

Hertfordshire Business School

Title of Programme: MSc International Business
MSc International Business with Advanced Research
MSc International Business (Sandwich)

Programme Code: BSMIB

Programme Specification

This programme specification is relevant to students entering:
01 September 2021

Associate Dean of School (Academic Quality Assurance):
Veronica Earle



Signature

A programme specification is a collection of key information about a programme of study (or course). It identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the programme, lists the modules that make up each stage (or year) of the programme, and the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff. It also describes the structure of the programme, its progression requirements and any programme-specific regulations. This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right programme of study, to current students on the programme, and to staff teaching and administering the programme.

Summary of amendments to the programme

Date	Section	Amendment
14/07/21	Table 1aiv	7BSP1371 Advanced Business Research – changed from AB to A 7BSP1372 Professional and Consultancy Skills – changed from AB to B
	Table 1av	7BSP1371 Advanced Business Research – changed from AB to A 7BSP1372 Professional and Consultancy Skills – changed from AB to B 7BSP1357 Major Research Project – changed from CA to BCA

If you have any queries regarding the changes please email AQO@herts.ac.uk

Programme Specification

MSc International Business

This programme specification (PS) is designed for prospective students, enrolled students, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes and content for each module can be found in Definitive Module Documents (DMDs).

Section 1

Awarding Institution/Body	University of Hertfordshire
Teaching Institution	University of Hertfordshire
University/partner campuses	De Havilland Campus
Programme accredited by	Not applicable
Final Award (Qualification)	MSc
All Final Award titles	International Business
(Qualification and Subject)	International Business with Advanced Research International Business (Sandwich)
FHEQ level of award	7
Language of Delivery	English

A. Programme Rationale

The programme is designed for those seeking to develop careers within an international business setting, or within companies and jobs that require an understanding of international business.

International business will be explored from a number of perspectives, including strategy, economics, marketing, supply chain management and HR enabling students to consolidate and develop their understanding of a wide range of business-related disciplines and of the relationships between them, while developing particular knowledge of the distinctive challenges of communicating and working effectively across national borders.

A wide range of skills are developed including effective communication in English - both oral and written, numeracy, multicultural team-working, awareness of national differences in the cultural, socio-economic and political context of business operations, a reflective approach to learning, and the ability to critically analyse complex business problems so as to reach considered creative solutions. These skills are complemented by the development of a deeper knowledge and understanding of theory related to international business. Finally, the research component provides students with the skills to undertake research and the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and skills related to business research. Graduates are equipped for careers in a wide range of businesses operating in an international environment in developing, emerging and industrialised economies.

The programme also offers the opportunity for students to undertake a work placement. In order to progress to a placement, students must have completed 120 credits and passed the first 60 credits in the first attempt of their first semester (Semester A).

B. Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme has been devised in accordance with the University's graduate attributes of programmes of study as set out in [UPR TL03](#).

Additionally this programme aims to:

- provide a contemporary, critical, integrated and applied programme of study at postgraduate level within the area of international business
- examine a range of subject matter and learning experiences within the award route that will both meet the needs of a diverse student group and offer opportunities for multicultural interaction, so as to enhance their future practice in international business;

- equip students with a strong theoretical grounding in approaches to research, supporting a practical understanding of how established research methods can be applied to develop and interpret knowledge of direct relevance to the challenges faced by international business practitioners.
- develop the distinctive competences required for students to operate as managers in an international business environment.
- foster cultural sensitivities that will enable graduates to operate in different countries, in multi-cultural and multi-national environments.

C. Intended Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes are referenced the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014), and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education (2016) have been used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Knowledge and Understanding:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>A1- Critically review theory and theoretical approaches to research</p> <p>A2- Examine debates and new insights into the challenges faced by organisations engaging in international business</p> <p>A3- Analyse the changing global context of business activities</p> <p>A4- Research and evaluate alternative ways of managing organisations engaging in international business</p> <p>A5- Assess the generation and implementation of creative responses to internal tensions and environmental change</p> <p><u>And for the 'Sandwich' award:</u></p> <p>A6- Build contextual knowledge of managerial and operational aspects of international business through a substantive work placement experience</p>	<p>Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is through a combination of lectures, small group seminars and tutorials, coursework including case studies, and supervised individual research work.</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.</p> <p>A6 is achieved through the full-time, industry work placement experienced by students on the 'Sandwich' award.</p> <p>Independent learning is supported by online Learning and Information Services resources, including guides to research materials produced specifically for this programme.</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding for all outcomes (A1-A5) are assessed through a variety of in-course assessments including individual and group presentations, academic essays and business reports, and time-constrained assessments.</p> <p>A6 is achieved through the full-time, industry work placement experienced by students on the 'Sandwich' award.</p> <p>To achieve A6, students on the Sandwich award reflect on knowledge gained from the placement: reconsidering theory in light of practice, the transferable skills that they have enhanced, and goals for further professional development.</p>
Intellectual skills:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>B1- Evaluate the relevance and identify the meaning of available information</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are developed through the methods and strategies outlined in section A,</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are assessed through a variety of in-course assessments, as</p>

<p>pertaining to international business problems</p> <p>B2- Apply theory and information in the critical analysis of business situations</p> <p>B3- Synthesise findings into appropriate forms in order to evaluate decision alternatives in an international business context</p>	<p>above. Analytical, integrative and problem-solving skills are further developed through the in-depth investigation required in the research related modules.</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop intellectual skills further by independent study</p>	<p>in A above. Skills of synthesis and of abstracting meaning from information, (B1, B3) are assessed in particular by the Major Research Project module.</p>
Practical skills:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>C1- Apply quantitative skills for the analysis of business situations</p> <p>C2- Make effective use of communication and information technology</p> <p>C3- Collect relevant information through research into international business and management issues</p>	<p>Practical skills are developed through the methods and strategies outlined in section A, above. C3 is developed through the Research Methods. C2 is developed through the ICT facilities in the Business School as well as through formal teaching and learning.</p>	<p>Practical skills are assessed through a combination of unseen examinations and in-course assessments, as in A above. Research skills (C3) are assessed in particular by the Major Research Project module.</p>
Transferable skills:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>D1- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, using a range of media including the preparation of business reports</p> <p>D2- Work effectively within a multicultural team</p> <p>D3- Present and support an extended argument</p> <p>D4- Reflect on individual learning</p> <p>D5- Show awareness of self and others, including ethical and organisational values</p> <p><u>And for the 'with Advanced Research' award:</u></p> <p>D6 – Examine and apply advanced skills in business research</p>	<p>Transferable skills are developed through a combination of lectures, tutored group interactions and coursework - including group presentations and reports (D1-D3, D5) and individual reflective essays (D4, D5). The Business School's Academic Skills Unit supports this process, especially D1 and D3, through a combination of workshops, one-to-one meetings, and online briefings and tutorials.</p> <p>Students on the 'with Advanced Research' award study 'Advanced Business Research' and 'Professional Development and Consultancy Skills' in their second year, alongside their dissertation. These two double modules provide a strong grounding in workplace application of research and analysis, project management, and soft skills including leadership, teamwork, negotiation and creative problem solving.</p>	<p>Transferable skills are assessed through a range of assignments built into the curriculum – coursework reports and oral presentations (D1), group work including the sharing of research findings group report (D2, D5), individual reflective essays (D4, D5) and sustained pieces of informative and analytical writing for the Major Research Project.</p> <p>For D6, 'Advanced Business Research' and 'Professional and Consultancy Skills' require the students to demonstrate knowledge in a variety of advanced research and skills areas through portfolio assessment and group work.</p>

Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop transferable skills by maintaining a record of evidence and completing a personal development plan.

D. Programme Structures, Features, Levels, Modules, and Credits

The programme is offered full-time one-year mode (1 year/15 month), and full-time, two-year mode. The one-year, full-time mode leads to the award of 'MSc International Business' is available to Semester A and Semester B intakes. Whilst the programme has no prescribed part-time route, it is possible for individuals to follow an individually tailored programme of study at a part-time rate. The two-year, full-time mode leads to the award of 'MSc International Business (Sandwich)' is only available to full-time students who join the programme during Semester A (September). The two-year, full-time mode leads to the award of 'MSc International Business with Advanced Research' is available to Semester A and Semester B intakes.

Entry is normally with an honours degree (at least 2:2 or equivalent) in any discipline, a degree equivalent professional qualification or appropriate work experience.

Professional and Statutory Regulatory Bodies

N/A

Work-Based Learning, including Sandwich Programmes

The two-year, full-time sandwich route incorporates a one-year work placement of a minimum of 36* weeks full time work experience. Students must pass all modules in the first attempt of their first semester (Semester A) to proceed onto the placement. For students with visa restrictions, the placement would need to take place within the UK. Students will typically need to secure a placement by the end of the Semester B in their first academic year of study, in order to process the necessary paperwork required.

The 'Sandwich' award requires completion of a full-time work placement (minimum duration: 36 weeks). It is assessed through milestone reports while on placement (part of the 'Professional Work Placement' module), and by portfolio in the 'Work Placement Portfolio' module at the start of the final semester. It is the responsibility of the student to identify and apply for their placements, and they are supported in this by the UH Careers and Employment Service, and the School's 'Preparation for Work' module.

Students on the 'Sandwich' award who do not go on placement transfer into the two-year, full-time 'with Advanced Research' award route.

*Please note the minimum placement period has been temporarily changed to 30 weeks for the 20/21 academic year due to the Covid 19 situation. See UPR11 2.4.1 for the situation in subsequent years
https://www.herts.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/232504/AS11-Schedule-of-Awards.pdf

Programme Structure

The programme structure and progression information below (Table 1a and 1b) is provided for the award. Any interim awards are identified in Table 1b. The Programme Learning Outcomes detailed above are developed and assessed through the constituent modules. Table 2 identifies where each learning outcome is assessed.

Table 1ai Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business - MSCIB1F-1

Mode of study: Full-Time (1 Academic Year), Part-Time (Day)

Entry point: Semester A

	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Module Title							
Marketing Across Cultures	7BSP1271	15	English	0	100	0	A
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	A
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	A
International and Comparative HRM	7BSP1303	15	English	0	100	0	A
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	B
Finance for International Business	7BSP1245	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	B
Optional Modules – select one							
Global e-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	B
Leadership and Management in International Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	B
	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Module Title							
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BC

The award of an MSc degree requires 180 credits passed at Level 7, including the research component.

Table 1a:ii Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business - MSCIBB1F-1

Mode of study: Full-Time (15 Months), Part-Time (Day)

Entry point: Semester B

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Marketing Across Culture	7BSP1271	15	English	0	100	0	B
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	B
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	B
International and Comparative HRM	7BSP1303	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	A
Finance for International Business	7BSP1245	15	English	0	100	0	A
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	A
Optional Modules - select one							
Global e-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	A
Leadership and Management in International Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	A
	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	AB

The award of an MSc degree requires 180 credits passed at Level 7, including the research component.

The Sandwich Placement route is not available for Semester B entrants.

Table 1a:iii Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business (Sandwich) - MSCIBY1S

Mode of study: Full-Time, Two-Year

Entry point: Semester A entrants only (**Sandwich route not available for Semester B start**)

The Sandwich award is available to full-time Semester A entrants only.

This route of study incorporates a minimum of 36* weeks full time placement work. In order to undertake a sandwich placement, students must pass all modules in the first attempt of their first semester (Semester A).

Students who are academically eligible for the 'Sandwich route' would have to secure a Professional Work Placement by themselves with the support from the Careers and Employment Team. The Professional Work Placement would have to be approved by the Careers and Employment Team. Students who are not academically eligible, or not able to secure a placement, will be transferred from the 'Sandwich route' to the two-year 'with Advanced Research' route. However, the change of study route may impact on students' degree award and eligibility for Graduate visa.

*Please note the minimum placement period has been temporarily changed to 30 weeks for the 20/21 academic year due to the Covid 19 situation. See UPR11 2.4.1 for the situation in subsequent years

https://www.herts.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/232504/AS11-Schedule-of-Awards.pdf

Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Marketing Across Cultures	7BSP1271	15	English	0	100	0	A
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	A
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	A
International and Comparative HRM	7BSP1303	15	English	0	100	0	A
Preparation for the Workplace	7BSP1317	0	English	0	100	0	AB
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	B
Finance for International Business	7BSP1245	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	B
Optional Modules - select one							
Global e-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	B
Leadership and Management in International Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	B

Year 2 - MSCIBY2S-1

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Sandwich Placement Compulsory Modules							
Professional Work Placement (enrolled on to support the work placement)*	7BSP1336	0	English	0	100	0	CAB
Work Placement Portfolio (the module portal to which the final Work Placement report is submitted)	7BSP1318	0	English	0	100	0	C
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BC

* The Professional Work Placement period normally commences immediately after the end of Semester B (late May) in the academic year of starting the programme and ends at approximately the same time in the subsequent year. Placements must be for a minimum of 36** weeks of full-time work. Immediately following the sandwich placement, students return, complete and submit their Work Placement Portfolio at the start of Semester C.

The award of an MSc International Business (Sandwich) degree requires a total of 180 credit points at level 7. In addition, students are required to complete the 36-week** full-time placement, submit acceptable milestone reports, and pass the Work Placement Portfolio at the start of their final semester.

**Please note the minimum placement period has been temporarily changed to 30 weeks for the 20/21 academic year due to the Covid 19 situation. See UPR11 2.4.1 for the situation in subsequent years

https://www.herts.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/232504/AS11-Schedule-of-Awards.pdf

Table 1aiv Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business with Advanced Research – IBARM1F-1

Mode of study: Full-Time, Two-Year

Entry point: Semester A

This Advanced Research route is available to full-time Semester A entrants as a stand-alone route. It is also available for those students who were originally registered on the 'Sandwich route' but not eligible to progress to the Sandwich route or not able to secure a Professional Work Placement by the deadline given. However, the change of study route may impact on students' degree award and eligibility for Graduate visa.

Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Marketing Across Cultures	7BSP1271	15	English	0	100	0	A
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	A
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	A
International and Comparative HRM	7BSP1303	15	English	0	100	0	A
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	B
Finance for International Business	7BSP1245	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	B
Optional Modules select one							
Global e-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	B
Leadership and Management in Intl Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	B

Year 2 - IBARM2F-1

Advanced Research Compulsory Modules

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Advanced Business Research **	7BSP1371	30	English	0	100	0	A
Professional and Consultancy Skills **	7BSP1372	30	English	0	100	0	B
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BC

** The Advanced Business Research and Professional Consultancy Skills are two taught modules in Year 2 and assessed as Pass or Fail. Attendance is required and monitored.

The award of an 'MSc International Business with Advanced Research' requires 240 credits passed at level 7, including a satisfactorily completed 'Advanced Business Research' and 'Professional and Consultancy Skills' module in their second year's academic study. The additional 60 credits of modules on the two-year full-time study route (Level 7 Advanced Business Research and Professional and Consultancy Skills) are recorded on the transcript as pass/fail only, and no numeric grade will be awarded.

Table 1av Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business with Advanced Research - IBARMB1F-1

Mode of study: Full-Time, Two-Year

Entry point: Semester B

This Advanced Research route is available to full-time Semester B entrants as a stand-alone route.

Year 1

	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Module Title							
Marketing Across Cultures	7BSP1271	15	English	0	100	0	B
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	B
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	B
International and Comparative HRM	7BSP1303	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	A
Finance for International Business	7BSP1245	15	English	0	100	0	A
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	A
Optional Modules - select one							
Global e-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	A
Leadership and Management in Intl Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	A

Year 2 - IBARMB2F-1

	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Advanced Research Compulsory Modules							
Module Title							
Advanced Business Research *	7BSP1371	30	English	0	100	0	A
Professional and Consultancy Skills *	7BSP1372	30	English	0	100	0	B
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BCA

* The Advanced Business Research and Professional Consultancy Skills are two taught modules in Year 2 and assessed as Pass or Fail. Attendance is required and monitored.

The award of an 'MSc International Business with Advanced Research' requires 240 credits passed at level 7, including a satisfactorily completed 'Advanced Business Research' and 'Professional and Consultancy Skills' module in their second year's academic study. The additional 60 credits of modules on the two-year full-time study route (Level 7 Advanced Business Research and Professional and Consultancy Skills) are recorded on the transcript as pass/fail only, and no numeric grade will be awarded.

Table 1avi Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business – Capilano University, Vancouver route

Mode of study: Full Time (2 Semesters at UH)

Entry point: Semester B (**having completed Semester A module equivalents at Capilano**)

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Marketing Across Cultures *	N/A	15	English				Capilano
The Global Economy *	N/A	15	English				Capilano
Finance for International Business *	N/A	15	English				Capilano
International and Comparative HRM *	N/A	15	English				Capilano
Research and Project Skills	N/A	0	English				Capilano
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	B
Global e-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	B
Leadership and Management in Intl. Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	B
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BC

*** Capilano University, Vancouver - Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning (APCL)**

Students on this variant spend Semester A at Capilano University, Vancouver, where they take five modules agreed as equivalent to the ones offered at Hertfordshire Business School (HBS) and are awarded 60 APCL credits by HBS for these.

Students passing Semester A of their studies at Capilano University, Vancouver are entitled to apply to enter the MSc International Business programme with APCL, and may be awarded a Master's degree (but in alignment with UH regulations this cannot then be categorised as Commendation or Distinction due to the volume of APCL involved).

The Sandwich Placement and Advanced Research routes are **not available for Capilano University, Vancouver entrants.**

Table 1avii Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business – University of California, Riverside route

Mode of study: Full Time (2 Semesters at UH)

Entry point: Semester A

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Marketing Across Cultures*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
International Business Strategy*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
International and Comparative HRM*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
Finance for International Business*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	A
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	A
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	A
Leadership and Management in International Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	A
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	AB

Entry point: Semester B (2 Semesters at UH)

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Marketing Across Cultures*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
International Business Strategy*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
International and Comparative HRM*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
Finance for International Business*	N/A	15	English				Riverside
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	B
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	B
Leadership and Management in International Business	7BSP1355	15	English	0	100	0	B
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BC

*** University of California, Riverside - Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning (APCL)**

Students who enter the programme will have passed agreed equivalents of the above four modules at their home institution, and will be awarded 60 APCL credits by the Hertfordshire Business School for these.

Students passing one Semester of their studies at the University of California, Riverside are entitled to apply to enter the MSc International Business programme with APCL, and may be awarded a Master's degree (but in alignment with UH regulations this cannot be categorised as Commendation or Distinction due to the volume of APCL involved).

The Sandwich Placement and Advanced Research route are **not available for University of California, Riverside entrants.**

Table 1aviii Outline Programme Structure

Award route: MSc International Business – Rangsit University, Thailand route

Mode of study: Full Time (2 Semesters at UH)

Entry point: Semester A

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Marketing Across Cultures*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
International and Comparative HRM*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
Finance for International Business*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
The Global Economy*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	A
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	A
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	A
Global E-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	A
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	AB

Entry point: Semester B (2 Semesters at UH)

Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	Language of Delivery	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Compulsory Modules							
Marketing Across Cultures*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
International and Comparative HRM*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
Finance for International Business*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
The Global Economy*	N/A	15	English				Rangsit
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	15	English	0	100	0	B
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	15	English	0	100	0	B
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	15	English	0	100	0	B
Global E-Business	7BSP1172	15	English	0	100	0	B
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	60	English	0	100	0	BC

*** Rangsit University, Thailand - Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning (APCL)**

Students who enter the programme will have passed agreed equivalents of the above four modules at their home institution, and will be awarded 60 APCL credits by the Hertfordshire Business School for these.

Students passing one Semester of their studies at the Rangsit University, Thailand are entitled to apply to enter the MSc International Business programme with APCL, and may be awarded a Master's degree (but in alignment with UH regulations this cannot be categorised as Commendation or Distinction due to the volume of APCL involved).

The Sandwich Placement and Advanced Research route are **not available for Rangsit University, Thailand entrants.**

Table 1b Final and interim awards available

The programme provides the following final and interim awards:

Final Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of (normally):	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Masters	International Business	180 credit points including at least 150 at level 7	3 Semesters	All programme learning outcomes (see Table 2)
Masters	International Business (Sandwich)	180 credit points including at least 150 at level 7	6 Semesters	A1-A6; B1-B3; C1-C3; D1-D6 plus successful completion of the one year full time placement and work placement modules*
Masters	International Business with Advanced Research	240 credit points including at least 150 at level 7	6 Semesters	A1-A5; B1-B3; C1-C3; D1-D5; D6

Interim Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of Level	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Postgraduate Certificate		60 credit points, including at least 45 at level 7	1-2 Semesters	<i>For named awards, list all relevant learning outcomes, e.g. A1, A3, A4, B1, B2, B6, C1, C5, D1, D2, D3, D6 OR</i> <i>For untitled awards: See UPR AS11, section 13: http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr/AS11.htm</i>
Postgraduate Diploma	International Business	120 credit points, including at least 90 at level 7	2, 3 Semesters	A1-A5; B1-B3; C1-C2; D1-D5

Masters and Diploma awards can be made "with Distinction" or "with Commendation" where criteria as described in [UPR AS14](#), Section D and the students' handbook are met.

Programme-specific assessment regulations

The programme is compliant with the University's academic regulations (in particular, [UPR AS11](#), [UPR AS12/UPR AS13](#) and [UPR AS14](#)) with the exception of those listed below, which have been specifically approved by the University:

Further points of clarification and interpretation relevant to this specific programme are given below:

- The two-year full-time 'Sandwich' programme is only available to full-time, Semester A entrants. The two-year awards are not available to the Capilano University, Vancouver or University of California, Riverside students, and Rangsit University, Thailand students.
- The award of an MSc International Business (Sandwich) requires 180 credit points passed at Level 7, including placement modules 'Professional Work Placement' and 'Work Placement Portfolio' (following completion of a full time 36-week* minimum work placement).
 - The Sandwich route is available to full-time Semester A entrants only. This route of study incorporates a

minimum of 36 *weeks full time placement work.

- To progress to a placement, students on the Sandwich award must normally have completed 120 credits, and have passed the first 60 credits Semester A modules in the first attempt. Students who have not met these progression requirements, including students with outstanding deferrals from the first attempt at their first 60 credits, will be transferred from the Sandwich award to the two-year 'with Advanced Research' programme.
- Students are responsible for securing their own placement. Students are usually required to secure their placement by the end of April in order to process the necessary paperwork to facilitate embarkation on the placement with sufficient time to complete the 36* weeks of full-time work required. Students who do not secure a placement in this timescale will be transferred from the Sandwich award to the two-year 'with Advanced Research' award.
- To gain the 'Sandwich' award, students must complete the 120 taught credits, successfully complete a 36-week* placement, and pass both the Professional Work Placement and Professional Placement Portfolio modules. Students who do not successfully complete the placement and associated module assessments will be offered the award 'MSc International Business', where the requirements of that award have been met.

*Please note the minimum placement period has been temporarily changed to 30 weeks for the 20/21 academic year due to the Covid 19 situation. See UPR11 2.4.1 for the situation in subsequent years

https://www.herts.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/232504/AS11-Schedule-of-Awards.pdf

- The award of an MSc International Business with Advanced Research requires 240 credit points passed at Level 7, including the second year Advanced Business Research and Professional and Consultancy Skills.
 - The 'with Advanced Research' route is a stand-alone route and also an alternative route for students who were originally registered on the 'Sandwich route' but not academically eligible to progress to the Sandwich route or not able to secure a Professional Work Placement by the deadline given.
 - To qualify for the 'with Advanced Research' award, students must successfully complete the 30-credit Level 7 modules 'Advanced Business Research' and 'Professional and Consultancy Skills' irrespectively. Students who do not successfully complete these modules will be offered the award 'MSc International Business', where the requirements of that award have been met.
 - The award calculation for 'MSc International Business with Advanced Research' will be based on an average of the best 150 of 180 grade-bearing credits on the programme; the remaining 60 credits gained from 'Advanced Business Research' and 'Professional and Consultancy Skills' are excluded from this calculation, as these modules are graded pass/fail (and feature as such on the award transcript).
- This programme has collaborative arrangements with Capilano University, Vancouver, Canada; the University of California, Riverside, USA, and Rangsit University, Thailand.

E. Management of Programme & Support for student learning

Management

The programme is managed and administered through:

- Dean of School and Deputy Dean of School
- Head of Information Business, Analysis and Statistics, who has delegated management responsibility for this programme
- A Programme Leader who is responsible for the day- to-day management of the programme
- An Admissions Tutor, with specific responsibility for open days and selection
- An International Admissions Tutor, with specific responsibility for selection of overseas students
- Administrators to deal with day-to-day administration associated with the programme
- Module Leaders who are responsible for individual modules
- A Programme Committee, the membership of which includes student representatives from each level of study and key members of the Hertfordshire Business School staff.

Support

Students are supported by:

- A Programme Leader
- The de Havilland Hu
- Centre for Academic Skills Enhancement (CASE)
- Student representative on Programme Committees
- A designated administrative team
- An Induction week at the beginning of the academic session
- Overseas Orientation
- StudyNet, a versatile on-line inter-active intranet and learning environment
- Access to extensive digital and print collections of information resources
- Attractive modern study environments in Learning Resources Centres
- A substantial student centre that provides advice on issues such as finance, University regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support etc.
- Office of Dean of Students, incorporating Chaplaincy, Counselling and nursery
- Medical centre
- English support classes, including Academic Business English sessions aligned with a core module
- A Mathematics Drop-in Centre
- An Equal Opportunities Officer
- The Students' Union
- Guided student centred learning through the use of StudyNet
- A Careers Service for all current students and graduates
- University Disability Advisors

F. Other sources of information

In addition to this Programme Specification, the University publishes guidance to registered students on the programme and its constituent modules:

- A Programme (or Student) Handbook;
- A Definitive Module Document (DMD) for each constituent module;
- A Module Guide for each constituent module.
- StudyNet Virtual Learning Environment

The [Ask Herts](#) website provides information on a wide range of resources and services available at the University of Hertfordshire including academic support, accommodation, fees, funding, visas, wellbeing services and student societies.

As a condition of registration, all students of the University of Hertfordshire are required to comply with the University's rules, regulations and procedures. These are published in a series of documents called 'University Policies and Regulations' (UPRs). The University requires that all students consult these documents which are available on-line, on the UPR web site, at: <http://www.herts.ac.uk/segreg/upr/>. In particular, [UPR SA07](#) 'Regulations and Advice for Students' Particular Attention - Index' provides information on the UPRs that contain the academic regulations of particular relevance for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students.

In accordance with section 4(5) of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (HERA), the UK Office for Students (OfS) has registered the University of Hertfordshire in the register of English higher education providers. The Register can be viewed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/>. Furthermore, the OfS has judged that the University of Hertfordshire delivers consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students. It is of the highest quality found in the UK. Consequently, the University received a Gold award in the 2018 Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes (TEF) exercise. This award was made in June 2018 and is valid for up to 3 years. The TEF panel's report and conclusions can be accessed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/teaching/tef-outcomes/#/provider/10007147>.

G. Entry requirements

The normal entry requirements for the programme are those with an honours degree (at least 2:2 or equivalent) in any discipline, a degree equivalent professional qualification or appropriate work experience.

For current entry tariff point requirements, please refer to the relevant page for the Course on the University website or on the online prospectus.

The programme is subject to the University's Principles, Policies and Regulations for the Admission of Students to Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes (in [UPR SA03](#)), along with associated procedures. These will take account of University policy and guidelines for assessing accredited prior certificated learning (APCL) and accredited prior experiential learning (APEL).

If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact:
Programme Leader, Dr Xiangping Du, x.du1@herts.ac.uk

If you wish to receive a copy of the latest Programme Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report (AMER) and/or the External Examiner's Report for the programme, please email a request to AQO@herts.ac.uk

MSc International Business & MSc International Business (Sandwich) & MSc International Business with Advanced Reserach

Table 2: Development of Intended Programme Learning Outcomes in the Constituent Modules

This map identifies where the programme learning outcomes are assessed in the constituent modules. It provides (i) an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the programme aims (ii) a checklist for quality control purposes and (iii) a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the programme progresses.

		Programme Learning Outcomes (as identified in section 1 and the following page)																	
		Knowledge & Understanding						Intellectual Skills			Practical Skills			Transferable Skills					
Module Title	Module Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
Finance for International Business	7BSP1245	x	x	x	x	x			x		x			x					
Business Research Methods	7BUS2002	x						x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x
Marketing Across Cultures	7BSP1271	x		x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x		x			x
The Global Economy	7BSP0353	x	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x				x
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011	x	x	x					x		x	x		x		x			x
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355	x	x			x			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
International and Comparative HRM	7BSP1303	x		x	x				x	x			x	x	x				x
Major Research Project	7BSP1357	x	x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Optional Modules (in italics)																			
<i>Global e-Business</i>	<i>7BSP1172</i>	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<i>Leadership & Management in International Business</i>	<i>7BSP1355</i>	x			x				x			x	x	x	x			x	x
And for the Sandwich Award																			
Preparation for the Workplace	7BSP1317								x										
Professional Work Placement (enrolled on to support the work placement)*	7BSP1336						x		x										x
Work Placement Portfolio (the module portal to which the final Work Placement report is submitted)	7BSP1318						x		x										x
And for the 'with Advanced Research' award																			
Advanced Business Research	7BSP1371	x						x		x	x	x	x		x				x
Professional and Consultancy Skills	7BSP1372					x			x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x

KEY TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding	Practical Skills
<p>A1- Critically review theory and theoretical approaches to research</p> <p>A2- Examine debates and new insights into the challenges faced by organisations engaging in international business</p> <p>A3- Analyse the changing global context of business activities</p> <p>A4- Research and evaluate alternative ways of managing organisations engaging in international business</p> <p>A5- Assess the generation and implementation of creative responses to internal tensions and environmental change</p> <p>A6- Build contextual knowledge of managerial and operational aspects of international business through a substantive work placement experience</p>	<p>C1- Apply quantitative skills for the analysis of business situations</p> <p>C2- Make effective use of communication and information technology</p> <p>C3- Collect relevant information through research into international business and management issues</p>
Intellectual Skills	Transferable Skills
<p>B1- Evaluate the relevance and identify the meaning of available information</p> <p>B2- Apply theory and information in the critical analysis of business situations pertaining to international business problems</p> <p>B3- Synthesise findings into appropriate forms in order to evaluate decision alternatives in an international business context</p>	<p>D1- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing, using a range of media including the preparation of business reports</p> <p>D2- Work effectively within a multicultural team</p> <p>D3- Present and support an extended argument</p> <p>D4- Reflect on individual learning</p> <p>D5- Show awareness of self and others, including ethical and organisational values</p> <p>D6 – Examine and apply advanced skills in business research</p>

Section 2

Programme management

Relevant QAA subject benchmarking statements	Business and Management (2015)
Type of programme	Taught Postgraduate
Date of validation/last periodic review	October 2018
Date of production/ last revision of PS	March 2021
Relevant to level/cohort	Level 7 entering September 2021
Administrative School	Hertfordshire Business School

Table 3 Course structure

Course details		
Course code	Course description	HECOS
BSMIB	MSc International Business MSc International Business Sandwich	100080
BSMIBARM	MSc International Business with Advanced Research	100080

Table 3:
MSc International Business

		Assurance of Learning Goals and Criteria																	
		1. Professionalism, Employability and Enterprise			2. Learning and Research Skills			3. Intellectual Depth, Breadth and Adaptability			4. Respect for Others			5. Social Responsibility			6. Global Awareness		
Module Title	Module code	1.1	1.2	1.3	2.1	2.2	2.3	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2	4.3	5.1	5.2	5.3	6.1	6.2	6.3
The Global Economy	7BSP0353																x	x	x
International Business Strategy	7BSP0355		x					x	x	x				x					
International Supply Chain Management	7BSP1011			x	x	x	x												
Marketing Across Cultures	7BSP1271	x													x				
Leadership and Management in International Business	7BSP1355										x	x	x			x			