University of Bedfordshire

Course Information Form

This Course Information Form provides the definitive record of the designated course

Section A: General Course Information

Course Title	MSc Information Systems Management
Final Award	MSc
Route Code	MSISMAAF/MSISSAAF
Intermediate Qualification(s)	Postgraduate Diploma in Information Systems Management
FHEQ Level	7
Location of Delivery	University Square Campus, Luton
Mode(s) and length of study	• 1 Year Block Delivery. Full time • Full time over 9 months (PG Diploma)
Standard intake points (months)	February, April, June, August, October, November
External Reference Points as applicable including Subject Benchmark	QAA (2015), 'Subject Benchmark Statement: Master's Degrees in Business and Management' QAA Framework for higher education qualifications (2014) (level 7) http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/qualifications-frameworks.pdf QAA (2020), 'Master's Degree characteristics https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/master's-degree-characteristics-statement.pdf?sfvrsn=86c5ca81_18
Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation or endorsement	n/a
HECoS code(s)	100372

UCAS Course Code	n/a

Course Aims	This course is specially designed to meet the need for graduates who are able and interested in information technology and information systems but wish to pursue management roles in charge of information systems. The intention of this course exposes you to the most recent developments in both the theory and practice of modern information systems which in combination with relevant concepts and applications of management thinking will in turn will enable you to further develop transferable skills suitable for engaging with the challenges of employment/self-employment and of business activities within the global economy. Educational Aims This course will further develop the knowledge and skills acquired during your undergraduate studies by enhancing your ability to understand the importance of Information Technology (IT) and Information Systems (IS) for creating a competitive advantage for businesses. The idea of managers who can "bridge" between different areas is one that has been promoted by the British Computing Society (BCS) for some time. The "bridger" has to have a wide perspective and be equipped with the organisational and people skills to break down the barriers between IT and business. The aim of this course is to develop you to be a leader in your organisation, enabling the full benefits of modern technology to be realised. The course is interdisciplinary and you will learn about information systems alongside the core areas of business and management which are at the heart of this course. The course will prepare you to make critical high-level managerial and organisational decisions and to back these up with the best information gathering and deployment methods. You will also develop your ability to analyse problems logically and apply appropriate decision-making skills and knowledge to reach feasible, realistic conclusions.

		Upon successful completion of your course you should meet the appropriate learning outcomes for your award shown in the table below	
Course Learning Outcomes		**Outcome**	**Award**
	1	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of contemporary issues and/or new insights within Information Systems Management	MSc Information Systems Management, Postgraduate Diploma in Information Systems Management
	2	Apply originality when autonomously addressing and resolving complex challenges using appropriate approaches and methodologies	MSc Information Systems Management, Postgraduate Diploma in Information Systems Management
	3	Critically analysis context and data to support sound decision making within Information Systems Management and effectively and inclusively communicate outcomes with a wide range of audiences.	MSc Information Systems Management, Postgraduate Diploma in Information Systems Management
	4	Understand and manage the ethics, sustainability and governance issues that may occur in the Information Systems Management discipline and apply appropriate frameworks and professional codes	MSc Information Systems Management, Postgraduate Diploma in Information Systems Management
	5	Demonstrate and use effective, rigorous, reflective skills of self-management and independence in terms of planning, behaviour, motivation and individual initiative to meet the demands of the field of Information Systems Management	MSc Information Systems Management
	6	In the absence of complete data, analyse a range of complex and pervasive issues in a systematic and creative manner to generate sound judgements and recommendations that are communicated effectively to both a specialist and non-specialist audience.	MSc Information Systems Management

CRe8 articulates the University of Bedfordshire's approach to creating an environment that supports effective learning and teaching. Its elements, appropriate curriculum design, personalized and realistic learning, employability and suitable assessment strategies, are the basic ingredients of our approach to teaching and learning. The MSc Information Systems Management has been developed based on those principles.

In its structure this course recognizes the importance of information systems in helping organizations achieve a competitive advantage. At the same time we realize that although knowledge of types of IS and data analytical approaches is a necessary condition when trying to understand the world we live in, it needs to be applied in a concrete way in order to avoid consuming itself in analyzing theoretical models. Therefore, this course is structured in a way that uses theory as the driving force and at the same time it links its concepts with other pillars of knowledge through the holistic approach the use of IT and IS require.

Teaching, learning and assessment strategies	This Course will provide students with a unique learning experience. It will be intense but also very rewarding. Students will start with a week-long induction where, apart from being introduced to the University and the Faculty, the first interaction with the area of Information Systems Management will prepare them for the rest of their studies. The delivery method followed is that of Block teaching. Students will undertake one Unit at a time for six weeks and that will be a block of delivery. At the end of four blocks they will progress to their chosen master's capstone experience which demands students to demonstrate an ability to apply current literature and thinking to address a topical research question or practical problem. Research methods appropriate to the enquiry context of the chosen unit will be embedded. Each Unit will include significant direct contact time but it will also require and provide time for individual reading and preparation for assessment. That will take place in weeks 3 and 6 of each block. By the end of this course learners will appreciate the importance of developing a deep understanding regarding the key characteristics of information systems and approaches to IT management and governance. A number of taught Units where direct contact will be blended with independent learning have been designed to offer an interesting, current and innovative curriculum. Students will undertake four 30 credit Units in the areas of Information Systems, Marketing and the Digital Future, Digital Analytics and Strategic Management. These are four areas of cognitive knowledge that provide a sound background for a graduate and will be the basis for a successful career. They will provide our students with a clear understanding of a very dynamically evolving environment and will equip them with a holistic awareness of the world we live in and with qualities that are highly sought by employers. A number of transferable skills will be further developed. The need to understand key developments in global markets require a range of technical and analytical skills. Today's demanding labour markets, in the UK and internationally, require a number of other abilities and proficiencies. The ability to conduct sound research, computer literacy, relevant software use, professionalism, presentation skills are some of the attributes that our graduate will possess at the end of their course. The knowledge and concepts acquired during the four periods of block teaching along with a number of highly important transferable skills will be combined and evaluated during the writing of the final piece of work, the master's capstone experience unit. When students progress to the Master's capstone stage where they can choose one of the three options - Business Dissertation, Business Live Project, and Professional Practice. Regardless of which master's capstone experience they opt for, they will have to produce an individual, independent piece of work (dissertation/business report). Students will have to identify the research question or problem under investigation, review relevant literature, develop a sound methodology in order to explore the problem, proceed with the analysis, discuss their findings and make recommendations. All capstone options are evaluated as equivalent based on the unit learning outcomes. This final unit will enhance student ability to produce an independent piece of

	work and it will provide them with an opportunity to show the creativity and independence required in the workplace by holders of postgraduate degrees.

Student contribution to own learning is pivotal. While the main concepts and theories might be following the structure of a textbook, students will expected to do a substantial amount of reading themselves. It is essential that, in order to maximise the educational benefit and to derive the best experience, students must make optimum use of the time provided for individual learning. Direct contact times will be highly interactive and student preparation in advance is a key element for success. Starting in induction week students will prepare for what will be an intensive delivery which will then be followed by their own individual learning and assessment.

The Lecturers who will deliver this Course are active researchers and will guide students through this process by exposing them to the latest developments of the relevant subjects. Research-informed teaching is the basis for transforming a course into a unique student experience in an area of knowledge which is very dynamic in its evolution. Additionally, active external engagement though for example guest lectures, real-world projects, and industrial visits will provide the opportunities for students to integrate theory and practice.

Besides the knowledge of theories and concepts and their application to real life business situations, four basic elements have been used in developing this course. Critical and creative thinking should be part of every postgraduate course. Students will be encouraged to receive, discuss and evaluate across all Units. They will also participate greatly in developing their own learning through independent and guided reading and they will be encouraged to share their views, ideas and knowledge. Systemic thinking will be greatly promoted. A postgraduate student in Information Systems Management should understand that all theoretical ideas and their applications are not independent of the world we live in and should be interconnected when trying to analyse information systems and their relationship to strategy. The ability to decompose and synthesize will be a key factor in achieving this and it will be developed in all Units. Finally, collaboration at all stages of this course will be required, either informally in the context of class discussions, or when formative group assessments have to be prepared. Along with sharing their ideas and contributing to their team, students will learn to appreciate the importance of being dependable. |
| **Learning support** | The University's comprehensive student support service includes: Student Information Desk, a one-stop shop for any initial enquiries; Student Support team advising and supporting those with physical or learning needs or more general student well being; Study Hub team providing academic skills guidance; Personal Academic Tutoring system; a student managed Peer-Assisted Learning scheme; support from your lecturers |
| | https://www.beds.ac.uk/entryrequirements |

Admissions Criteria	**Approved Variations and Additions to Standard Admission** n/a
Assessment Regulations	https://www.beds.ac.uk/about-us/our-university/academic-information **Note: Be aware that our regulations change every year** **Approved Variations and Additions to Standard Assessment Regulations'** n/a

Section B: Course Structure

The Units which make up the course are listed below. Each unit contributes to the achievement of the course learning outcomes either through teaching (T), general development of skills and knowledge (D) or in your assessments (A).

Unit	Unit Name	Level	Credits	Core or Option	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
BSS050-6	Strategic Management	7	30	Core	T1 A1	A1 D1	T2 A2	D1 T1											
BSS055-6	Information Systems	7	30	Core	T1 A1	A1 A2	D1 A2	T1 D2											
BSS072-6	Performance Achievement Planning	7	0	Core		D1 A1			D1 A1										
MAR039-6	Marketing and the Digital Future	7	30	Core	T1 A1	A1 A2	A1 A2	D1 T2											
MAR042-6	Business Dissertation	7	30	Option					D1 A1	D2 A2									
MAR050-6	Digital Analytics and Online Customer Experience	7	30	Core	T1 A1	A1 A2	A1 A2	T2 D2											

Section C: Assessment Plan

The course is assessed as follows :

MSISMAAF-

Unit Code	Level	Period	Core/Option	Ass 1 Type code	Ass 1 Submit wk	Ass 2 Type code	Ass 2 Submit wk	Ass 3 Type code	Ass 3 Submit wk	Ass 4 Type code	Ass 4 Submit wk
MAR042-6	7	12	Option	PR-ORAL	3	PJ-DISS	12				
BSS050-6	7	6	Core	WR-I	3	CW-CS	6				
BSS055-6	7	6	Core	PR-OR	3	WR-I	6				
MAR039-6	7	6	Core	WR-I	3	EX-OT	6				
MAR050-6	7	6	Core	WR-I	3	PJ-PRO	6				

Glossary of Terms for Assessment Type Codes	
CW-CS	Coursework - Case Study
EX-OT	Invigilated Exam-Other including open book
PJ-PRO	Coursework - Project Report
PR-OR	Practical - Oral Presentation
WR-I	Coursework - Individual Report

Administrative Information	
Faculty	University of Bedfordshire Business School
School	Department of Strategy and Management
Head of School/Department	Alexander Kofinas
Course Coordinator	Sajeel Ahmed