

International Business Management

MSc

Programme Handbook

2020-2021

Summary of programme commitments

<p>The University's Student Charter, requires that students are provided with a 'programme handbook which outlines any professional requirements, contact hours, mode of course delivery, assessment criteria, examination arrangements and regulations, academic guidance and support, and appeals and complaints procedures'. The purpose of this summary is to help you locate further details about this key information in your handbook. In the Business School the information will either be included in your Programme Handbook or in the PG Canvas Community under "PG Study Guide".</p>	
Average number of contact hours for this Stage / programme:	<i>Please see PG Study Guide in NUBS PG Community on Canvas</i>
Mode of delivery:	<i>Please see "Your Programme" section of your programme handbook on page 4.</i>
Normal notice period for changes to the timetable, including rescheduled classes:	<i>Please see PG Study Guide in NUBS PG Community on Canvas</i>
Normal notice period for changes to the curriculum or assessment:	<i>Please see PG Study Guide in NUBS PG Community on Canvas</i>
Normal deadline for feedback on submitted work (coursework):	<i>Please see PG Study Guide in NUBS PG Community on Canvas</i>
Normal deadline for feedback on examinations:	<i>Please see PG Study Guide in NUBS PG Community on Canvas</i>
Professional Accreditation:	<i>Please see your programme Canvas Community for up to date information</i>
Assessment methods and criteria:	<i>Please see your programme Canvas Community for up to date information</i>
Academic guidance and support:	<p><i>Please see PG Study Guide in NUBS PG Community on Canvas</i></p> <p><i>Please see "contacts" section of your programme handbook on page 14.</i></p>

Use of programme handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with an overview of your Master's degree programme. This handbook should be read in conjunction with the Newcastle University Business School *Postgraduate Study Guide*. Together, these documents will provide you with a guide to the facilities offered to you both by the School and the wider University and are designed to complement other information provided by the University.

This handbook provides an accurate picture of the programme at the time of writing, but it may be subject to minor changes during the course of the academic year. You will be informed of any changes through the appropriate channels.

Your programme

This section aims to provide you with some key information on your degree programme. Generic information relating to postgraduate degrees can be found on the Business School postgraduate Canvas Community <https://canvas.ncl.ac.uk/login/> in the PG Study Guide.

What will my teaching programme be like in 2020/21?

We want you to get the most out of your teaching and learning and will do everything we can to support you to do so. Your learning opportunities will be made up of a mixture of online and in-person, on-campus activities. In Semester one, as a result of physical distancing requirements, lecture materials will be delivered online as will many tutorials and seminars. Our plan, where it is possible and safe to do so with 2-meter physical distancing in place, is to deliver up to two hours of in-person teaching per week. We will review this at key points in the Semester and these reviews will inform our approach to Semester two teaching.

We recommend you regularly check the University website for the most up to date information at:

<https://enquire.ncl.ac.uk/>

Induction Week

There will be a two week Induction for your programme at the start of Semester 1, including sessions with your Degree Programme Director (DPD), your Module Leaders and your designated Personal Tutor. This period is also your opportunity to familiarise yourself with the University, the facilities available and check details such as your timetable. A full schedule will be available on the relevant programme pages in Canvas and published on the Business School Website:

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/business/>

About the Programme

This is a modular programme which is studied over one year on a full-time basis. It is designed for students who generally have little or no experience and aims to develop Master's-level knowledge, understanding and skills in business and management subjects. The programme aims to prepare individuals for employment and therefore mainly attracts recent graduates but there are also some mature entry students.

The International Business Management MSc programme consists of 180 credits across three different types of modules:

Subject area modules introduce and then develop to an advanced level your understanding of the key management subjects and business understandings required by international managers. This consists of 90 credits (70 compulsory, of which 20 are also core, plus 20 elective). The electives (optional modules) are designed to enable you to choose areas of specialist knowledge and abilities that you wish to develop. The electives offered are subject to change depending on the availability of staff.

Integrative skills modules make extensive use of team working, case studies, simulations and input from visiting managers and consultants to give you practical experience of applying your learning from the subject area modules. This consists of 40 credits (all are core). Note that NBS8329, which centers on the business simulation, takes place during the exam period at the end of Semester 2. This module is intensive and requires your attendance full-time every weekday throughout its two-week duration. (please note that at the moment we do not know if teaching in Semester 2 and 3 will take place online or in-person)

The individual project (50 credits) enables you, with experienced guidance from a supervisor, to apply this integrated learning to a business issue that motivates and interests you. Two routes are available: a) the Research-based dissertation or b) the Practice-based dissertation.

Programme Structure

There are two distinct phases of the programme:

Phase 1

Students are required to pass all elements of the programme. A key feature of the IBM MSc programme is its focus on multicultural working. As well as the inclusion of specific modules addressing cross-cultural business practices, various module assessments give you the opportunity to develop and practice intercultural communication, team-working and learning, harnessing the international experience of both the staff teaching the modules and the programme's international student cohort.

All students take all of the following subject area modules:

Module code	Title	Semester	Credits
NBS8045	The International Business Environment	1	10
NBS8061	Managing Across Cultures	1	10
NBS8078	Strategy for Managers	1	10
NBS8088	Marketing	1	10
NBS8326	Managing Organisations and People	1	10
NBS8265	Managing Change in Organisations	2	10

NBS8060	International Business Strategy	2	10
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All students take further optional subject area modules to a value of 20 credits from the following (please note that the list of optional modules is subject to change):

Module code	Title	Semester	Credits
NBS8052	International Marketing	2	10
NBS8074	Global Perspectives on Human Resource Management	2	10
NBS8111	International Entrepreneurship	2	10
NBS8142	Current Issues in International Business and Management	2	10
NBS8295	Data Analytics for Managers	2	10
NBS8513	Role of Business in Society – Issues and Challenges	2	10

All students take all of the following integrative skills modules:

Module code	Title	Semester	Credits
NBS8327	Research Methods for International Business Management	1	10
NBS8328	International Management Practitioner	1 and 2	20
NBS8329	Strategic Business Analysis and Decision Making	3	10

Phase 2

All students take one of the following individual project modules (please note that acceptance onto these modules will be at the discretion of the Degree Programme Director and may be subject to availability):

Module code	Title	Semester	Credits
NBS8599	Research-based Dissertation	3	50
NBS8600	Practice-based Dissertation	3	50

Individual project dissertation

All students will carry out an individual project leading to the production of a dissertation. The dissertation is a major piece of work designed to enable you to demonstrate your knowledge, understanding and skills gained from the programme within the context of a detailed study of an international management or business issue.

There are two routes to this: the standard NBS8599 Research-based dissertation and the NBS8600 Practice-based dissertation.

The project dissertation process commences during the first Semester with the compulsory NBS8327 Research Methods module. It is designed to teach you the core transferable skills and principles of the research process.

In Semester 2 and 3, many students will develop their own research project via the NBS8599 Research-based dissertation route, leading to the production of a 10,000-word dissertation report. This is the standard dissertation route as found on most Master's degrees. This is the route to follow if you want to do a dissertation on an international business-related topic in relation to companies or industries of your own choosing. We also recommend this route if you might want to pursue a career in academia.

As an alternative to the NBS8599 Research-based dissertation format, we will also be offering places on the NBS8600 Practice-based dissertation option. Briefings in Semester 1 will provide more details for students interested in this option. In Semester 2 and 3, you will then work on a different project of interest and concern to a company known to Newcastle University Business School. On completion, you will produce an 8,500-word independent report plus a 1,500-word board report presenting your research and recommendations in a style and level of detail suitable for presentation to 'client' executives. Although the report format differs, the academic standards expected will be the same as those for the NBS8599 Research-based route.

Whichever route you follow, you will be allocated a supervisor who will provide guidance throughout the project process. On completion, you will be expected to demonstrate evaluative and analytical ability, an in-depth knowledge of the dissertation subject area and an understanding of the relevance of the context in which the investigation is set. The dissertation will be completed by 1st September 2021. You must have your ethics form and risk assessment form signed off by your supervisor before proceeding with your dissertation.

Degree programme regulations

The Degree Programme Regulations detail the modules to be studied on your Master's degree and any progression requirements, such as the need to pass the taught modules of the degree before proceeding to dissertation. It is important that you read these and make sure you know the requirements of your Master's degree. Degree Programme Regulations are available at www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/programme/2020-2021/nubs.php

Programme specification

A detailed description of the programme structure, programme aims and learning outcomes can be found in the Programme Specification online at www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/programme/2020-2021/nubs.php

This includes information on the knowledge and understanding as well as the intellectual, practical and transferable skills which you are expected to develop and demonstrate during your studies.

University regulations

It is important that you familiarise yourself with the University Regulations, in particular the Postgraduate (Taught) Progress Regulations and Examination Conventions which detail the regulations for study and award of a Master's degree. This includes conditions for reassessment in failed modules and criteria for eligibility of a Master's award. You are expected to read these and make yourself aware of their implications.

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations>

Postgraduate research

Students who are successful in their Master's programme may wish to consider applying for a PhD with Newcastle University Business School. Newcastle University Alumni may also qualify for a discount on PhD fees. Further details of the research areas covered within the School and details of research programmes are available online at **<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/business-school/courses/postgrad-research/>**.

Your assessment

The assessment will depend on the individual module. You can expect to be assessed by a variety of means including:

- assignments both individual and group
- presentations
- dissertation

The mix of assessment methods is to allow you to demonstrate your understanding of the knowledge outcomes of the programme and also your assimilation **of the skills developed during your Master's programme.**

The assessment methods used in individual modules are included in the module outlines. The assessments for the taught modules are summarised in the table below.

Details of assessment deadlines will be provided on the Postgraduate Canvas Community within the first two weeks of term to allow you to plan your workload. You should familiarise yourself with the assignment submission procedures available on the Postgraduate Canvas Community.

Please note that work submitted after the specified deadline, even by just a few minutes, will be treated as a late submission in line with University policy. Please see further details in the *Postgraduate Study Guide* on late submission of assessed work.

Occasionally, a module leader may change an assignment deadline (almost always to a later date). You will be notified of this in advance by e-mail by either the module leader or the relevant programme secretary. For all assignment deadlines, you should receive your marks and feedback within 20 working days. There may be certain exceptions to this turnaround time, but you will be notified in those cases. For Semester 1 assessments, generic feedback will be provided for the module early in Semester 2 to help you prepare for Semester 2 assessments.

Please note that module leaders are reviewing the module teaching and assessment methods for Semester 2 modules, in light of the Covid-19 restrictions. Final information will be confirmed during the autumn term for Semester 2 modules.

Module	Compulsory/ core/optional	Individual assignment(s)	Group assessment	Examination
NBS8045 The International Business Environment	Compulsory	100%		
NBS8326 Managing Organisations and People	Compulsory	100%		

NBS8061 Managing Across Cultures	Compulsory	100%		
NBS8078 Strategy for Managers	Core	100%		
NBS8088 Marketing	Compulsory	100%		
NBS8265 Managing Change in Organisations	Compulsory	80%	20%	
NBS8060 International Business Strategy	Core	100%		
NBS8327 Research Methods for International Business Management	Core	100%		
NBS8328 International Management Practitioner	Core	70%	30%	
NBS8329 Strategic Business Analysis and Decision Making	Core	50%	50%	
NBS8052 International Marketing	Optional	100%		
NBS8074 Global Perspectives on Human Resource Management	Optional	50%	50%	
NBS8111 International Entrepreneurship	Optional	100%		

NBS8142 Current Issues in International Business and Management	Optional	100%		
NBS8295 Data Analytics for Managers	Optional	100%		
NBS8513 Role of Business in Society – Issues and Challenges	Optional	80%	20%	

Your contacts

Below are details of key contacts for the International Business Management MSc programme. The programme director has overall responsibility for the management of the programme. The programme secretary is responsible for general administrative issues relating to the programme.

Useful contacts

Degree Programme Director:

Dr Laurence Vigneau

laurence.vigneau@ncl.ac.uk

The Degree Programme Director (DPD) oversees your Master's programme and can help you with questions about the programme as a whole.

Programme Support:

pglwoadmin@ncl.ac.uk

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, in person queries can be directed to ground floor reception, Business School @ Barrack Road, 10am-2pm, Mondays to Fridays. This will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and you will be notified of any changes.

The programme support team is your main point of contact for administrative queries relating to your programme, such as information about procedures or deadlines.

You will be allocated your own personal tutor who is there to help you with matters of a more personal nature. In addition, you can contact the senior tutor who has overall responsibility for pastoral matters and is chair of the staff–student committee for your programme.

Business School Careers Adviser: Jen Simpson

jen.simpson@ncl.ac.uk

Careers Service, King's Gate

Our careers adviser can help you with information and guidance on careers and employment, both during and after your studies.

Details on the teaching team will be provided in the first lecture for each module.

A complete list of Business School academic and professional support staff, along with contact details, can be found online at www.ncl.ac.uk/business/.

Staff profiles are also available via this link illustrating the research and teaching interests of academic members of staff.