

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

| Course Record Information | |
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| Name and level of final & intermediate Awards | MSc Logistics and Supply Chain Management Postgraduate Diploma in Logistics and Supply Chain Management Postgraduate Certificate in Logistics and Supply Chain Management |
| Awarding Body | University of Westminster |
| Location of Delivery | Marylebone Campus; Arnhem Business School (Netherlands) |
| Mode of Study | Full-time |
| UW Course Code | [LSCPLSC] |
| JACS Code | N/A |
| QAA Subject Benchmarking Group | N/A |
| Professional Body Accreditation | Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (subject to confirmation) |
| Date of initial course approval/last review | 1998, 2001, 2007 |
| Date of Programme Specification | 2012 |

Admissions Requirements

Applicants should normally have the equivalent of a good Honours degree and demonstrate strong motivation in the subject area. Alternative qualifications with relevant professional experience will also be considered. The programme has been devised to appeal to graduates who wish to develop their career in an international environment concerned with logistics and supply chains. Directly relevant degree disciplines include: Economics, Business Studies, Management, Geography and Operations Research. However, students with qualifications in other disciplines such as languages and the humanities, engineering, and environmental sciences are also encouraged to apply. Applicants whose first language is not English will have to meet the English language requirement for postgraduate students, which is IELTS 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in each component (or equivalent) - see <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/international/full-degree/entry-requirements/english-language-requirements> for further details.

Aims of the course

This course is unique in its coverage of logistics in that it combines a common Semester 1 (which all students study at Westminster, where logistics principles and applications are introduced) with the opportunity to follow Semester 2 either at Westminster or at Arnhem Business School (Netherlands), depending on students' area of interest. Arnhem concentrates on European and international distribution within a Business School environment, while Westminster has a focus on logistics/transport services and the retail supply chain. The overall course aim is 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:

- are equipped with the skills necessary to pursue a career in logistics and supply chain management
- comprehend the increasingly 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. 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
- 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, retailers and manufacturers in the supply chain, and understand how their respective roles influence decisions taken within distribution channels
- appreciate the strategic management issues faced by organisations adapting to a more international approach to supply chain management including an awareness of EU/European and global practices and policies and the influence on individual company behaviour and performance
- are aware of changes in public policies and the way these influence the options and decisions for logistics managers
- appreciate the way environmental, social and behavioural factors influence and constrain logistics activities and strategies
- have the ability to question and comment on current practice, using appropriate analytical, statistical and quantitative techniques to analyse logistics data for evaluation purposes
- are able to carry out independent research, data collection and establish personal contact with managers concerned with logistics
- are able to write concise and coherent essays/reports and prepare and deliver well-argued and well-researched verbal presentations
- have acquired the interpersonal and analytical skills required to develop successful careers within the logistics sector
- achieve professional status with recognised bodies in logistics

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.

The majority of graduates from the course go on to work within the logistics and transport sector in Britain, elsewhere in Europe, or in a wide range of other countries. Previous graduates have gained employment with third party logistics providers, the airline industry, manufacturing companies, retailers, shipping lines, etc. Examples of companies that have recruited graduates since 2007 are Kuehne + Nagel, DHL, TNT, Norbert Dentressangle, Maersk Logistics, GIST, Volvo Logistics, Honda, Glaxo Smith Klein, Procter and Gamble and IKEA. Students are also equipped for further research (e.g. Doctoral studies) should they wish to continue in an academic environment.

Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. They 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

i. A critical understanding of the organisational, political, technological, financial, legal and commercial factors which influence the roles and interrelationships between businesses in the private sector concerned with logistics, transport and distribution. In addition students will understand the importance of the national, EU and global political dimension to commercial decisions in logistics and supply chain management.

ii. An in-depth knowledge of the theory and practice relating to logistics, transport and supply chain management in the context of an international business environment.

iii. A strong awareness of the different approaches to organisation, management and the allocation of resources that influence logistics, transport and distribution strategies for companies and along supply chains.

iv. An in-depth understanding of an area of specialised study.

Specific Skills

i. A spirit of inquiry, a commitment to independent study and the ability to demonstrate effective use of personal, technical and professional skills essential for professional and management practice in a wide range of contexts.

ii. Enhanced abilities, demonstrable at postgraduate level, to conceptualise problems and solutions, synthesise varied sources of information, select and apply research methodologies, and structure and present a set of arguments in a coherent and logical framework.

Key Transferable Skills

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

| | |
|--|--|
| Report writing: | Logistics and the External Environment Logistics Management and Planning Freight Transport and Logistics Services Commercial Distribution of Fast Moving Goods |
| Analytical skills: | Statistics and Operational Research for Logistics Airport Planning and Management Airline Planning and Management Distributing for the Future Finance and Management Research Methods/Research Dissertation |
| Group working/ presentational skills: | Logistics Management and Planning Logistics and the External Environment Sustainability and Freight Transport Retail Supply Chain Management Airline Planning and Management Finance and Management |
| Quantitative/IT skills: | Statistics and Operational Research for Logistics Sustainability and Freight Transport |
| Research methods: | Research Methods/Research Dissertation |
| Time management: | Module Coursework Module Tests/Exams Research Methods/Research Dissertation |

Teaching, Learning and Assessment Methods

Learning

The course will draw 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 Masters 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

Total contact hours for the programme will vary depending on detailed option choice. Each taught module at Westminster occupies a three hour slot per week; the class time for modules at Arnhem varies dependent on the teaching, learning and assessment methods employed. In addition, students attend for personal tutorials, dissertation meetings, study day visits, additional guest lectures and the induction course. 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 reflects current issues in logistics practice and prepares the students for careers in this area.

Assessment

The nature of assessment varies to some extent depending upon the study choices made by individual students, but in all cases is based upon a mix of assessment techniques. This includes examinations, coursework (based on essays, case study analysis, analytical techniques), in-class tests, presentations, etc. For most of the Westminster taught modules, the standard assessment is 50% coursework and 50% in-class test/examination. Exceptions to this, and details of the assessment of Arnhem modules, can be found in the detailed module proformas.

Course Structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time postgraduate students study 180 credits (90 ECTS).

| Module Title | Core/Option | Credit value |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| <u>Semester 1 (all students):</u> | | |
| Logistics Management & Planning | Core | 20 |
| Logistics & The External Environment | Core | 20 |
| Sustainability & Freight Transport | Core | 20 |
| Statistics & Operations Research | Core | 20 |
| <u>Semester 2 Westminster pathway:</u> | | |
| Freight Transport & Logistics Services | Core | 20 |
| Retail Supply Chain Management | Core | 20 |
| Airline Planning & Management | Option | 20 |
| Airport Planning & Management | Option | 20 |
| Public Passenger Transport | Option | 20 |
| Land Use & Transport | Option | 20 |
| Traffic in Urban Areas | Option | 20 |
| <u>Semester 2 Arnhem pathway:</u> | | |
| Finance & Management | Core | 20 |
| Distributing for the Future | Core | 20 |
| Commercial Distribution of Fast Moving Goods | Core | 20 |
| <u>Semester 3 (all students):</u> | | |
| Research Dissertation | Core | 40 |

NB: Not all option modules or study locations will necessarily be offered in any one year. A minimum of 4 students is required for the Arnhem option to run.

Support for Students

On arrival, an induction programme will introduce students to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which they will be studying, the Library and IT facilities and to the School Registry. Students will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Students are allocated a personal tutor who can provide advice and guidance on academic matters.

Learning support includes the Library which, across its four sites, holds print collections of 356,000 printed books, 29,000 print and e-journals, over 45,000 electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Access to all resources is facilitated through Library Search, a new online service.

There are over 3,500 computers spread over the four University campuses available for students use. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students can access course materials and communicate with staff and other students via message boards.

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

Reference Points for the course

Internal:

The course has been designed to take account of the University's mission to provide education for professional life and to meet the requirements of the University's policies on skills development and employability. The course structure meets the requirements of the modular frameworks and the academic regulations of the University of Westminster. The specific reference points are as follows:

- University Teaching, Learning and Assessment Policy and Strategy
- Quality Assurance Handbook, University Regulations for PG Modular Framework

External:

- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT)

Quality Management and Enhancement

Course Management

The course is managed by a Course Leader within the Department of Planning and Transport, one of the three departments in the School of Architecture and Built Environment at the Marylebone Campus. In addition, the Course Team includes a Course Leader at Arnhem Business School. The Course Team meets annually or more frequently to identify and address ways of improving the design and delivery of its courses, and regularly liaises by telephone or e-mail to discuss specific issues.

Course approval, monitoring and review

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 1998. The Panel included internal peers from the University and external subject specialists from academia and industry to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other Universities and the relevance to employers. Periodic Course Review helps to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers.

The course is monitored each year by the School to ensure that it is running effectively and that issues that might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the outcomes from each Course Committee, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from External Examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. The Annual Monitoring Sub-Committee considers the School action plans resulting from this process and the outcomes are reported to the Academic Council, which has overall responsibility for the maintenance of quality and standards in the University.

Student involvement in Quality Assurance and Enhancement

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways. The most formal mechanism for feedback on the course is the Course Committee. Student representatives will be elected to sit on the Committee to represent the views of their peer group in various discussions. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the Course Committee. All students are invited to complete a Module Feedback 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 Student Experience Survey which elicits feedback from students about their course and University experience.

Students meet with Review Panels when the periodic review of the course is conducted to provide oral feedback on their experience on the course. Student feedback from Course Committees is part of the School's quality assurance evidence base.

For modules taken at Arnhem Business School, student feedback in the first instance is collected at that institution. For any issues that cannot be resolved at this level, or where they relate to the broader MSc Logistics and Supply Chain Management course provision, they revert to Westminster to be dealt with.

For more information about this course:

<http://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/overview-pg?coursecode=P09FPELT>

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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.