Programme Title: MSc International Consultancy & Accounting

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading
Faculty Economics & Social Sciences:
Programme length: 9 month PG Diploma, 12 months MSc.
For students entering in 2002
Date of specification: April 2002
Programme Director: Dr Cyril Levicki
Board of Studies: Management MScs
Accreditation: None

Summary of programme aims
1. To give students a thorough understanding of core tools and techniques used in business consultancy.
2. To give students an understanding of how consultancy businesses operate and are managed.

Transferable skills
The programme requires students to take personal responsibility and show initiative in developing their knowledge and understanding of the field of study. The ability to carry out independent reading and research is highly valued and expected of students on this programme. Students will learn to set priorities and manage their time in order to meet strict deadlines.
Students will have opportunities to practice and develop communication, information handling, information technology and problem solving skills.
All students will experience and learn more about the skills of team-working on group based projects.
There is the opportunity to develop career planning and management skills.

Programme content

		Credits	Level
	Compulsory Modules		
MMM021	International Accounting	20	M
MMM022	Anglo-American Accounting	20	M
MMM025	Multinational Financial Reporting & Analysis	20	M
MMM005	Introduction to Consultancy	20	M
MMM016	Consulting Practice	20	M
MMM023	Dissertation	40	M
MMM024	Internship	40	M
	Optional Modules (Two of the following modules)		
MMM002	Understanding the Global Firm	20	M
MMM004	Strategy, Policy & Impact of Multinational Enterprise	20	M
MMM006	Global Marketing Management	20	M
MMM009	European Management	20	M
MMM010	Asian Management	20	M
MMM012	International Human Resource Management	20	M
MMM013	International Competition Policy	20	M
MMM014	Emergence & Growth of Multinational Enterprise	20	M
MMM015	Research & Development in the Multinational Enterprise	20	M
MMM017	International Business Ethics	20	M
MMM018	Leadership & Advanced Business Policy	20	M
MMM019	Crisis Management	20	M
ECM22	Financial Markets	20	M
ECM23	Financial Regulations	20	M
ECM30	Managing Innovation	20	M
ECM31	Technological Innovation & Industrial Competitiveness	20	M
ECM39	E-Business Strategy	20	M

Progression requirements

Assessment of taught modules by May/June; resit failed modules in September; submit dissertation or internship report by 16th September, or by a month thereafter if there are resits.

A Postgraduate Diploma will be awarded to students who pass at least 120 credits of M level modules, of which at least 60 credits must be passed in compulsory modules. There is no dissertation or internship component.

Part-time/modular arrangements

This programme is not available on a part-time basis. The majority of International Consultancy and Accounting students are overseas students, who cannot obtain a visa for part-time programmes.

Summary of teaching and assessment
Teaching is organised in modules. The delivery of materials takes a variety of forms including lectures, classes, seminars, and group exercises. All modules involve coursework, reflecting the aims of the module. Final assessment of the module involves a two-hour examination (weight 70%) and coursework (weight 30%). A supervisor is appointed for each student undertaking the dissertation. The submission date of the Internship Report and Dissertation is the 16th September.

Admission requirements
Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained a first degree the equivalent of a British Honours 2i, which includes at least two modules in accounting. Applicants whose degree result is below the required level, or whose degree is from a university where the standard is not well known, will require GMAT 600. References are also taken into account. Acceptance is at the discretion of the Director of Studies.

Admissions Tutor:
The Course Director is responsible for admissions. Applications are, in the first place, dealt with by Mrs L. Whitrick.

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Programme Directors, the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union.

Career prospects
Students who have followed this programme are working in a wide range of industries and management functions. These include consultancy, finance and manufacturing. Graduates have found employment in firms ranging from multinationals to small and medium enterprises.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
Possibility of internship.

Educational aims of the programme
The programme aims to provide students with an understanding of core tools and techniques used in business consultancy, as well as how consultancy businesses operate and are managed. Management control and accounting issues are dealt with and there is an emphasis on the application and practice of consultancy.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
1. Models of management and business consultancies. 2. Recent developments in relevant empirical research, business consultancy practices and processes, in a variety of business environments 3. Regulatory and ethical issues affecting the consultancy business. 4.The structure and management of key business consultancies. 5.An understanding of the importance of accounting ideas and practices in consultancy.	1-5 Formal lectures, guest lectures from industry, discussions, individual and group presentation, group exercises, case studies, guided readings and guidance on key sources of reference material. Feed back and guidance are important elements complementing an emphasis on self -study *Assessment* Unseen examinations and coursework comprising of long essays. Seminar presentations

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills – able to:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
1.Structure, analyse, and evaluate theoretical issues, and practical business dynamics and challenges. 2.Think logically and analytically and to understand the difference between positive and normative statements. 3.Identify key consultancy and business relationships and evaluate them against practice 4.Comprehend the evolving state and practice of business consultancy and factors influencing both the change and the pace of change	Students are frequently challenged in all teaching situations to complete logical arguments, analyse problems and alternative strategies, and justify statements. Long essays, debate, group work, and presentations provide the principal vehicle for developing intellectual skills *Assessment* Unseen examinations and coursework, case study analysis, dissertation

C. Practical skills – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
1.Evaluate current theoretical and empirical research in the field of study. 2. Evaluate alternative strategies for consultancies. 3. Evaluate the behaviour and culture of firms in the sector. 4. Effectively apply key professional skills learnt in optional classes to the business practice.	Students are required to understand a wide amount of reading, both of specific references and through researching their own sources of information. Discussion in lectures and seminars emphasises formal reasoning, the use of statistical and empirical evidence and the strengths and weaknesses in alternative theories and methodologies. 1-4 Practical projects; placements; seminars; lectures; problem-based scenarios. 2 Lectures and workshops 3-4 Case studies, placements, practical projects. Assessment Long essays, presentations, and unseen examinations.

D. Transferable skills – able to:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
a Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means. b Evaluate his/her own academic professional performance. c Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations. d Manage change effectively and respond to changing demands. e Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development (personal Development Planning). f Manage time, prioritise workloads and manage personal emotions and stress. g Understand career opportunities and begin to plan a career path. h. Information management skills. e.g. IT skills.	The presentation of well researched written work is a fundamental element of the programme and requires the application of all the skills listed in 1-5. This is reinforced by the breadth and depth of the syllabuses for each module and the highly structured system of deadlines for assessed work, and examinations, which develop the students' skills of time management. Oral skills are developed through lecture and seminar discussions and individual and group presentations. Assessment Under examination and coursework

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.