UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2024/25

Date created: March 2022　　**Last amended:** 28/02/2025　　**Version no.** 2

1.　Programme title(s) and code(s)

MSc in International Business
Postgraduate Diploma in International Business *
Postgraduate Certificate in International Business*

Notes

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

HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100080	100%

2.　Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

3.　a)　Mode of study: Full-time
　　　b)　Type of study: Campus-based

4.　Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the M.Sc. International Business is 12 months
The maximum period of registration for the M.Sc. International Business is 24 months

5.　Typical entry requirements

The programme will follow standard entry requirements: a good UK honours degree or its equivalent or a relevant graduate level qualification; or possession of the University of Leicester's Professional Diploma in Management (or its predecessor, the Diploma in Management) will be required. For students whose first language is not English, the English Language requirement is an IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 90.

Students who complete 2+1 undergraduate degrees where the 2 is not taught in English must still meet the University IELTS requirement.

6.　Accreditation of Prior Learning

N/A

7.　Programme aims

The MSc International Business is designed to equip you with the critical insights and knowledge you need make a positive contribution in the world of global business. On this programme you will gain the practical knowledge and analytical skills you need to develop and lead effective strategic change.

This programme is designed to:

1. Promote an appreciation of the role of information within a knowledge-based economy. This will include an identification of approaches to data generation, data manipulation, data assessment, analysis and dissemination in international business research.

2. Encourage in course members the need for critical analysis and evaluation of international business theories by covering the economic, political, ethical, social and technical environment within which business professionals work.

3. Give course members an analytical appreciation of global strategy, global operations and supply chain management and logistics, international marketing, business economics, finance and accounting, market intelligence, business analytics and research methods.

4. Provide students with opportunities to develop a variety of transferable skills relevant to the needs of a range of employers including written and oral communication skills, critical analysis, and appraisal of evidence, time management and problem-solving.

5. Equip students with the necessary skills to undertake independent research work in the broad area of international business, as evidenced in the successful completion of International Business Dissertation or International Business Project.

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
- University assessment strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

The MSc International Business is a post-graduate L7 award, which constitutes a QAA Type 1 Specialist Masters qualification.

*The post graduate diploma and *post graduate certificate are exit awards made when students fail to complete the 180 M level credits required for the award on an MSc. The post graduate diploma is awarded on the achievement of 120 M level credits, and the post graduate certificate awarded on the achievement of 60 M level credits.

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate Successful students will be able to apply a competent knowledge of the key principles and practices in two of the following four areas: in i) Finance and Accounting decision making, and ii) Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management (iii) Principles and Practices of International Business, and (iv) Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods.	**Certificate** Seminars, directed reading, guided independent study, assignment feedback: formative and summative	**Certificate** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
Diploma Successful students will be able to apply a competent knowledge of the key principles and practices in all of the following four areas: in i) Finance and Accounting decision making, and ii) Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management (iii) Principles and Practices of International Business, and (iv) Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods	**Diploma** As above	**Diploma** As above
Masters In addition to the above successful students will recognise how quantitative and qualitative methods and methodologies can be used to research international business.	**Masters** In addition to the above: completion of an independent research project culminating in dissertation or business plan.	**Masters** In addition to the above: Dissertation or Project.

ii)   Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate Successful students will be able to comprehend and explain core concepts in <u>two of the following four</u> areas: i) Finance and Accounting decision making, and ii) Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management (iiii) Principles and Practices of International Business, and (iv) Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods.	**Certificate** Seminars, directed reading, guided independent study private-study, assignment feedback: formative and summative	**Certificate** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
iploma In addition to the above, successful students should be able to comprehend and explain core concepts in <u>all of the following four</u> areas: i) Finance and Accounting decision making, and ii) Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management (iiii) Principles and Practices of International Business, and (iv) Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods.	**Diploma** As above	**Diploma** As above

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Masters In addition to both of the above, successful students should be able to explain and apply core concepts in research methodology underpinning the social sciences. This includes differentiating between positivism and interpretivism; discussing the differences between probability and non-probability sampling; making informed comparisons between parametric and non-parametric statistical tests and defending the choices, assumptions and difficulties involved in carrying out this type of research.	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research	**Masters** In addition to the above the Dissertation or Project

iii)   Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to apply key theories and concepts; be able to select relevant material from academic readings and demonstrate familiarity with the conventions of academic writing and associated bibliographic techniques.	**Certificate and Diploma** Assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, guided independent study and independent study, seminars	**Certificate and Diploma** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to employ of a range of methodological tools used to investigate topics in international business (including, interviews, questionnaires, focus groups, ethnographic research). Graduates should be able to differentiate the conditions when either qualitative or quantitative data analysis should be used and/or be able to identify the conditions under which it is appropriate to combine different techniques	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research, and seminars designed to support the preparation of the research proposal	**Masters** In addition to the above Project or Dissertation

iv)   Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate, Diploma, Masters Successful students will be able to identify and apply relevant concepts and techniques with independence.	**Certificate and Diploma** Seminars, assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, guided independent study private-study, seminars	**Certificate and Diploma** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
	Masters In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research	**Masters** In addition to the above Project or Dissertation

v)	Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to differentiate between relevant and non-relevant material; professional and academic writing, to write up and deliver written work to a professional standard.	**Certificate and Diploma** Assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, guided independent study and seminars.	**Certificate and Diploma** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to arrange research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed (i.e. practical reports, Project or Dissertation)	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research	**Masters** In addition to the above the Project and Dissertation

vi)	Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to assess the relevance and quality of a range of primary sources and secondary literature. They will be able to analyse a variety of complex international business ideas.	**Certificate and Diploma** Seminars, assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, guided independent study.	**Certificate and Diploma** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to apply an independent line of enquiry at an advanced level	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research	**Masters** In addition to the above the Project and Dissertation

b) Transferable skills

    i)   Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to locate, select and organise relevant evidence for essays; and to produce logically structured, focused and clearly written essays and market research reports.	**Certificate and Diploma** Seminars, assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, guided independent study.	**Certificate and Diploma** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to plan research projects based on focused research questions, conduct significant background research and literature surveys, collect and analyse data which is relevant to research questions, report on findings demonstrating an ability to critique the data from competing viewpoints, construct an informed critical argument.	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1) and independent research.	**Masters** In addition to the above project and dissertation

ii)   Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to critically discuss relevant information in an essay format in response to written questions and case studies; write with clarity and precision; prepare short oral presentations in seminar groups and participate and moderate focus groups.	**Certificate and Diploma** Assignment feedback: formative and summative; guided independent study and seminars	**Certificate and Diploma** Written skills to be assessed using a variety of assessment techniques for example; essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans. Oral skills to be assessed using formative assessment based on informal qualitative feedback on content and performance from lecturer and peers in small group seminars and assessed presentation.
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to produce a Project or Dissertation that is logically structured and written with clarity and precision.	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1) and independent research	**Masters** In addition to the above the project or dissertation

iii)   Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to synthesise secondary research data into coherent and sustained written arguments, ability to respond to case studies through professional report.	**Certificate and Diploma** Assignment feedback: formative and summative; guided independent study	**Certificate and Diploma** Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical report, written examinations.
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to clearly arrange primary research data into thematic analysis and/or statistical data.	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research, seminars designed to support the preparation of the research proposal.	**Masters** In addition to the above project or dissertation.

iv)   Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to retrieve and present information using appropriate information technology, for example bibliographic software and subject specific databases. They will be able to employ commercial marketing databases (e.g. GMID & Keynote) to obtain and evaluate relevant business information.	**Certificate and Diploma** Introduction to Quantitative and Qualitative Methods, Blackboard Resources.	Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
Masters In addition to the above, successful students will be able to use, if necessary, data analysis software that is relevant to their Dissertation (e.g. SPSS)	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1), independent research, and seminars designed to support the preparation of the research proposal.	**Masters** In addition to the above, the Project and Dissertation.

v)   Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate, Diploma and Masters Successful students will be able to identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems. They will be able to identify problems and opportunities faced by organisations using case studies. They should be able to propose sustainable actions based on their analysis that help resolve problems and capitalise on latent opportunities.	Research methods seminars and independent research, particularly that supported by Dissertation supervision. International business case studies.	Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.

vi)   Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to work collaboratively as part of a team; and to contribute and comment on ideas in learning groups.	**Certificate and Diploma** Participation in seminar activities such as moderating and participating in focus groups; group problem solving through international business case studies as well as preparation of short presentations.	**Certificate and Diploma** Formative assessment based on informal qualitative feedback on content and performance from teacher and peers.
Masters Successful students will be able to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others and judge when it is appropriate to do so.	**Masters** In addition to the above: the establishment of a working relationship with the Dissertation supervisor (or the resolution of any problems through consultation with the Project/Dissertation supervisor, Module Leader and/or the Programme Leader).	**Masters** In addition to the above, in the project or dissertation

vii)   Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to manage an extensive literature and be familiar with subject-relevant debates and concepts. They will be able to manage guided independent study to ensure the completion of assessment tasks and successfully manage the related study work-load.	**Certificate and Diploma** Seminars; guided independent study, self-reflection on assignment feedback; formative and summative.	**Certificate and Diploma** Individual assignments (formative and summative), group assignments. The assessment strategies across the programme will include a combination of assessment formats, for example, but not limited to: presentations, essays, practical reports (e.g. Market Research), portfolios, literature reviews, case studies, marketing/business plans.
Masters In addition to the above: successful students will be able to identify a plausible and workable research project; construct a feasible research timetable; carry out independent research.	**Masters** In addition to the above: the Project/Dissertation supervision process (1-to-1).	**Masters** In addition to the above, the Project or Dissertation.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Successful students will be able to take charge of their progress and development; to reflect on their strengths and limitations, interests, motivation and skills; and to recognise their achievements.	**Certificate and Diploma** Personal Tutor system; self-reflection on assignment feedback; guest lecture/s from alumni and business professionals, Continuing Professional Development opportunities	**Certificate and Diploma** Personal Development Planning through formative reflection of module content and within personal tutor meetings.
Masters In addition to the above: if appropriate, successful students will be able to research an area which may be relevant to their career preferences.	**Masters** In addition to the above; the Project/Dissertation supervision process	**Masters** In addition to the above, the project or dissertation

10. Special features

The programme's assessment strategy has built in flexibility to respond to new situations as they arise, therefore ensuring the programme can at all times remain responsive to the International Business environment. For example, using the term 'assignment' allows for agile use of range of different assessment methods on each module for different cohorts, in the past this strategy has allowed us to design assessments that appropriately allow students to engage with emerging and evolving issues in a time relevant manner. For the purpose of the module specification a list of likely and indicative (although not exhaustive) assignment, formats for each point of assessment are suggested. This agile strategy for setting of assessments is reviewed and monitored at programme level alongside our moderation processes to ensure that a good range of authentic and appropriate assessment methods are used within each module and across the programme for each cohort.

11. Indicators of programme quality

The quality of all ULSB programmes is the responsibility of the School's Learning and Teaching Committee. The School use a variety of indicators to maintain oversight of programme quality including:

- Internal moderation
- External Examiner Reports
- Internally Administered Student Satisfaction Feedback
- Student Attainment Data
- Peer Enhancement of Learning and Teaching Process and Reporting
- Panel of Examiners

All programmes are reviewed formally through the University administered processes of:

- Periodic Development Review

- Programme Level Annual Development Review
- Curriculum Planning

12. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulations - 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.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

15. External Examiners 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]

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

For students who progress to the extended project will be due to be submitted on 31st January 2024.

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.

MSc International Business – September Intake

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	60 credits	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Module including Extended project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
September - January	MN7050	Principles and Practices of International Business	30
September - January	MN7051	Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods	30
January - April	MN7053	Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management	30
January- April	MN7061	Accounting for accountability and Decision Making	30

Optional modules

| June - September | MN7054 | International Business Dissertation | 60 |
| June - September | MN7055 | International Business Project | 60 |

MSc International Business – January Intake

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	60 credits	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Module including Extended project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Teaching Block 1 (January to March) Sem 2	MN7061	Accounting for accountability and decision making	30
– Teaching Block 1 (January to March) Sem 2	MN7053	Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management	30
Teaching Block 2 (May-July) T3	MN7050	Principles and Practices of International Business	30
– Teaching Block 2 (May-July) T3	MN7051	Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods	30

Optional modules

Teaching Block 3 (August – January) Sem 1	MN7054	International Business Dissertation	60
Teaching Block 3 (August – January) Sem 1	MN7055	International Business Project	60

MSc International Business – April Intake

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	60 credits	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Module including Extended project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Teaching Block 1 (April-July) T3	MK7050	Principles and Practices of International Business	30
Teaching Block 1 (April-July) T3	MN7051	Market Intelligence, Data Analysis and Research Methods	30
Teaching Block 2 (July-September) T3 Spanning	MN7053	Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management	30
Teaching Block 2 (July-September) T3 Spanning	MN7061	Accounting for accountability and decision making	30

Optional modules

Teaching Block 3 (October to April) Sem 1	MN7054	International Business Dissertation	60
Teaching Block 3 (October to April) Sem 1	MN7055	International Business Project	60

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See taught postgraduate module specification database (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).