



# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT AWARDED BY BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY



## Programme Specification

### Course Summary Information

1.	Course Title	MSc Project Management
2.	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
3.	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	Association for Project Management (APM)

### Course Description

Our MSc Project Management course will help you gain the administrative, organisational and creative skills you'll need to become one of tomorrow's leading managers.

#### What's covered in the course?

The course will encourage creative thinking, and the development of leadership and management skills through teamwork, discussion and peer review.

You'll develop new skills to an advanced level, becoming a highly-skilled manager capable of administering major projects within and across different organisations. In addition to further academic research opportunities, career prospects are expected to keep pace with the rapid advances in project management methods and intelligent based technologies, hence, there is expected to be continuing demand for competent, versatile postgraduates who can design and implement innovative solutions for industry.

<b>Course Awards</b>		
<b>Name of Final Awards</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit Awarded</b>
Master of Science Project Management	7	180
<b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>		
Postgraduate Diploma Project Management	7	120
Postgraduate Certificate Project Management	7	60

<b>Delivery Pattern</b>	
<b>Mode of Study</b>	<b>Duration of the course</b>
Full Time	12 months
Part Time	15 months

<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Concepts, theories and principles of project management and professional practice.</li> <li>2. The skills of analysis, synthesis and decision making in the resolution of project challenges.</li> <li>3. Project management methodologies, innovation and creativity in management across the extended enterprise and global arena.</li> <li>4. The structure of industrial systems and how these systems may be used to meet the varying demands placed on companies.</li> <li>5. Organisational configuration to achieve more rapid responsiveness to a changing global environment</li> <li>6. Argue rationally and draw independent conclusions based on a rigorous, analytical and critical approach to support an argument.</li> <li>7. Write fully researched and referenced reports which evaluate both technical and management issues.</li> <li>8. Synthesise theory and practice systematically and creatively to specify, design and implement effective solutions.</li> <li>9. Demonstrate, in an analysis of a specified problem, a high level of competence and understanding of the data manipulation, information presentation and delivery.</li> <li>10. Apply new technologies and techniques to solve present and future industrial and commercial problems nationally and internationally.</li> <li>11. Access information from a variety of sources and appraise its suitability for master's level research.</li> <li>12. Apply the knowledge, skills and methodologies of project management to the analysis and solution of complex problems</li> <li>13. Possess a defined body of knowledge, skills and understanding and analyse its relationships with conceptual frameworks and professional practice.</li> <li>14. Reflect on personal attributes, both theoretical and practical, and modify approach to maximise learning opportunities.</li> </ol>



15. Interpret and critically evaluate knowledge, concepts and ideas and/or forms of creative expression, to deliver a quality product or service.
16. Manage learning and self-development, including time management and prioritising of work when tackling and solving complex problems.
17. Communicate effectively in writing, orally and in presentations to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
18. Make effective use of IT including word and data processing packages, internet and electronic information sources.
19. Systematically research a topic, synthesise and critically evaluate data and information from a variety of web-based and traditional sources.
20. In cooperation with others, plan and implement tasks at a professional level and contribute to team goals through making sound judgements.

### Course Requirements

In order to complete this course, a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totaling 180 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ENG7142	Research Methods	20
ENG7141	Resource Management	20
ENG7146	Procurement and Contract Law	20
ENG7145	International Operations and Logistics	20
ENG7143	Principles of Project Management	20
ENG7144	International Business and Marketing	20
ENG7200	Individual Master's Project	60



## **Programme Synopsis**

### **ENG7142 Research Methods**

The module aims to provide you with a foundation for academic research skills employed in all modules, but particularly the master's dissertation. This will enhance your learning experience providing a research output which is both industrially relevant and contributes academic value to the research base of your chosen industry.

### **ENG7141 Resource Management**

This module will focus on resource management and its effective deployment and allocation to achieve sustainable competitive advantage for organisations. Two main resources will be considered: HUMAN and FINANCIAL; without which, organisational success cannot be guaranteed.

You will be introduced to theoretical concepts underpinning resource development and deployment such as, human capital development, change management, motivational theories, learning organisations, financial methods, investment appraisal, budgeting, alongside financial and management accounting.

### **ENG7146 Procurement and Contract Law**

All organisations need input of good and services from external suppliers or providers. This module will examine the developing role of purchasing and procurement within the supply function, in managing these inputs in which the activity can contribute to the efficiency of the organisation or project. Using contract law and its relevant legal duties, rights and processes, you will understand the underpinning contractual obligations for individuals and organisation.

### **ENG7145 International Operations and Logistics**

This module will provide you with the opportunity to undertake a critical evaluation of supply chain management and its links to the marketplace, the distribution networks, the manufacturing process and the procurement activity required; ensuring that customers are served at high levels by lowering operational costs through effective logistics and supply chain operations.

### **ENG7143 Principles of Project Management**

Project management is the application of processes, methods, knowledge, skills and experience to achieve the project objectives (PMBok, 6th Ed. (2012)). Project management is key to delivering strategic value within an organisation and it involves far more than a time plan, a budget and a risk



register. Projects can range from construction of a new building to the launch of new product, or outsourcing previous in-house functions, to the re-engineering of products, services and processes. This module will deal with the two main stages of any project: **PLANNING** and **IMPLEMENTATION**.

Seven techniques are identified as being applicable to one or both of these: **PRINCE II**, Activity networking (Work breakdown schedules), Project Financial Appraisal, Earned Value Method of Project Cost Control, Risk Identification and Assessment, Break-even analysis and Use of Computer Software for project planning and Control.

### **ENG7144 International Business and Marketing**

This module provides particular focus on global strategic positioning, entry strategies and alliances, effective cross-cultural boundaries and management; developing and retaining an effective global management for products and services for globalisation. The module will reflect on current research, current events and global developments and include many company examples alongside international marketing theory, norms and practices for implementation.

### **ENG7200 Individual Master's Project**

The purpose of the module is to enable you to undertake a sustained, in-depth and research-informed Level 7 project exploring an area that is of personal interest to you. In agreement with your supervisor, you will decide upon your topic which will take the form of a practical outcome (artefact) with accompanying contextual material. The main consideration when choosing your topic is that it must be aligned to the programme you are studying and informed by the research strategy of your school, and you should consider the relevance of this topic to your future academic or professional development.

At this level, you will be expected to work independently but you will receive additional one-to-one support from your supervisor, who will be familiar with your chosen topic area. As you progress on the module, extra support will be available and this may take the form of group seminars, workshops and online materials that will help to develop your project.

This module is an opportunity for you to further develop not only academically, but it will also help you to extend life-long skills and attributes that identify you as a Masters-level graduate of BCU. These include being a creative problem solver, entrepreneurial, professional and work ready, and having a global outlook. In the context of technology-related industries, this means:

- Developing your ability to create work which demonstrates an advanced awareness of professional standards relevant to your discipline.
- Extending your application of successful project planning, which may include budgetary and other relevant constraints.



- Being innovative, experimental and pushing the boundaries of your discipline.
- Being able to effectively self-evaluate and reflect critically on your work and its potential impact, placing it within the context of relevant debates within your chosen medium.

### **Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment**

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students



### Workload

30% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	252
Directed Learning	12
Private Study	1536
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>1800</b>

### Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	65%
Exam	14%
In-Person	21%