

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### Course record information

Name and level of final award:	<b>MSc Transport Planning and Management</b> <b>Postgraduate Diploma Transport Planning and Management</b> <b>Postgraduate Certificate Transport Planning and Management</b> The MSc and PG Diploma Transport Planning and Management are Bologna FQ-EHEA second cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Postgraduate Diploma Transport Planning and Management Postgraduate Certificate Transport Planning and Management
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution:	University of Westminster
us 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:	MSc: 12 months FT/24 or 36 months PT PGDip: 12 months FT or 24 months PT PGCert: 12 months PT FT: September start. PT: September start <u>and</u> January start ( <b>Jan 2021 only</b> )
<a href="#">QAA subject benchmarking group(s)</a> :	
Professional statutory or regulatory body:	MSc Only: Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) / Transport Planning Professional (TPP)
Date of course validation/review:	2014
Date of programme specification approval:	2020
Course Leader:	Dr Enrica Papa
Course URL:	<a href="http://westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate">westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate</a>
Westminster Course Code:	MSc: PMTRL03F (FT) PMTRL03P (PT) PGDip: PDTRL02F (FT) PDTRL01P (PT) PGCert: PCTRL02P (PT)

## **Admissions requirements**

There are standard minimum [entry requirements](#) for all 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: [westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply](https://westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply)

## **Aims of the course**

The MSc Transport Planning and Management course aims to develop the students' abilities to initiate and undertake qualitative and quantitative analysis and research in the areas of transport policy, planning and operational management. In addition, all three awards seek to enable students to develop a thorough, critical awareness of current transport policies and practices.

The course intake is diverse in terms of background and sector experience. Students without experience in the sector are enabled to equip themselves with knowledge, techniques and methodologies required to take policy decisions or to provide the necessary information/knowledge for others to take such decisions. They benefit from learning from the experiences and knowledge of part-time professional students, who in turn benefit from the opportunity to critically reflect on their own practice, and examine transport, policy and planning issues from a wider perspective than their present employment.

The overall objectives are to provide all students with a stimulating academic environment within which to study transport issues, to ensure students are aware of current transport policy and planning issues and to prepare them for a wide range of potential employment within the transport sector by developing relevant transferable skills.

## **Employment and further study opportunities**

Students following this course develop a critical, in-depth understanding of key transport issues, and alongside this skills that will help them progress careers within the sector. The course team is in regular contact with key employers, many of whom regularly both sponsor current employees and employ our recent graduates. Such employers regularly provide information about vacancies and come into the University to speak about the opportunities that they offer. Some offer to partner with full-time students on key dissertation topics of interest, for example providing data for analysis, which can be an excellent route into the industry.

Many of our graduates have progressed to senior levels in management and policy-making, within transport operators, public bodies, consultancy companies and non-governmental organisations. Some regularly return to the University, to give guest lectures and/or to attend our Alumni events. Students are encouraged to participate in networking opportunities, such as applying for free or reduced price membership of relevant professional societies, which provide networking opportunities in addition to the wide range of relevant events taking place both at the University and across London.

## **Professional body accreditation**

Successful completion of the MSc Transport Planning and Management course permits exemption from the examination requirements for Membership of the Chartered Institute of

Logistics and Transport (MCILT). Course members are also encouraged to join as student members of CILT while taking the course, enabling them to attend relevant professional meetings, receive the journal, etc. Successful completion of the MSc Transport Planning and Management also forms part of the pathway for award of the Transport Planning Professional (TPP) qualification.

Course members are also encouraged to join as student members the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation (CIHT), which manages the TPP qualification programme, and provides additional resources and networking opportunities.

## Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding (noting modules where the Learning Outcome is, or can be, particularly addressed)

On completing the programme of study, students will be able to demonstrate:

- **All three programmes:** A critical understanding of the organisational, political, technological, financial, legal and commercial factors which influence the roles and relationships between transport organisations in both the public and private sectors of transport. In addition, students will understand the importance of the political dimension in determining transport policy and operational decisions. (7TRAN028W Transport Economics, 7TRAN030W Transport Policy and Politics, 7TRAN013W Land Use, Planning and Transport, 7TRAN027W Streets, Places and Active Transport, , 7TRAN010W Freight Transport and Logistics Services, 7TRAN029W Transport Field Trip)
- **All three programmes:** An in-depth knowledge of the theory and practice relating to transport policy, planning and management strategies in the context of an EU/international market environment. (7TRAN028W Transport Economics, 7TRAN030W Transport Policy and Politics, 7TRAN013W Land Use, Planning and Transport, 7TRAN027W Streets, Places and Active Transport, 7TRAN010W Freight Transport and Logistics Services, 7TRAN024W Analysing Transport Data, 7TRAN029W Transport Field Trip)
- **All three programmes:** A critical awareness of the different approaches to organisation, policy, planning and management and the allocation of resources that influence transport policies and strategies. (7TRAN028W Transport Economics, 7TRAN030W Transport Policy and Politics, 7TRAN013W Land Use, Planning and Transport, 7TRAN027W Streets, Places and Active Transport, 7TRAN010W Freight Transport and Logistics Services, 7TRAN029W Transport Field Trip)
- **MSc Transport Planning and Management Only:** An in-depth understanding of an area of specialised study in transport. (7TRAN024W Analysing Transport Data, 7TRAN021W Research Dissertation)

Specific Skills (noting modules where the Learning Outcome is, or can be, particularly addressed)

- **All three programmes:** 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. (All modules, particularly 7TRAN021W Research Dissertation)
- **All three programmes:** 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. (7TRAN028W Transport Economics, 7TRAN030W Transport Policy and Politics, , 7TRAN013W Land Use, Planning and Transport, 7TRAN027W Streets, Places and Active Transport, 7TRAN010W Freight Transport and Logistics Services, 7TRAN024W Analysing Transport Data, 7TRAN021W Research Dissertation, 7TRAN029W Transport Field Trip)

Key transferable skills (noting modules where the Learning Outcome is, or can be, particularly addressed)

- **All three programmes:** In the process of completing a Masters' level qualification, study skills in much greater depth than at undergraduate level are obtained. For the MSc Transport Planning and Management, undertaking a research dissertation (one third of all course credits) provides valuable skills in original work, data analysis, selecting relevant evidence from sources available, and direct fieldwork.

## Learning, teaching and assessment methods

### Learning and Teaching

The teaching and learning strategy aims to develop students' intellectual powers; their understanding and judgment; their problem-solving skills; their powers of critical analysis; their ability to communicate ideas effectively and their ability to work effectively in groups.

A varied pattern of teaching and learning methods are used in the course. These include lectures, seminars, case-study exercises, group workshops, simulated business management games, data collection analyses and study visits. Visiting practitioners from transport organisations make an important contribution to the teaching programme. There is a focus on problem-solving in group workshop case-studies, exercises, and discussions. The mix of delivery methods will vary between the modules.

### Assessment

Assessment methods used are thought to be the most appropriate to each module. There is a range of assessment methods from individual coursework essays, case-study reports, group workshop exercises (although most of the group workshops are assessed by individual reports) and closed-book written examinations.

Although the mix of assessment methods varies from module to module, the Transport Planning and Management Course Team have been conscious of the need to achieve consistency in the balance of workload and weighting between in-module assessed coursework and the end of module tests or closed-book written examinations. All six (MSc, PGDip) or three (PGCert) taught 20-credit modules taken by an individual student are assessed through an in-class test (semester one subjects), or written examination

(semester two), which is weighted at 50% of marks awarded; and a piece of coursework, also weighted at 50%.

### Course structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the courses and their credit value.

Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
7TRAN030W	Transport Policy and Politics	Core	20	10
7TRAN028W	Transport Economics	Core	20	10
7TRAN024W	Analysing Transport Data	Core	20	10
7TRAN021W	Research Dissertation (Transport)	Core	60	30
7TRAN034W	Airline and Airport Management	Option	20	10
7TRAN013W	Land Use Planning and Transport	Option	20	10
7TRAN027W	Streets, Places and Active Transport	Option	20	10
7TRAN010W	Freight Transport and Logistics Services	Option	20	10
7PLAN029W	Environmental Policy, Assessment & Climate Change	Option	20	10
7TRAN036W	Information Management Applications for Urban Planning	Option	20	10
7TRAN037W	Modifying Transport Behavior: Theory, Practice and Politics	Option	20	10
7TRAN029W	Transport Field Trip	Option	-	-

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

Note that the research dissertation has a weight three times that of any individual taught module, comprising one third of all course credits.

### Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations](http://westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations)

### How will you be supported in your studies?

#### Course Management

The course is operated by the Department of Planning and Transport, within the University's Faculty of Architecture and Built Environment (FABE). Day-to-day management is under the Course Leader, who liaises with individual module leaders as required. Input is also provided by a staff-student course committee which meets twice-yearly.

#### 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. Students<sup>1</sup> 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 1971, and most recently re-approved in 2014. 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Students enrolled at Collaborative partners may have differing access due to licence agreements.

### 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.
- 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 Student Experience Survey which seeks the opinions of students about their course and University experience. Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.

For more information about this course, please contact the Course Leader

Enrica Papa

Email: [e.papa@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:e.papa@westminster.ac.uk)

<http://www.westminster.ac.uk>

**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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