

University of Plymouth

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Business

Plymouth Business School

Programme Specification

**MSc/Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate
International Business**

September intake: 6959/6960

January intake: 7021

Approved Final Version for
September 2022

1. Final award title: MSc International Business

Level 7 Intermediate awards:

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

HECOS code: 100080

2. Awarding institution: University of Plymouth

Teaching institution: University of Plymouth

3. Accrediting body

Not applicable.

4. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

- Integrated Business Placement Option, providing students with the chance to further their skills development at the end of the taught phase of the programme by undertaking a significant work-based project;
- an international perspective, delivered through tailored internationally-focused modules;
- experiential learning methods such as case studies analysis, live projects, and business simulations.

5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group

Masters Degrees in Business and Management (2015)

https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-business-and-management-15.pdf?sfvrsn=1997f681_16

6. Programme structure

Important: In relation to elective modules, you will be notified of the module choice deadline by email to your university email address. If you do not choose an elective module by the module choice deadline you will be enrolled on MKT7001/Marketing and Strategy. At this point you will not be able to choose a different elective module.

September 2022 Start

6.1 12 months

Semester 1	STO7001 / Theories and Practices of International Business (30 credits)		
	PLUS ONE OF:		
	HRL7006 Managing People and Finance (30 credits)	MAR7002 International Trade and Data Management (30 credits)	MKT7001 Marketing and Strategy (30 credits)
Semester 2	STO7002 / Current Issues in International Business (30 credits)		
	STO7003 / International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage (30 credits)		
All Year <i>(Semesters 1 & 2 & Summer)</i>	PBS7000 / Capstone Project (60 credits)		

OR

6.2 12 months with **short work-based Placement**

Semester 1	STO7001 / Theories and Practices of International Business (30 credits)		
	PLUS ONE OF:		
	HRL7006 Managing People and Finance (30 credits)	MAR7002 International Trade and Data Management (30 credits)	MKT7001 Marketing and Strategy (30 credits)
Semester 2	STO7002 / Current Issues in International Business (30 credits)		
	STO7003 / International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage (30 credits)		
Summer	STO7010 / Masters Internship (60 credits)		

6.3 24 months **with maximum 36 weeks placement**

Semester 1	STO7001 / Theories and Practices of International Business (30 credits)		
	PLUS ONE OF:		
	HRL7006 Managing People and Finance (30 credits)	MAR7002 International Trade and Data Management (30 credits)	MKT7001 Marketing and Strategy (30 credits)
Semester 2	STO7002 / Current Issues in International Business (30 credits)		
	STO7003 / International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage (30 credits)		
Summer	STO7004 / Master's Placement Preparation (20 credits)		
Year 2 – Placement Period	STO7005 / Master's Placement Project (40 credits)		

January 2023 Start

6.4 12 months

Term 1 <i>(Semester 2 22/23)</i>	STO7002 / Current Issues in International Business (30 credits)		
	STO7003 / International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage (30 credits)		
Term 2 <i>(Semester 1 23/24)</i>	STO7001 / Theories and Practices of International Business (30 credits)		
	PLUS ONE OF:		
	HRL7006 Managing People and Finance (30 credits)	MAR7002 International Trade and Data Management (30 credits)	MKT7001 Marketing and Strategy (30 credits)
All Year <i>(Semester 2 & Summer 2/23 and Semester 1 23/24)</i>	PBS7000J / Capstone Project (60 credits)		

6.5 Postgraduate Diploma International Business (12 months)

Semester 1	STO7001 / Theories and Practices of International Business (30 credits)		
	PLUS ONE OF:		
	HRL7006 Managing People and Finance (30 credits)	MAR7002 International Trade and Data Management (30 credits)	MKT7001 Marketing and Strategy
Semester 2	STO7002 / Current Issues in International Business (30 credits)		
	STO7003 / International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage (30 credits)		

6.6 Postgraduate Certificate International Business

Semester 1	STO7001 / Theories and Practices of International Business (30 credits)
Semester 2	STO7002 / Current Issues in International Business (30 credits)

7. Programme Aims

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

The programme aims to produce graduates with:

- 7.1 A range of transferable skills relevant to a career in international business including analytical and critical thinking, research and communications skills.
- 7.2 A systematic understanding of theories, practices and contemporary issues in international business.

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business

In addition to the aims for the PgCert in International Business, the Postgraduate Diploma in International Business aims to produce graduates with:

- 7.3. The skills to analyse decisions related to global issues in SCM and to effectively manage global supply chains;
- 7.4. The ability to learn and work autonomously in the pursuit of creative strategies and business solutions;

MSc International Business

In addition to the aims for the PgCert in International Business and PgDip in International Business, the MSc International Business aims to produce graduates with:

- 7.5. A deep and systematic understanding of the major themes within the international business arena and an integrative perspective on business development in a global context;
- 7.6. The ability to apply relevant theoretical and methodological approaches to undertake analysis of complex, incomplete or contradictory evidence as part of a major research project.
- 7.7. Extensive knowledge and understanding of organisations, the dynamic external international environments in which they operate, and their management, and leadership;
- 7.8. The ability to flexibly and creatively apply knowledge of business and management to complex situations to enhance decision making and management practice in general;
- 7.9. Develop critical responses to the managerial implications of a changing global business environment, the opportunities and threats of emerging economies and the impact this is having on dominant business management paradigms, structures and strategies;

8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

8.1. Knowledge and understanding

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of:

- 8.1.1. the need for appropriate strategies for both internationalisation and the management of international businesses by industry, size of organisation, home and host countries and strategic intent;
- 8.1.2. the key opportunities and challenges to businesses arising from the political, economic, social and technological aspects of the international business environment;
- 8.1.3. the diverse nature and purpose of organisations together with their internal aspects, functions, characteristics, culture, and processes;

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business AND MSc International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.1.1 – 8.1.3, and:

- 8.1.4. the importance of global supply chain management and the linkages between supply chain functions, stages and partners in the context of contemporary business practice;

8.1.5. the complexities of the external international environments that affect organisations at different levels in terms of their strategies, behaviours, management and sustainability;

8.1.6. the various processes, procedures and practices that influence effective management and leadership of organisations

8.2 Cognitive and intellectual skills

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

8.2.1. think critically and be creative through a process of analysis and synthesis of evidence, ideas, theory and concepts to facilitate the solution of complex problems;

8.2.3. identify global SCM issues and suggest appropriate responses based on how relevant theories can be effectively applied in practice;

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.2.1 and 8.2.3, and:

8.2.2 critically evaluate the potential impact of globalisation on business practices and performance;

MSc International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.2.1 – 8.2.3, and:

8.2.4. analyse and synthesise acquired knowledge and understanding of business and management to enable effective decision making within different organisational settings;

8.2.5. undertake research using appropriate methods and techniques to investigate business and management scenarios and propose recommendations in various organisational contexts;

8.3 Key and transferable skills

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

8.3.1. effective professional communication skills.

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.3.1, and:

8.3.2. familiarity with academic and practitioner literature sources as resources for effective management;

MSc International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.3.1 – 8.3.2, and:

8.3.3. Effective data collection, analysis and presentation skills;

8.3.4. Effective management of their own time, and demonstrate the motivation and initiative needed to work independently in an ethical and responsible way;

8.4 Employment related skills

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

8.4.1. An awareness of the global nature of contemporary business and how this affects business decisions.

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.4.1, and:

8.4.2. awareness of the need for change and the ability to manage it;

MSc International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.4.1 – 8.4.2, and:

8.4.3. the ability to be adaptable and demonstrate originality, insight and critical and reflective skills to make informed decisions in complex and unpredictable situations;

8.4.4. recognition of the need to keep developing their knowledge and skills through continued professional development, leading to a high level of personal effectiveness, critical self-awareness, and the ability to learn through reflection on practice;

8.5 Practical skills

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

8.5.1. An ability to make effective use of communication and information technology.

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.5.1, and:

8.5.2. effective analytical and decision-making skills

MSc International Business

On successful completion graduates should have developed deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of 8.5.1 – 8.5.2, and:

8.5.3. competence in writing reports for both practitioner and academic audiences;

8.5.4. effectiveness in the utilisation of listening and persuasion skills, and professional communication skills in general;

9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and Disability Service arrangements

Entry Requirements: MSc International Business	
BA / BSc Degree	Normal minimum entry requirements are a Lower Second / 2:2 class honours degree or equivalent. Other qualifications and relevant experience will be considered on an individual basis.
APEL	Applications for the accreditation of prior experience and/or learning will be considered by the Programme Leader on a case-by-case basis in accordance with published University of Plymouth regulations.
Language Requirements	Candidates whose first language is not English require IELTS 6.5 (with a minimum of 5.5 in each element) or equivalent. If the applicant's English language does not meet the above standard at point of application there may be an opportunity to complete one of the University's pre-sessional English language courses.

Other qualifications may be accepted for entry; information is provided on Programme Course pages specifying what these are the level at which they need to be achieved.

Disability Service arrangements are as per standard University practice. Applicants can access information at:

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/services/student-services/disability-and-dyslexia/applicants>

10. Progression routes/criteria for final and intermediate awards

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business – 60 credits achieved from Theories and Practices of International Business and Current Issues in International Business

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business – 120 credits achieved from Theories and Practices of International Business, Current Issues in International Business, International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage, AND Marketing and Strategy, OR International Trade and Data Management, OR Leading, Developing and Managing People.

11. Non-standard regulations

Not applicable.

12. Transitional arrangements

Not applicable.

13. Programme Specification Mapping (PGT): module contribution to the meeting of Award Learning Outcomes

13.1 MSc 12 month

Module	Credits	C core E elective	Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)																				Compensation Y/N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical			
			8.1 Knowledge & understanding						8.2 Cognitive & intellectual skills					8.3 Key & transferable skills				8.4 Employment related skills				8.5 Practical skills					
			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1			2	3	4
STO7001	30	C	x	x	x				x					x				x				x				Y	C1 – 100%
STO7002	30	C	x	x	x	x			x		x			x				x				x				Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 60 credits			x	x	x	x			x		x			x				x				x					
STO7003	30	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x			x	x			x	x			Y	C1 - 100%
HRL7006	30	E	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	T1 – 50% / C1- 30% / P1 – 20%
MAR7002	30	E	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x		x	x	x		Y	C1 – 100%
MKT7001	30	E	x	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 120 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
PBS7000/ PBS7000J	60	C	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 180 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs																											

STO7001: Theories and Practices of International Business

STO7002: Current Issues in International Business

STO7003: International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage

HRL7006: Managing People and Finance

MAR7002: International Trade and Data Management

MKT7001: Marketing and Strategy

PBS7000 / PBS7000J: Capstone Project

13.2 MSc 12 month with short work-based Placement

Module	Credits	C core E elective	Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)																				Compen- sation Y/N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical			
			8.1 Knowledge & understanding						8.2 Cognitive & intellectual skills					8.3 Key & transferable skills				8.4 Employment related skills				8.5 Practical skills					
			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1			2	3	4
STO7001	30	C	x	x	x				x					x					x							Y	C1 – 100%
STO7002	30	C	x	x	x	x			x		x			x					x							Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 60 credits			x	x	x	x			x		x			x					x								
STO7003	30	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x				x	x						Y	C1 - 100%
HRL7006	30	E	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	T1 – 50% / C1- 30% / P1 – 20%
MAR7002	30	E	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x				x	x	x		x	x	x		Y	C1 – 100%
MKT7001	30	E	x	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 120 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
STO7010	60	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 180 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs																											

STO7001: Theories and Practices of International Business STO7002: Current Issues in International Business STO7003: International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage	HRL7006: Managing People and Finance MAR7002: International Trade and Data Management MKT7001: Marketing and Strategy	STO7010: Masters Internship
---	--	------------------------------------

13.3 MSc 24 months with maximum 36 weeks placement

Module	Credits	C core E elective	Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)																				Compen- sation Y/N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical			
			8.1 Knowledge & understanding						8.2 Cognitive & intellectual skills					8.3 Key & transferable skills				8.4 Employment related skills				8.5 Practical skills					
			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1			2	3	4
STO7001	30	C	x	x	x				x					x					x							Y	C1 – 100%
STO7002	30	C	x	x	x	x			x		x			x					x							Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 60 credits			x	x	x	x			x		x			x					x								
STO7003	30	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x				x	x						Y	C1 – 100%
HRL7006	30	E	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	T1 – 50% / C1- 30% / P1 – 20%
MAR7002	30	E	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x				x	x	x		x	x	x		Y	C1 – 100%
MKT7001	30	E	x	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 120 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
STO7004	20	C	x	x					x			x	x	x		x	x		x			x	x	x	x	Y	C1
STO7005	40	C	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	
Learning Outcomes 180 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs																											

STO7001: Theories and Practices of International Business

STO7002: Current Issues in International Business

STO7003: International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage

HRL7006: Managing People and Finance

MAR7002: International Trade and Data Management

MKT7001: Marketing and Strategy

STO7004: Master's Placement Preparation

STO7005: Master's Placement Project

13.4 Postgraduate Diploma International Business

Module	Credits	C core E elective	Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)														Compensation Y/N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical	
			8.1 Knowledge & understanding						8.2 Cognitive & intellectual skills			8.3 Key & transferable skills		8.4 Employment related skills		8.5 Practical skills			
			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	1	2	1	2	1			2
STO7001	30	C	x	x	x				x			x		x		x		Y	C1 – 100%
STO7002	30	C	x	x	x	x			x		x	x		x		x		Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 60 credits			x	x	x	x			x		x	x		x		x			
STO7003	30	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
HRL7006	30	E	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	T1 – 50%/ C1- 30% / P1 – 20%
MAR7002	30	E	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
MKT7001	30	E	x	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 120 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs																			

STO7001: Theories and Practices of International Business

STO7002: Current Issues in International Business

STO7003: International Business Strategy for Competitive Advantage

HRL7006: Managing People and Finance

MAR7002: International Trade and Data Management

MKT7001: Marketing and Strategy

13.5 Postgraduate Certificate International Business

Module	Credits	C core E elective	Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)								Compensation Y/N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical
			8.1 Knowledge & understanding			8.2 Cognitive & intellectual skills		8.3 Key & transferable skills	8.4 Employment related skills	8.5 Practical skills		
			1	2	3	1	3	1	1	1		
STO7001	30	C	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
STO7002	30	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Learning Outcomes 60 credits			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs												

STO7001: Theories and Practices of International Business

STO7002: Current Issues in International Business