

# Get ready for MSc International Management

The MSc in International Management is a demanding programme that requires dedication, time, and commitment. As a conversion programme that is designed both as an extension for existing business graduates and an introduction to business themes and concepts for non-business graduates its content is challenging and requires a wholehearted commitment to study from day one. In return, the programme offers a collaborative and community-based feel, which supports your academic endeavours, careers, and social networking opportunities. It's important that you take advantage of the benefits of the "Starting Block" activities as these will help you orient yourself and create a sound foundation for your studies. My expectations of you as a student are high and I anticipate that you will likewise be motivated to achieve the highest possible standards of academic excellence.

I look forward to meeting you.

**Dr Moya Lerigo-Sampson**

Programme Leader

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## Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 20 January 2025 for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the [Starting Block webpage](#) for more details.

Your [timetable](#) will be available to you via [MYUWE](#) (login required) once you have started the registration process. Please visit the '[Understanding your teaching timetable](#)' webpage to find out when your timetable will be published.

## Preparing and arrival

You can find everything you need to know about registration, Starting Block and the start of teaching on our [Preparing and Arrival](#) webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the [library](#), [study skills](#), [academic support](#), [health and wellbeing support](#) and much more.

## Registration

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the [MYUWE](#) platform where you can register. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. You can find guidance and further information on our [Registration](#) website.

## ID card - upload your photo now

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to [MYUWE](#). To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our [student card guidance](#).

## Engage with your programme

### Start your learning

Reading is an important part of university life, and for getting good grades. Over your time with us you will learn skills of reading in an academic way, and will soon find that it becomes second nature.

**We strongly recommend that you read this book in advance of starting your programme**, especially if you have never studied business studies before to make you more familiar with the type of topics you will be learning:

- [Management: Using practice and theory to develop skill, 8th Edition - David Boddy](#).

Boddy, D. 2019, *Management: using practice and theory to develop skill*, Eighth edn, Pearson, Upper Saddle River.

This book is also available in your UWE library online: [Available online](#)

(You will need your UWE login details to gain access to the book online)

In advance of starting your Programme, you might also find it useful to have a look at some of the following:

1. You are going to earn a degree in International Management, so it is important to understand the management challenges associated with developing strategies and managing the operations of companies whose activities stretch across national boundaries. Prof. Dr. Stefan Schmid, Professor of International Management and Strategic Management, attempts to answer the question: [What does International Management mean for you?](#) in this short YouTube clip.
2. Strategy is essential for businesses and there are plenty of materials (books, articles, videos, etc.) available for you to read or watch to understand the fundamental concepts. One of the popular text books that we strongly recommend you read in advance of the start of your programme, is from Robert M. Grant and Judith J. Jordan, '*Foundations of Strategy (published by Wiley)*'. The book gives a good overview and introduction to Strategic Analysis.

Here's the full reference:

- Grant, R.M. & Jordan, J. (2015), "Foundations of strategy", Second edn, Wiley, Chichester. [Available online](#) via the UWE library

## Read around your subject

A key skill which is required for those aiming for a high level of success within their chosen profession is the ability to think critically about key issues and debates. In order to develop these skills, you should start to read around your subject before you arrive.

When you get to University, there will be recommended text books which will cover the syllabus. In the meantime, if you fancy some light reading to inspire you, have a look at the following resources:

1. Operations Management is essential for successful functioning of any organisation. The book from David Barnes is a good source. Here's the full reference: Barnes, D. (2018), "Operations management: an international perspective", Palgrave, London.
2. Service Concept defines the how and what of service design and helps mediate between customer needs and an organization's strategic intent. This short blog [Understanding the service concept](#) on LinkedIn sums up this idea very simply.
3. Research is an integral part of academic studies and in fact you will need to complete a dissertation to earn this degree. Some of you may have prior experience from your undergraduate studies and some of you may be quite new to this. You can start exploring why and what this is all about by following this link which will give you some basic [ideas about research methods](#):
4. The accounting and finance function concerns controlling and monitoring the financial performance of an organisation and communicating this information to interested parties such as directors, managers, investors, creditors, lenders and the public at large. You can refer to the following to understand the fundamentals:
  - Scott, P. (2016), "Accounting for business", Second edn, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
  - Broadbent, M., Cullen, J. & Chartered Management Institute (2003), "Managing financial resources", 3rd edn, Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford.
5. To know more about the Leadership and its importance for successful businesses you can refer to *Schedlitzki, D. and Edwards, E 'Studying Leadership: Traditional and Critical Approaches'. London: Sage.* This book will allow you to keep up with the various set readings for each of the topics that will be covered during the module. You can also refer to [Management is \(still\) not Leadership](#). In this short but classic piece, John Kotter outlines the main differences between management and leadership, and explains how we might best learn the skills of good leadership practice.
6. Project management has become a vehicle in operations in a variety of industries including construction, financial services, telecommunication, IT etc. As companies are facing demanding customers and fierce competitions in global arena, project management has become an effective tool to respond to opportunities, threats and challenges. You can follow the link to get some basic understanding of [what is project management](#).
7. An exponential growth in technological competence, with the regular advent of new technologies, has encouraged both the capacity of businesses to reach new audiences as well as enhanced expectations of those audiences to be discerning in their choices. It is clear that digital facets of businesses are today the single obvious façade through which trade happens. At the same time success and failure in digital business can be nuanced and have its own characteristics. There are plenty of information around the Management Information Systems which you can refer to for example please see these articles: [What is MIS?](#) , [Management Information Systems \(MIS\)](#)

## **Make your module choices**

As a second year, third year or Masters student you will have an opportunity to choose or change your optional module choices in the first few weeks of term. Please note that there are no optional modules for first year students. On specific programmes the university will preselect optional modules for you, but you will have an opportunity to change them at the start of the term. For further information about who is eligible and how to change module choices, please visit the ['How to choose your modules'](#) website.

## **Be prepared**

### **Access support**

Check the information on our [Disability web pages](#) so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

### **Get equipped**

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use in your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

You will benefit from a laptop, particularly if your access to on-campus facilities is limited. UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the [Student Money Service](#) for advice and guidance.

See the UWE webpage for detailed information on [choosing your IT equipment](#) including [recommended specifications](#).

For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification**.

### **International students**

[The Global Student Support Team](#) offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol, and they organise social events to help you adapt to your new environment.

### **Next steps**

Before you arrive, you will receive an online workbook to introduce you to the faculty and help you to prepare for university life. You can go through the workbook then, and it will be revisited during your induction activities.

## Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the course, please contact the Programme leader: **Dr Moya Lerigo-Sampson** via email at [moya.lerigo-sampson@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:moya.lerigo-sampson@uwe.ac.uk)

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: January 2025

Last updated: Autumn 2024