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.
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 that will enable you 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.

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

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**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.