shaping HRM and training. Students are given a Framed enquiry for comprehensive grounding and critical understanding of HRM and training topics including organisational functioning, management structures and frames, labour relations, workplace learning and employee development, new forms of work, worker experiences of work, life and environment, managing change and organisational performance. Students are provided with opportunities to identify relevant scholarly literature to examine a topic, apply relevant research to support claims or develop arguments in their formative and summative assignments.

Researchoriented

Students critique content and process.

Research oriented – Students critically reflect on scholarly research content (journal articles, research reports, grey literature) to identify strengths and weaknesses in published research practice (MN7647, MN7648, MN7649, MN7650), and gain experience in the research process through research methods and dissertation module (MN7651).

Researchapprenticed

Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.

Research apprenticed - Students experience and learn about evidence practice and research methods by undertaking empirical research with the guidance of a supervisor leading to the submission of a dissertation (MN7651).

As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

Students studying on the DL MSc/PG Dip HRM&T are invited to attend the ULSB Masterclass. The Leicester Masterclass is an annual event (that takes place in August) involving our international Postgraduate students, from across our suite of DL programmes. Students attend our Brookfield Campus for a seven-day teaching, learning, research and networking event. Each Masterclass is themed on issues of cross-programme relevance. The Masterclass provides students with a unique opportunity to share ideas with people from different countries, different sectors and studying different programmes (from MBAs to Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management).

These diverse networks provide students with the opportunity to view leadership and HR practice through a range of different lenses, and they exposure students to new ideas and new ways of working. The Masterclass balances lectures from research-active faculty and expert practitioners from within our network, through Guest Speaker sessions, group work and networking. Critically, it presents a unique opportunity for student to appreciate the ways in which different intellectual traditions and research can influence individual, professional and organisational perspectives.

Within the Employee Development and Workplace Learning (MN7647) and Managing Human Resources in a Business Context (MN7648) modules, research is drawn from current research and publications associated with the research undertaken by individuals within the University of Leicester. The Research Methods and Dissertation (MN7651) module, research examples are drawn from research undertaken by ULSB academics.

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The College Academy of Business Education and Practice runs regular sessions including external speakers and workshops for recognition of external awards for teaching excellence.

The Academy also facilitates a journal paper, book reading group which provides an informal environment to discuss contemporary pedagogic issues related to Business education. The Academy underpins a teaching and learning research culture which provides staff with a clear platform to share and evaluate current and potential practice-based activities within the pedagogic sphere.

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

Module leaders and staff involved in teaching, regularly present research in reputed national and international conferences including higher education teaching and learning conferences (example, SRHE, ILPC, WES, BAM)

13. Indications of programme quality

As defined in <u>Senate Regulations</u> - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate/exit award where appropriate.

The programme is accredited by the CIPD and subject to university regulations on external examination. Student evaluations and feedback is via end of module surveys, and student voice committees.

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required].



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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management and Training

Level 7/Year 1 Delivery Year 2025/26 Intake Month Choose an item. Mode of Study Part Time Structure

Core modules - 120 credits total

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Module 1	MN7646	Academic Practice	n/a
Module 2	MN7647	Employee Development and Workplace Learning	30 credits
Module 3	MN7648	Managing Human Resources in a Business Context	30 credits
Module 4	MN7649	Implementing Improvements in Organisational Performance	30 credits
Module 5	MN7650	Managing Change and Technology at Work	30 credits

Notes

The modules are taken in the following sequence:

- 1. Academic Practice MN7646
- 2. Employee Development and Workplace Learning MN7647
- 3. Managing Human Resources in a Business Context MN7648

- 4. Implementing Improvements in Organisational Performance MN7649
- 5. Managing Change and Technology at Work MN7650

MSc Human Resource Management and Training

Level 7/Year 1 Delivery Year 2025/26 Intake Month Choose an item. Mode of Study Part Time Structure

Core modules – 180 credits total

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Module 1	MN7646	Academic Practice	n/a
Module 2	MN7647	Employee Development and Workplace Learning	30 credits
Module 3	MN7648	Managing Human Resources in a Business Context	30 credits
Module 4	MN7649	Implementing Improvements in Organisational Performance	30 credits
Module 5	MN7650	Managing Change and Technology at Work	30 credits
Dissertation	MN7651	Research Methods and Dissertation	60 credits

Option modules

Notes

The modules are taken in the following sequence:

- 1. Academic Practice MN7646
- 2. Employee Development and Workplace Learning MN7467
- 3. Managing Human Resources in a Business Context MN7648
- 4. Implementing Improvements in Organisational Performance MN7649
- 5. Managing Change and Technology at Work MN7650
- 6. Research Methods and Dissertation MN7651

NB. For the accelerated route, modules 3 and 4 as noted above are studied contemporaneously.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See postgraduate <u>module specification database</u> (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery) [login-require