Introduction and Special Features

The Masters of Business Administration (MBA) offers participants with aspirations of a career in business management the opportunity to gain a practitioner-focused MBA, laying the foundations for a critically aware and holistic understanding and experience of business management.

While studying the MBA at York Business School you will be exposed to contemporary thinking in business management and business research. This will be through a series of experiences supported by academic staff who are research active in the field of business management, complemented by a guest speaker programme of business experts and researchers. This programme will give you the opportunity to engage in a live business project, through which you will have the opportunity to gain professional body accreditation by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI).

The York St John MBA aims to recruit a diverse range of students who share a passion for Business Management. As a student on this programme you will be studying alongside others who wish to move into or further develop their careers in Business Management, from both EU/UK and other countries around the world.

You will follow discipline specific modules ensuring required depth and sustained investigation. Through the development of an integrated and critically aware understanding of management in the context of contemporary business issues, the programme involves you in a demanding process of personal and professional development, through engagement with real live business project work.

The MBA programme is built around your need to undertake a programme of development suited to becoming a leader and manager of the future and this involves you in developing a critical appreciation of the issues and complexity around the present and future business environment and the need for strategies of sustainability within the business and society. The programme allows you to explore the key areas of operation in respect of its people, finance and the operations and information system as well as the opportunity to study the strategic
aspects of management. The programme is underpinned by two 15 credit modules in which you explore the contemporary issues for business and the value of business research to the understanding of these issues. All these aspects are delivered through engagement and application of the theories to real life practice and case studies as well as developing your own independent piece of business research.

A distinctive element of the MBA programme and its suite is the opportunity to gain professional accreditation from the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) alongside the academic award. The CMI accreditation is available and may be subject to an additional fee to the awarding body, CMI.

**Admissions Criteria**

You must meet the University’s general entry criteria for postgraduate study.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see [https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/](https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/)).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of Accredited Prior (Experiential) Learning (APL/APEL). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

**Programme Aims**

The overall aim of the programme is to develop individuals as potential managers and leaders with a sound understanding of the skills necessary to undertake a role in any organisation. The programme aims to reflect the aspirations in the development of responsible and ethical managers, supporting development in the skills of leadership in order to operate effectively and competently in an international context.

The programme aims to:

- develop a critical, reflective and integrated understanding of business specialisms and roles within the context of business sustainability, corporate social responsibility and ethics, helping you undertake effective roles in business organisations as responsible managers;

- provide opportunities for advanced study and practical application of the key concepts and concerns through authentic learning experiences in the ‘real world’;

- develop your self-awareness. This is grounded on positive and critical attitudes towards culture, diversity, change management and conflict management. The framework is created around the role of management and leadership in the context of a dynamic and vibrant international business and management environment;

- provide the opportunities to convert theory into practice within complex environments, systematically and creatively to improve business practice through project work with internal University departments and external businesses;

- develop and enhance your skills of lifelong learning and professional development in order to work with self-direction and originality.
Programme Learning Outcomes

YSJU Level M / NQF Level 7 / FHEQ M Programme Outcomes

On successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding
1. demonstrate a systematic, integrated and critically aware understanding of aspects of business management, leadership and team working;
2. formulate a critical awareness of limited issues in business management informed by leading edge research and practice;

Cognitive and Thinking Skills
3. demonstrate effective synthesis and analysis of information and knowledge in order to extract meaning and understanding;
4. recognise the importance of environmental sustainability, corporate social responsibility and ethical intent when critically evaluating management practice;

Practical/Professional skills
5. be adaptable in the application of practical management, leadership and team working skills;

Key Transferable Skills
6. be self-directed in the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing decision strategies;
7. learn independently and to continue to work in a way that ensures continuing professional development.

On successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding
1. demonstrate a systematic, integrated and critically aware understanding of business management, leadership and team working;
2. formulate a critical awareness of current issues in business management informed by leading edge research and practice;
3. acquire a deep knowledge and critical understanding of organisations, context and response to changes in the global business environment;

Cognitive and Thinking Skills
4. extrapolate information critically and creatively utilising appropriate decision making techniques in order to solve business problems and identify and evaluate options;
5. demonstrate effective synthesis and analysis of information and knowledge in order to extract meaning and understanding;
6. recognise the importance of environmental sustainability, corporate social responsibility and ethical intent when critically evaluating management practice;

Practical/Professional skills
7. judge complex issues systematically and creatively, with the ability to develop sound analyses whilst dealing with incomplete data;
8. be adaptable, demonstrating originality, insight, critical and reflective abilities which can be brought to bear on problem situations;
9. the ability to make decisions and communicate them clearly in complex and unpredictable organisational contexts;
10. apply practical management, leadership and team working skills appropriately;

Key Transferable Skills
11. recognise the importance of technological skills and the application of research strategies in effective management decision-making;
12. learn independently in a way that ensures continuing professional development;
13. acquire the ability to use knowledge and information effectively to abstract meaning and share knowledge.

In addition, through the successful completion of the Masters programme you will be able to:

1. demonstrate in-depth, specialist knowledge and mastery of techniques relevant to the study of opportunities and challenges of business management;
2. demonstrate an advanced understanding of concepts, information and techniques informed by knowledge at the forefront of the study of contemporary business issues within the context of society;
3. take a proactive, independent and self-reflective role in working and developing professional relationships with others;
4. design, conduct, analyse and disseminate an extended independent piece of research relevant to the field of business management and leadership from inception to completion.

**Programme Structure**

**Full-time Route**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Terms</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status of Module*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MMB064</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Research in Contemporary Business Issues</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMB065</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Applied Research in Contemporary Business Issues</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMB037</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>Business and Sustainability</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMB053</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>Managing Business Finance</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMB054</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>People Management</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMB060</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Planning and Organising the Business Project</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMB040</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>International Business Strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMB048</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>Strategic Marketing Planning</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Leading and Managing the Business Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMB063</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Research Investigation</td>
<td>45</td>
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</table>

*C: Compulsory, CP: Compulsory for progression to the next level, CA: Compulsory for award, O: option or E: elective.

**Part-time MBA route**

If you wish to study the MBA part time (PT) there is the opportunity to do this. The PT route is suitable for those of you who wish to study the MBA programme alongside your work commitments. The MBA PT route can be completed over 2 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Level</th>
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status of Module*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Introduction to Research in Contemporary Business Issues</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Applied Research in Contemporary Business Issues</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<tr>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>1 or 2</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>MMB060</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Leading and Managing the Business Project</td>
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<td>People Management</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMB040</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>International Business Strategy</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>CA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
You will be invited to attend a university induction programme and a Masters level programme specific induction.

**Teaching, Learning and Assessment**

All modules are delivered utilising a range of teaching, learning and assessment strategies including lectures, seminars, a guest speaker programme, tutorials, workshops and global café style learning activities. Each module tutor will adopt the best practices to facilitate your learning and development. All the modules are compulsory for the general MBA route. The Business School also offer specialists routes in Finance and HRM. The MBA is offered as a Full Time and Part Time route.

All modules listed above are assessed through a programme of work undertaken whilst studying for the MBA. A range of assessment tools are used including presentations, critical essays, portfolios and reflective journals, exams and case study work. Each module tutor will provide opportunities for formative assessment feedback to inform your work prior to submission.

You will receive detailed feedback on assessment to help you develop and continuously improve your performance whilst on the programme. Advice will be provided in relation to development, further areas for research and guidance on how to enhance your knowledge of business and practice.

Students of York St John University will receive the opportunity for study support including academic writing and research skills to enhance employability and career development in the field of business management.

**Progression and Graduation Requirements**

The University’s [general regulations for postgraduate awards](#) apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section.

Marks from the modules MMB063 (Research Investigation) and MMB065 (Applied Research in Contemporary Business Issues) will be used for classification in of borderline cases.

The MSc Management exit award is to be awarded to for successful achievement of 150 or 165 credits at masters level, without a pass in both of the compulsory for award modules.

**Internal and External Reference Points**

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

**Further Information**

Further information on the programme of study may be obtained from:

- Admissions entry profile (Admissions)
- Programme validation document (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Regulations (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
• Student programme handbook (faculty)
• Module handbooks (faculty)

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