

BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The University of Westminster offers expertise in three interlinked subject areas: information management, operations and supply chain management, and project management. They share the common aim of improving organisational performance through the application of new technologies and techniques.

The information management subject area focuses on the application of information and communication technology in organisational settings, particularly the emerging forms of digital technologies now used in social media, e-business and knowledge management.

The operations and supply chain management subject area also encompasses the study of purchasing and logistics. Our areas of expertise include the use of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, green supply chain management and service operations design.

The project management subject area is concerned with all aspects of project management, including the management of project risk, the management of programmes and international projects. We are an Accredited Training Organization (ATO) for PRINCE2® project management courses and Agile Project Management.

Members of the faculty have wide-ranging expertise in both theoretical and practical aspects of these constantly changing areas. Many are actively engaged in research in their specialist areas, publishing in high-ranked academic journals and other outlets. We are fortunate in being able to supplement the permanent teaching team with a group of visiting lecturers which includes experienced practitioners, trainers and consultants.

The University has strong links with a number of professional bodies, including the British Computer Society, the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, and the Association of Project Managers.



As part of the course, our students organise an annual project management conference



PROJECT MANAGEMENT MSc

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page:
westminster.ac.uk/project-management-msc

In today's business environment, effective project management (PM) is an integral influencer of success. Additionally, PM-associated skills such as planning, risk management, quality management and communication management are essential to control the increasingly complex projects that allow top organisations to remain competitive in the global market. A Masters in project management is sought after by many organisations, both in the public and the private sector. The course is suitable for graduates in business, computing and engineering, with an affinity for organising, running or participating in projects.

The course is designed to equip you with a set of tested skills for planning, delegating and monitoring projects. The course gives you the knowledge and tools to help implement strategies for change, in a sustainable way, in order to influence progress within a company or organisation. You will also learn the governance framework of running a project and how to handle the associated risks. The project management processes that you will learn on this course are aligned with the Project Management Bodies of Knowledge by Project Management Institute and are widely accepted as best practice in the area of project management.

Westminster Business School is one of just a handful of universities that are eligible to offer accredited PRINCE2 certification. So in addition to this postgraduate qualification, you also get an opportunity to obtain the much sought after PRINCE2 certificates.

Course content

This course involves both theoretical and practical content. It offers you the chance to build on your first degree or work experience with a range of knowledge and skills, enabling you to successfully manage the increasing number of projects instigated by organisations seeking to improve their value proposition.

In addition to providing you with an opportunity to attain the much sought after PRINCE2 Foundation and PRINCE2 Practitioner certifications, the course will provide you with an understanding and an evaluation of a number of other popular professional qualifications, such as M_o_R®, MSP* and DSDM Atern.

This course covers and critically evaluates the prevailing project management bodies of knowledge.

Core modules

- Project Management Foundations
- Project Management in Practice
- Management of Risk and Scheduling
- Project Finance and Procurement
- Project Management Project
- Programme and Strategic Management

Option modules

- Managing International Projects
- Project Management of IT

Internship Programme

You can take the internship programme in addition to option modules. The 8-12 weeks accredited internship in a London-based organisation will help you gain invaluable work experience. You will be able to take your internship during the summer period or alongside your studies. You will be responsible for finding your own internship with the support of the Business Experience Team.

Associated careers

The majority of graduates start their career as project team members with a few, depending on their background, becoming project programme managers. Many work for large UK or international organisations as consultants or project managers.

*M_o_R® and MSP are registered trademarks of Axelos Ltd.

PURCHASING AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT MSc

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September or in January
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page:
westminster.ac.uk/purchasing-and-supply-chain-management-msc

The course addresses the strategic role of purchasing and supply chain management. It also examines the impact of changes in the regulatory and policy environment, and the effect of new technologies and techniques on current and future problems within the supply chain.

During the course, you will develop your knowledge of best practice in purchasing and supply chain management, and enhance your understanding of the importance of business process and activity integration through our range of modules.

The sectors of purchasing and supply chain are expanding, leaving our Master's graduates attractive on the job market. Depending on your interests and desired career path, you will have the opportunity to specialise in international law or project management as part of this course.

Course content

Our range of core and option modules on this course equips you with the specialist knowledge to identify problems and develop solutions within both purchasing and the wider supply chain. Our lecturers combine traditional lectures with games to illustrate logistics and supply chain and talks by external speakers from the industry.

A highlight for many students are the field trips and social events organised throughout the course which provide an opportunity for networking and extending your learning in new environments.

As part of this course, you have the opportunity to obtain a PRINCE2 Foundation certification in project management.

The course is currently accredited by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. Successful graduates can apply for Membership status. Note that CIPS accreditation is renewed annually.

Core modules

- Business Process Integration with SAP
- Financial Analysis for Managers
- Logistics and the External Environment
- Logistics Management in a Retail Supply Chain Context
- Purchasing Management
- Research Methods and Project Preparation
- Supply Chain Management Project
- Sustainable Supply and Procurement

Option modules

- International Aspects of Business Law
- Project Management

Internship Programme

You can take the internship programme in addition to option modules. The 8-12 weeks accredited internship in a London-based organisation will help you gain invaluable work experience. You will be able to take your internship during the summer period or alongside your studies. You will be responsible for finding your own internship with the support of the Business Experience Team.

Associated careers

Past students of the course have developed successful careers in both supply chain management and procurement. Course graduates work in both large and small to medium companies all over the world. Examples include Unilever, Puma, and Sony. Areas of work you could consider include purchasing and contract management, supply chain management, operations/logistics management and supply chain planning and development. Alternatively, you might want to continue onto research or further study. On successful completion of the course, if you have three years' relevant work experience you may be awarded Member of Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (MCIPS) status. Alternatively, you can apply to CIPS for MCIPS status at a later date, once you have acquired the necessary work experience.

