

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Course record information

Name and level of final award:	MSc Logistics and Supply Chain Management
	The MSc Logistics and Supply Chain Management is a postgraduate degree that is Bologna FQ-EHEA second cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Postgraduate Diploma in Logistics and Supply Chain Management Postgraduate Certificate in Logistics and Supply Chain Management
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	Marylebone Campus
Language of delivery and assessment:	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month:	One year full time, two years part time day September start
QAA subject benchmarking group(s) :	N/A
Professional statutory or regulatory body:	Accredited by Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (subject to confirmation)
Date of course validation/review:	2016
Date of programme specification approval:	2016
Valid for cohorts:	2017/18
Course Leader:	Dr Allan Woodburn
Course URL:	westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate
Westminster Course Code:	[LSCPLSC]
JACS code:	N/A
UKPASS code:	

Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum [entry requirements](#) for all postgraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information. For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements. More information can be found here:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply>

Aims of the course

The MSc Logistics and Supply Chain Management has been designed to develop the student's ability to initiate and carry out advanced analysis and research in the field of logistics and supply chain management within a global context. Specific objectives of the course are to ensure that students:

- Comprehend the increasingly complex and global nature of the logistics sector and the impacts of this on specific companies and supply chains.
- Understand fundamental theories and principles applicable to logistics analysis, planning and management at both strategic and operational levels. In particular, they will be aware of the concept of logistics and the way in which the concept is applied to improve supply chain efficiency and sustainability.
- Understand the trade-offs within logistics activities and between logistics activities and other elements of business (e.g. production, marketing).
- Are familiar with the different roles played by logistics service providers, manufacturers and retailers in the supply chain, and understand how their respective roles influence decisions taken within distribution channels.
- Appreciate the way environmental, social and behavioural factors influence and constrain logistics activities and strategies, including through public policies.
- Have the ability to question and comment on current practice, using appropriate analytical techniques to analyse logistics data for evaluation purposes.
- Develop the range of analytical and presentational skills required for successful careers within logistics and supply chain management.

Employment and further study opportunities

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development skills are embedded in all courses
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students
- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision
- Staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These threshold statements of achievement and are linked to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student will have gained on successfully completing a course.

Knowledge and understanding

- An in-depth knowledge of the theory and practice relating to logistics and supply chain management in the context of an international business environment (particularly in the Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context module)
- Specifically, understand the role of freight transport companies and logistics service providers within the context of national and international supply chains (mainly in the Freight Transport and Logistics Services module)
- A critical understanding of the external influences (e.g. political, economic, environmental, technological) which influence the roles of, and interrelationships between, supply chain partners and other stakeholders (primarily in the Logistics and the External Environment and Sustainability and Freight Transport modules)
- A detailed knowledge of the relationship between logistics and other supply chain activities (particularly in the Purchasing Management and Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context modules)
- An in-depth understanding of an area of specialised study (in the Research Dissertation (Logistics) module)

Specific skills

- Develop a range of analytical skills, both quantitative and qualitative, necessary for understanding and analysing logistics and supply chain activities (primarily in the Research Skills for Logistics and the Research Dissertation (Logistics) modules, but also in assessments for other modules)
- Be able to assess the quality and relevance of published logistics information and make judgements about the usefulness and appropriateness of this information (developed across the range of assessments)
- Produce work which demonstrates an ability to contextualise a specific logistics issue or problem by focusing on relevant multi-disciplinary supporting material (e.g. in the Logistics and the External Environment module)
- Evaluate trade-offs within logistics activities and between logistics and other supply chain activities (e.g. in the Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context module)
- Be able to assess the sustainability impacts of supply chain activities and the ways in which the impacts can be measured and reported (particularly in the Sustainability and Freight Transport module)

Key transferable skills

Many of the key transferable skills shown below are developed and assessed across the entire course, but specific examples from core modules include:

Report writing:	Logistics and the External Environment Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context
Analytical skills:	Freight Transport and Logistics Services Research Skills for Logistics Research Dissertation (Logistics)
Group working/presentational skills:	Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context Purchasing Management Sustainability and Freight Transport
Research methods:	Research Skills for Logistics Research Dissertation (Logistics)
Time management:	Module coursework Module exams

Learning, teaching and assessment methods

Learning

The course draws upon a variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies which combine theory and practice within the subject area. It is assumed that students studying at Master's level will undertake a substantial proportion of their academic study on the basis of student-centred learning. The formal contact hours are designed to provide a framework and the necessary skills to stimulate and encourage such activity. The course delivery encourages reflective and critical thinking in helping students to extend existing skills and competencies. In particular, students are given guidance on developing their skills for undertaking personal research, and a considerable amount of time is spent by the student on personal study for the Research Dissertation.

Teaching

Each taught module occupies a three hour slot per week. In addition, students attend for personal tutorials, dissertation supervision meetings, additional guest lectures, site visits and the orientation programme. The curriculum is updated regularly based upon the active research of the course team in the logistics field and their knowledge of new issues. This ensures that the course content and overall strategy reflect current issues in logistics practice, preparing students for careers in this area.

Assessment

A mix of assessment techniques is used, including examinations, coursework (based on reports, case study analyses, analytical techniques, etc.), presentations, etc. The standard module assessment is 50% coursework and 50% examination, but there are some exceptions to this: details can be found in the detailed module proformas.

Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course, together with their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits (90 ECTS) per year. The award of Postgraduate Certificate is available after successful completion of 60 credits (30 ECTS) and the award of Postgraduate Diploma is available after successful completion of 120 credits (60 ECTS).

Credit Level 7				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7TRAN016W	Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context	Core	20	10
7TRAN026W	Sustainability and Freight Transport	Core	20	10
7BDIN004W	Purchasing Management	Core	20	10
7TRAN033W	Research Skills for Logistics	Core	20	10
7TRAN014W	Logistics and the External Environment	Core	20	10
7TRAN010W	Freight Transport and Logistics Services	Core	20	10
7BDIN001W	Business Process Integration with SAP	Option	20	10
7TRAN034W	Air Travel Management	Option	20	10
7TRAN013W	Land Use, Planning and Transport	Option	20	10
7TRAN017W	Public Passenger Transport	Option	20	10
7TRAN027W	Traffic and Streets	Option	20	10
7TRAN020W	Research Dissertation (Logistics)	Core	40	20

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year.

The part-time study option is based on a half-day attendance per week per module, with the following planned sequence (depending on timetabling):

Semester	Module title
Year 1, Semester 1	Purchasing Management 7BDIN004W Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context 7TRAN016W
Year 1, Semester 2	Freight Transport and Logistics Services 7TRAN010W Logistics and the External Environment 7TRAN014W
Year 2, Semester 1	Sustainability and Freight Transport 7TRAN026W Research Skills for Logistics 7TRAN033W
Year 2, Semester 2	Option module
Year 2, year long	Research Dissertation (Logistics) 7TRAN020W

Professional Body Accreditation or other external references

The MSc Logistics and Supply Chain Management course is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) (subject to confirmation). Students are encouraged to join as Student Members while studying on the course, progressing to full membership once the eligibility requirements are met. Membership of the CILT provides access to online forums and sectors, regular meetings and seminars, the monthly journal, the institute's library, etc.

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations

How will you be supported in your studies?

Course Management

The course is managed by a Course Leader from within the Department of Planning and Transport, one of three departments in the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment (ABE) at the Marylebone Campus. The course team also comprises academic staff from Westminster Business School (WBS), who are involved in delivering the related MSc Purchasing and Supply Chain Management course, reflecting the multi-disciplinary nature of logistics and supply chain management. Regular liaison takes place between the staff from ABE and WBS.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Faculty Registry Office. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students

Learning Support

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students¹ can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught at their Faculty. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services

The University of Westminster Student Affairs department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University.

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 1997. The panel included internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university and a representative from industry. This helps to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers.

The course is also monitored each year by the Faculty to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the outcomes from Course Committees, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. Each Faculty puts in to place an action plan. This may for example include making changes on the way the module is taught, assessed or even how the course is structured in order to improve the course, in such cases an approval process is in place.

A course review takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with review panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years e.g. from Course Committees is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through Course Committees students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Student representatives are elected to Committee to expressly represent the views of their peer. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the student representatives.

¹ Students enrolled at Collaborative partners may have differing access due to licence agreements.

- Each Faculty also has its own Faculty Student Forum with student representatives; this enables wider discussions across the Faculty. Student representatives are also represented on key Faculty and university committees.
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- The University also has an annual Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey or PTES which helps us compare how we are doing with other institutions, to make changes that will improve what we do in future and to keep doing the things that you value.

Please note: This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification should be read in conjunction with the Course Handbook provided to students and Module Handbooks, which provide more detailed information on the specific learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods for each module.

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