UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Business and Law		
Course Code(s):	BU109P01UM BU109P31UM	Full-time Part-time	12 Months 2 Years
Course Title:	Master of Research (MRes) Business and Management		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Research Business and Management Postgraduate Diploma Business and Management Postgraduate Certificate Business and Management University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	13/Jan/2025		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2023/4		
Course Specification valid to:	2029/0		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Peter Samuels
Head of Department:	Dr Lee Crofts

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Applicants should have or be about to complete:

- A recognised undergraduate degree, first or upper-second class honours (or equivalent qualification from an accredited college, institution or university, equivalent to or higher than a UK Bachelor honours degree qualification).

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English language

If English isn’t the applicant’s first language, they will need to provide evidence of English language ability. We accept:

- IELTS (Academic) at 6.5 overall with no individual component below 6.0
- Pearson PTE (Academic) overall minimum 50
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CCAE & CPE) with minimum scores of 162 in Listening, Reading, writing and Speaking
- TOEFL iBT overall minimum 60
- Trinity Integrated Skills in English (ISE) II: Merit or Distinction
- IGCSE - ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
- IGCSE - ENGLISH LANGUAGE

O-Level English Language or GCSE English Language Grade C or above (UK Exam Board) Malaysian SPM 1119 Grade 6 or above

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The MRes Business and Management is an innovative research degree which has been designed to meet the needs of researchers in Business settings. Students will have the choice of choosing their own research focus and having the option to choose one of their taught modules from a variety of different Business Disciplines.

The Master of Research (MRes) in Business and Management is a postgraduate degree focused on developing advanced research skills and methodologies, making it distinctive from traditional taught master's programs. This degree emphasizes a deep understanding of theoretical frameworks and empirical research techniques, equipping students with the tools to undertake original research.

The MRes in Business and Management includes a strong emphasis on independent research, culminating in a substantial dissertation and presentation of the research. The MRes offers a flexible curriculum tailored to the student's specific research interests. This program prepares graduates for academic careers, doctoral studies, or research-intensive roles in industry.

The MRes curriculum includes teaching in quantitative and qualitative research methods, data analysis,

and critical thinking. Students are encouraged to engage in interdisciplinary research, leveraging insights from various business disciplines. The degree also often involves close mentorship from faculty, fostering a collaborative research environment. The MRes in Business and Management is ideal for individuals seeking to develop a strong foundation in research and a nuanced understanding of complex business issues.

This course can be studied full time in one year or part time over two years. The course curriculum consists of one optional and two core modules which offer a specialised curriculum, cutting-edge interdisciplinary approaches, access to university facilities, global perspectives, and industry connections. The Advanced Research Skills for Business module will introduce you to a diverse range of quantitative and qualitative approaches, allowing you to select and apply the most appropriate methods for your research project. The module fosters critical thinking by challenging students to evaluate research methodologies critically and to gain advanced skills in designing, conducting, and analysing research.

The Dissertation research module, comprising 120 credits, is designed to provide you with the opportunity to independently plan, conduct, and report on a substantial research project within your chosen field of study. This module is the culmination of the academic programme, allowing students to showcase their research skills, critical thinking abilities, and in-depth knowledge acquired throughout their studies. The taught elements of the Dissertation module scaffold your final thesis, enabling you to tailor the taught component around your individual interests and the needs of your research project. Whilst your dissertation is central to this module, the award also includes a student-based conference at the end of each academic year where you will present your research and allow you to showcase your achievement.

Across the course, our assessment strategy aims to mirror disciplinary practices and real-world contexts, preparing you for the challenges of independent and teamwork, and developing skills that will help you to succeed in the workplace. Following discussions with employers and our alumni, we are aware that the ability to write reports where issues are researched and succinctly recorded with workable actions, working with a team on a group task, and presentation skills, are highly valued by employers and as such our assessment strategy has taken this into account.

You will therefore experience creative, engaging, and meaningful assessment tasks which contribute to your ongoing development as a critical thinker and as a life-long learner. Assessments will build on each other and grow in complexity, enabling you to see the connections across modules and to your own Business interests. Your prior experience and background will also be respected, and you will be encouraged to contribute your unique perspectives, primarily through open discussion in seminars as well as interactive exercises that encourage you to share your diverse experiences. The academic teaching team also provide a range of extra-curricular activities to support you in your studies and wider interest in Business issues.

The MRes in Business is one of many courses run by the Faculty of Arts, Business and Social sciences, which has an established reputation for excellence in terms of the quality of its courses, particularly through the provision of innovative approaches to teaching and learning, and for the student-centred friendliness of its academic and administrative staff. You will have the benefit of being taught by very experienced staff with first-hand knowledge of practice in their discipline or in a variety of research-related roles, and so can help you integrate and apply the knowledge you will gain.

During welcome week students will be introduced to the Course by the Program lead. All student essential information will be covered including, what to expect and where to find resources and support, enrolment, digital resources and apps, booking appointments with a tutors, academic integrity and regulations.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The MRES is a one year (full-time) research degree which offers complete flexibility through its research based mode of study.

You will have the freedom to choose your own area of research within business management, with the support of the School’s world-class academics.

Blending independent research with expert academic teaching and supervision, this course provides an advanced understanding of contemporary trends and issues in Management and associated areas.

Whether you’re interested in Marketing, Business strategy or human resource management; you will have an opportunity to plan and produce a piece of research which could have a significant impact on a particular area of business at the same time you will develop a comprehensive understanding of advanced theories and concepts in business and management, equipping students with the depth of knowledge necessary for leadership roles in complex organizational environments. The MRES program aims to empower students to critically evaluate existing theories, methodologies, and business practices, and to contribute new knowledge through original research. The MRes program emphasizes the development of research skills that have immediate applicability in addressing complex issues faced by organizations.

The educational aims of our MRes in Business and Management is to provide you with a comprehensive and advanced understanding of Business research. These aims are to:

- Equip students with an advanced understanding of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, enabling them to design, conduct, and analyse complex research in the field of Business .
- Foster critical thinking skills for the evaluation of existing literature, research methodologies, and evidence in Business.
- Promote interdisciplinary perspectives by integrating knowledge from various relevant disciplines.
- Instil awareness of ethical considerations in Business, ensuring that students can conduct research with integrity, respecting the rights and well-being of participants.
- Enable students to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world Business challenges.
- Develop advanced communication skills, across a range of mediums, to effectively disseminate research findings to diverse audiences, including academic peers.
- Foster independence in research, enabling students to take ownership of their research projects, make informed decisions, and demonstrate initiative throughout the research process.

In addition, the course has been designed to prepare students for further academic study, such as pursuing a doctoral degree, and to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary for a successful career in various Business settings.

These educational aims collectively contribute to the overall goal of producing graduates who are not only well-versed in Business theory and research, but also capable of applying their knowledge to address complex Business challenges and contribute meaningfully to the advancement of Business knowledge and practice.

Intakes:

September

January

May

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2024/5	Overseas	Full Time	£15950.00
2024/5	H	Full Time	£9088.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time	£19500.00
2025/6	H	Full Time	£8815.00
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time	£22000.00
2026/7	H	Full Time	£

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU036	Advanced Research Skills for Business	30	SEM2	Core
7BU037	Business and Management Dissertation	120	CRYRA	Core

Option Group 01 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30

7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Osagie Igbinigie
7MG009	Critical Reflective Practice for Leadership	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7HR043	Leadership for Change	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7MK038	Strategic Marketing and Digital Communication	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Kareem Sani
7BU062	Strategic Operations Management	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Ifeoma Onoja

January (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type	
Option Group 01 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30					
7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Osagie Igbinigie
7MG009	Critical Reflective Practice for Leadership	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7HR043	Leadership for Change	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7MK038	Strategic Marketing and Digital Communication	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Kareem Sani
7BU062	Strategic Operations Management	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Ifeoma Onoja

January (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU036	Advanced Research Skills for Business	30	SEM1	Core

January (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU037	Business and Management Dissertation	120	CRYRA	Core

May (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU036	Advanced Research Skills for Business	30	SEM3	Core
7BU037	Business and Management Dissertation	120	CRYRA	Core

Option Group 01 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30

7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Osagie Igbinigie
7MG009	Critical Reflective Practice for Leadership	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7HR043	Leadership for Change	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7MK038	Strategic Marketing and Digital Communication	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Kareem Sani
7BU062	Strategic Operations Management	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Ifeoma Onoja

May (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type

Option Group 01 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30

7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Osagie Igbinigie
7MG009	Critical Reflective Practice for Leadership	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7HR043	Leadership for Change	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7MK038	Strategic Marketing and Digital Communication	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Kareem Sani
7BU062	Strategic Operations Management	30	SEM3	Core/Option	Ifeoma Onoja

May (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU036	Advanced Research Skills for Business	30	SEM1	Core

May (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU037	Business and Management Dissertation	120	CRYRA	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU036	Advanced Research Skills for Business	30	SEM1	Core
7BU037	Business and Management Dissertation	120	CRYRA	Core

Option Group 01 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30

7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Osagie Igbinigie
7MG009	Critical Reflective Practice for Leadership	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7HR043	Leadership for Change	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7MK038	Strategic Marketing and Digital Communication	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Kareem Sani
7BU062	Strategic Operations Management	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Ifeoma Onoja

September (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU036	Advanced Research Skills for Business	30	SEM2	Core

Option Group 01 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30

7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Osagie Igbinigie
7MG009	Critical Reflective Practice for Leadership	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7HR043	Leadership for Change	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Nicky Adams
7MK038	Strategic Marketing and Digital Communication	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Kareem Sani
7BU062	Strategic Operations Management	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Ifeoma Onoja

September (Part-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7BU037	Business and Management Dissertation	120	CRYRA	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act (2010)

Overview of Assessment:

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in the area of Business to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline.	7BU032 Strategic Operations Management 7FC002 International Finance 7HR027 Strategic Leadership & Change 7HR029 Strategic People Management 7MK032 Strategic Marketing Management
PGCERT02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.	7BU032 Strategic Operations Management 7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business
PGDIP01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.	7BU032 Strategic Operations Management 7FC002 International Finance 7HR027 Strategic Leadership & Change 7HR029 Strategic People Management 7MK032 Strategic Marketing Management
PGDIP02 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.	7BU032 Strategic Operations Management 7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business 7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business 7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation
PGDIP03 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business 7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation 7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business 7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGDIP04 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	
MA01 Evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline and the methodologies used to underpin this work	7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business 7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation
MA02 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.	7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation 7BU036 Advanced Research Skills for Business
MA03 Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.	7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation
MA04 Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation
MA05 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.	7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation
MA06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development	7BU037 Business and Management Dissertation

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

Your learning will include the study of two taught modules which account for one third of the programme; the dissertation accounts for the final two-thirds of the programme and requires you to study independently with the support of a research supervisor. Learning activities will enable you to become skilled and knowledgeable in your area of Research so that you can achieve the learning outcomes. In doing so you will also achieve our graduate attributes of digital literacy and global citizenship, and you will be prepared for employment.

The learning activities which will support you in the achievement of the learning outcomes are wide and varied. To get the most from this award, you will be required to actively engage in class and with online activities, carry out wider reading and complete formative assessments. You will also be required to take an active part in your learning and work in partnership with your lecturing team for the effective functioning and success of the module. Taught materials include research informed key lectures providing you with an opportunity to acquire the appropriate knowledge and skills for the module. Each session has clear aims, learning outcomes, a clarification of their link to the assessment and suggestions for further reading. Group discussions will enable you to explore specific issues and examples and apply this learning to your own role and engage in debate, self-reflection, and evaluation. Directed study between in-class sessions will provide you with opportunity to undertake reading, participate in online learning tasks, address individual learning needs, and contextualise learning to your own area of interest or practice.

Digital skills will be enhanced by encouraging you to search a wide range of relevant databases and engage with online resources through the VLE (lecture notes and external links to websites of interest). Blended and distributed learning models will be used as and when appropriate – this is where sessions

are delivered through a combination of in class scheduled sessions with self-directed study and online activities. Tutorials will be used to facilitate dialogue between lecturers, students, and peers to further develop and challenge conceptual understanding through reflection and analysis.

You will be encouraged to explore global as well as local issues through in-class content, group work, formative and summative content. Employability and graduate skills will be explored and gained by you throughout the modules. Assessment is planned from a course wide perspective and the assessments that you complete have been designed to mirror Business practice and real-world contexts. This helps you to develop confidence and prepares you for the challenges of independent practice. The assessment strategy aims to improve your learning through a scaffolding approach; this is where your learning has been considered in each module to progressively build on your knowledge, ability, and the general perspectives you should acquire to become a knowledgeable and effective future practitioner. By enabling assessments to build on each other and grow in complexity, you will be able to see the connections within and across modules. The ways in which you will be assessed will: allow you to demonstrate that you have met the learning outcomes of your course and modules; enable you to reflect on your performance, following timely, meaningful, and useful feedback; encourage you to identify your strengths and limitations so that the level of achievement can be measured and recorded.

Broadly, there are two types of assessment you will encounter throughout the course. They are:

- Formative assessments where the marks and grades for assessment activities do not contribute towards the module mark and grade. Formative assessment activities are useful to provide you with comments to let you know how you are doing. Sometimes the format of a formative assessment activity will be like the final (summative) assessment activity for the module, to prepare you and ensure that you are familiar with the summative assessment task.
- Summative assessment activities where the mark you receive will contribute towards the final mark for your modules.

The development of inclusive assessment opportunities which meet the needs of all learners is central to the course philosophy and our assessment strategy. In support of an inclusive curriculum design, the assessment strategy will support you to develop and perform in different assessment forms such that you are prepared to be able to succeed in assessments that will be used at later levels of study i.e. you will not face an assessment type for which you are unprepared. The package of assessment at each level has been carefully planned by the award team and is coherent and appropriate.

The following principles have been adopted throughout the programme:

- Each 30-credit module will have a maximum of two summative assessments, and one piece of formative assessment.
- You will not normally be expected to undertake more than one group work assessment in an academic year.
- The award team have ensured that a module is not to be considered in isolation from the assessments that will be completed for other modules which are studied simultaneously.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

Further Information for Student:

The University acknowledges the diversity of our student population and the need to recognise that the individual aspirations and motivations of students are distinct and varied in relation to career and personal development. Reflecting this, are a range of approaches through which employability is fostered, either explicitly or implicitly within the MRes. These are not mutually exclusive and overlap to greater or lesser degrees. Approaches range from focused modules which explore working within Business functions, through to leadership skills and knowledge, and wider activities and opportunities available through the Careers, Enterprise, and the Workplace service. These and other initiatives aim to create graduates who are enterprising and entrepreneurial.

Postgraduate study requires you to take greater responsibility for your own learning, becoming self-directed, reflective, and motivated. Whilst an awareness of contemporary professional contexts and techniques is desirable, these skills of initiative, personal responsibility and intellectual curiosity are the attributes which employers consistently rate highly in surveys of postgraduate skills.

In designing the programme, the curriculum planning team have carefully considered the University of Wolverhampton Graduate Attributes framework to ensure that you can acquire and evidence skills that employers so keenly seek. Firstly, the course will enable you to develop your skills in global citizenship and a cultural and social mindset. In doing so, you will gain skills so you can become culturally and socially aware, emotionally intelligent, an effective communicator, self-aware, confident, motivated, ethical, collaborative, and influential. Secondly, the course will enable you to develop your knowledge in Business, by enabling you to become digitally fluid, a critical thinker, analytical, reflective, curious, experienced, autonomous, and engaged. Thirdly, the course will enable you to develop a professional and enterprising mindset, where you will be encouraged to become innovative and enterprising, commercially aware, resilient, ambitious, visionary, goal oriented, creative, a lateral thinker and adaptable. Finally, the course develops students' ability to disseminate key information in a diverse range of styles, to a diverse range of audiences in an effective and inclusive style. This ensures that graduates can demonstrate the high standard of communication competency required within the workplace, ranging from their oral communication skills to their written and digital communication skills.

For those who wish to continue in further study or research, the Faculty offers PhD opportunities which may be studied full or part-time.

Currency:

Personalisation Opportunities:

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

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