

**Programme Specification for Undergraduate Programme
Leading to:
BSc International Business
BSc International Business with Placement**



*Applicable for all undergraduate students **starting at FHEQ Level 4** on or after 1st September 2021*

<u>Version No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Notes – QA USE ONLY</u>	<u>QA</u>
1	July 2021	Programme Specification created for 2021/2 Accreditation details updated – AACSB added	WEA

Undergraduate Programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home college/department/division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences, Brunel Business School
4. Contributing college/department/division/ associated institution	LBIC for Alternative Foundation Year and FHEQ Level 4 (see section 25)
5. Programme accredited by	Accredited by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) for the purpose of exemption from some professional examinations through the Accredited degree accelerated route. The Brunel Business School is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	BSc (Hons) International Business (FHEQ Level 6) BSc (Hons) International Business with Placement (FHEQ Level 6)
7. Programme title	BSc International Business
8. Programme type (Single honours/joint)	Single Honours programme
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	3 years FT; 4 years thick sandwich Where students commence their programme in an Alternative Level in LBIC, the normal length stated above will vary as follows: Foundation Year September commencement: + 1 year Foundation Year January commencement: + 9 months Foundation Year May commencement: + 5 months FHEQ Level 4 September commencement: no change FHEQ Level 4 January commencement: -3 months FHEQ Level 4 May commencement: -7 months
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	Normal length of programme (as defined above in 9) + 3 years
11. Variation(s) to September start	None for Standard Levels; See document “Validated Programme Element Specification for LBIC First Year University Studies in Business and Management”, document “Validated Programme Element Specification for LBIC Foundation University Studies”, and document “Validated Programme Element Specification for LBIC Gulf-Sponsored Generic Foundation Year Studies” for Alternative Level entry points
12. Modes of study	Standard
13. Modes of delivery	Full time; Thick sandwich

14. Intermediate awards and titles with FHEQ Level of Award	Certificate of Higher Education in Business and Management (FHEQ Level 4) Diploma of Higher Education in International Business (FHEQ Level 5) Diploma of Higher Education in International Business with Placement (FHEQ Level 5)
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	BSc (Ord) International Business (FHEQ Level 6) BSc (Ord) International Business with Placement (FHEQ Level 6)
15. UCAS Code	N120 (3 year); N121 (4 year)
16. HECOS Code	100080
17. Route Code	N100UINTBUS
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design.	QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards. Most Recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement - Business and Management Brunel 2030 Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the ' Managing Higher Education Provision with Others ' page. School staff's participation in formal and informal academic networks Staff teaching and research interests
19. Admission Requirements	Details of entry requirements are provided on the University's and College website. Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's language requirements pages.
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	N/A
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 2. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 2 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A
22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	Link to programme information on the College website

23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

This International Business programme aims to equip students with knowledge, skills and innovative solutions in dynamic international business environment. Reflecting Brunel Business School's mission, it intends develop students into creative, curious and pro-active leaders, who will take on real world challenges by applying critical thinking and analytical skills within the global economy. Graduates of this programme will be able to enact socially responsible and sustainable business practices internationally and become global citizens with a respect and understanding of diversity.

- (i) To offer students a programme of international business and management studies that is attractive, stimulating and designed to meet their evolving needs and aspirations, academically and vocationally;
- (ii) To equip graduates with the broad background and the analytical and conceptual skills, knowledge and understanding of business administration, management processes and international relations required by professional managers to understand and address the problems of complex, fast-changing business activities and organisations within the global economy;
- (iii) To help students develop transferable intellectual, vocational and interpersonal skills appropriate to careers within for example multinational corporations, NGOs, multilateral international organisations or international law firms.
- (iv) To help students develop the capacity and the desire to engage in lifelong learning in whatever direction their careers may subsequently develop.
- (v) To help students explore and critically reflect on their development of personal and business skills during their placement (4 years thick sandwich).

24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding, cognitive (thinking) skills and other skills and attributes in the following areas

FHEQ Level	Learning Outcome	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
4		
	Understand how to critically analyse and question sources and how to report and reflect upon them.	MG1062 MG1011 MG1054 MG1600
	Demonstrate an understanding of effective written communication.	MG1062 MG1011 MG1054 MG1600
	Recognise the use of a variety of information and data sources relevant to business and management activities.	MG1062 MG1011 MG1054 MG1600 MG1016
	Comprehend the structure, culture and practice of business and management	MG1062 MG1011 MG1051 MG1054 MG1600
	Demonstrate a knowledge and comprehension of socially responsible, ethical and sustainable business and management practices.	MG1062 MG1011 MG1051 MG1054 MG1600 MG1016
	Understand the fundamentals of national and international market economies and the forces that shape the operating environments of organisations, nationally and internationally	MG1062 MG1011 MG1051 MG1054
5		
	Apply and analyse the fundamentals of national and international market economies and the forces that shape the operating environments of organisations, nationally and internationally	MG2012 MG2049 MG2128 MG2133 MG2137
	Apply ethical principles, theoretical and practical characteristics of business organisations including their structures, cultures and major administrative processes to business practices in an international context	MG2012 MG2049 MG2128 MG2133 MG2137 MG2555
	Applying the various theories, models, frameworks, managerial tasks, roles and critical analytical processes of decision-making in the major functional areas of international business management	MG2012 MG2049 MG2128 MG2133 MG2137 MG2555
	Communicate advanced ideas, concepts and convincing arguments in formal presentations or in written report	MG2012 MG2049 MG2128 MG2133 MG2137 MG2602 MG2555

	Application and critical analysis of a variety of information and data sources relevant to selected, specialist topics relating to business in an international context.	MG2012 MG2049 MG2128 MG2133 MG2137 MG2602
	Critically reflect and analyse the work placement context and the development of personal and business skills during the work placement (for students on a 4-year thick sandwich mode).	MG2555
6		
	Evaluating national and international market economies and the forces that shape the operating environments of organisations, nationally and internationally	MG3009 MG3110 MG3604 MG3038 MG3113 MG3603 MG3602
	Evaluate the ethical, theoretical and practical characteristics of business organisations including their structures, cultures and major administrative processes in the international context	MG3009 MG3110 MG3604 MG3038 MG3113 MG3603 MG3602
	Evaluate and synthesise various theories, models, frameworks, managerial tasks, roles and analytical processes of decision-making in the major functional areas of international business with real world business cases/situations to suggest creative and ethical solutions	MG3009 MG3110 MG3604 MG3038 MG3113 MG3603 MG3602
	Critical analysis and evaluation of a variety of information and data sources relevant to selected, specialist topics relating to business in an international context.	MG3009 MG3110 MG3604 MG3038 MG3113 MG3603 MG3602
	Communicate complex ideas, concepts and convincing arguments in formal presentations or in written reports	MG3009 MG3110 MG3604 MG3038 MG3113 MG3603 MG3602
	Use a variety of data sources relevant to international business activities (including library and electronic information facilities) and apply a synthesis of quantitative and qualitative methods and data analysis to address real business world issues and/or challenges to the conduct of the Final Year Project	MG3603

Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

With regards to “Knowledge and Understanding”:

We offer a structured curriculum that (i) stresses the importance of personal initiative, enthusiasm and positive study habits (ii) emphasises the value of developing knowledge and skills progressively from one level of study to the next, and (iii) encourages personal learning and development through managed choice, and flexibility via core modules in key areas combined with options modules at FHEQ Level 6 that allow students to personalise their studies.

Modules typically combine weekly lectures supported by a series of small group seminars, whilst some provide workshops and/or a tutorial component. Some modules make use of two hour participatory lecture sessions, in which learning is facilitated through an appropriate range and mix of learning opportunities that include lecture, group work, individual work, case study and break-out format. Large class sizes in core modules require modern, audio-visual teaching aids and electronic delivery of teaching materials. Thus, students learn quickly how to access on-line materials provided and how to make the best use of databases and search engines.

Seminars provide small-group contact with the chance to review, discuss and debate topics. They frequently require students to make informal presentations to the peer group and the tutor, individually or as part of a team.

Visiting speakers, video materials and other devices balance theory and practice in the quest for a stimulating learning environment.

Blackboard Learn will be utilised extensively to deliver materials and communicate with students, and to facilitate discussion and collaboration among students. Blackboard Learn will be the medium through which students will be kept informed of their progression; it will also be pivotal in achieving additional programme aims with respect to assessment (integrity, security, transparency, etc.) and, monitoring and review

With regards to “Cognitive (Thinking) Skills”:

Cognitive skills are generally co-developed with subject-specific knowledge. Some modules at each Level address analytical and critical thinking skills in particular, whilst others cover the acquisition and application of qualitative and quantitative data.

From one study level to another we expect students to demonstrate an increasing ability to understand, analyse, critique, compare, evaluate, synthesise and apply ideas, concepts and theories (not merely to reiterate facts), and to show evidence of learning via critical, questioning reflection on outcomes and experience. We encourage critical interaction and debate between lecturers and students and among students.

We place increasing emphasis on the demonstration of cognitive skills in presentations and written work. These skills come together in the conception and execution of the research-oriented FHEQ Level 6 Project.

With regards to “Other Skills and Attributes (Practical/Professional/Transferable)”:

Learners are assisted in managing and taking responsibility for their learning by ensuring that the support that they are given is responsive to their changing needs and abilities as they progress through their studies. Greater support is provided in the early stages of learning (at FHEQ Level 4) in order to provide guidance and support that will be the foundation for less teacher-led and more student-directed learning during later stages. This early support will take the form of more small-group classroom-led work at FHEQ Level 4 than at FHEQ Level 6, an effective induction programme (at the beginning of the autumn term of FHEQ Level 4) and FHEQ Level 4 coursework targeted specifically at helping learners to adapt to the demands of degree-level study.

At FHEQ Levels 4, 5 and 6 various modules cover inter alia methods of data collection and research relevant to business. Some work is required to be presented electronically, to ensure relevant computer literacy. Some modules at all three levels require teamwork, including group presentations, where interpersonal skills are refined.

The work Placement is a major opportunity for students to learn to work effectively as part of a team whose members may have diverse backgrounds, technical awareness and expertise, seniority and aspirations, to demonstrate and refine their IT skills and their ability to perform both routine and one-off (project) tasks and responsibilities.

The final year Project also requires a major enhancement in individuals' task-oriented, project management skills, typically involving primary and secondary research via contacts outside the University.

Summative assessment strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated

With regards to “Knowledge and Understanding”:

Forms of assessment are geared to evaluate individual capabilities in relation to each module's aims and content. Knowledge assessments comprise formal examinations, written coursework assignments such as individual essays, reports and case study analyses, multiple-choice questionnaires and other tests, group reports, presentations and the final year Project.

Coursework, remains vital for students to receive feedback that helps them understand and apply concepts and theories appropriately and critically. Modules contain an examination component, unless assessment solely by coursework is justified by module aims and content. Where we suspect plagiarism, we will follow University policies strictly, using oral examinations and software search programmes to establish the provenance of doubtful work.

Assessments are designed to appraise individual capabilities fairly and consistently. We use clear, descriptive assessment guidelines (made available to students) to grade coursework and examinations and to aid classification. Lecturers use explicit schema to facilitate consistency of marking within and between modules and to ensure good feedback on individual performance. All examinations and coursework assessments that contribute to degree classifications are subject to scrutiny by the External Examiners.

With regards to “Cognitive (Thinking) Skills”:

From one level to the next, assessments are increasingly designed to test analytical and other cognitive capabilities in relation to particular module aims and content. Coursework and examination assignments place considerable emphasis on individuals’ ability to think and reason critically, but constructively. Coursework assignments such as individual essays, reports, case study analyses, individual and group-based reports and presentations and various technique-oriented assessments are used to test these skills.

The final year Project is the capstone demonstration of these various skills, requiring students to conceive, justify, design in detail and execute a substantial piece of academic research. For the most able students the Project can generate work of a standard appropriate for submission to practitioner and academic journals in business and management.

With regards to “Other Skills and Attributes (Practical/Professional/Transferable)”:

At every Level we place high value on students being able to demonstrate effective communication in its various forms. This priority is reflected not only in how assignments are specified, but also in how they are marked - good command of written and spoken English is vital for work placements and for graduate employment. Students are set tasks to predetermined deadlines and are penalised for non-conformance to encourage time management skills.

Some modules have a teamwork requirement and in some there are group assignments, accessed via presentations and reports.

All group assignments allow for an element of individual assessment, in order to recognise differences in individual performance where appropriate. Peer feedback can also play a role in team activities and is encouraged.

Work placement learning is assessed through a graded report requiring a reflective, critical and conceptually grounded analysis of the placement context and experience.

25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an ‘option range’. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade D- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at D- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB3000 Project (40)

Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at D- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)

Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)

Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade D- or better, but must be better than a grade F, in order to progress and to be eligible for the final award.

Foundation Year
The Foundation Year structure available to international students is specified in document “Validated Programme Element Specification for LBIC Foundation University Studies”. The Foundation Year structure available to Gulf-sponsored students is specified in document “Validated Programme Element Specification for LBIC Gulf-Sponsored Generic Foundation Year Studies”. These documents also specify the admission and progression requirements.

FHEQ Level 4	
Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit	Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits
Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume	Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume
Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits All blocks are 20 credits MG1011 Introduction to Management Enquiry MG1016 Managing Information with Technology MG1051 Organisational Behaviour and Analysis MG1600 Introduction to Accounting & Financial Management MG1054 International Business Environment MG1062 Principles and Practice of Marketing	Optional modular block codes, titles and credits
An alternative FHEQ Level 4 structure for international students is specified in document “Validated Programme Element Specification for LBIC First Year University Studies in Business and Management”. This document also specifies the admission and progression requirements.	
FHEQ Level 4 Progression and Award Requirements	
As per Senate Regulation 2	

FHEQLevel 5	
Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credits	Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits
Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume	Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume
MG2554 Preparation for Placement and a Graduate Career (0 credits)	

<p>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>All blocks are 20 credits</p> <p>MG2012 Economics for Business and Management</p> <p>MG2049 Entrepreneurship and Marketing in Business</p> <p>MG2128 International Business in Emerging Markets</p> <p>MG2133 Human Resource Management and its International Dimensions</p> <p>MG2137 International Relations</p> <p>MG2554 Preparing for Placement and a Graduate Career</p> <p>MG2602 Quantitative Methods for Business and Management</p>	<p>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>FHEQ Level 5 Progression and Award Requirements</p> <p>As per Senate Regulation 2</p>	

<p>FHEQ Level 5 – Sandwich Placement</p>	
<p>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>	<p>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>	<p>Optional study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>
<p>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>This block is a requirement only for 'with Placement' awards.</p> <p>MG2555 Work Placement (120) Core: Block</p>	<p>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>FHEQ Level 5 Placement Progression and Award Requirements</p> <p>As per Senate Regulation 2</p> <p>For BSc International Business With Placement, MG2555 will contribute 1/3 of the FHEQ Level 5 profile and 11% of the overall degree calculation.</p>	

<p>FHEQ Level 6</p>	
<p>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>	<p>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>	<p>Optional study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>

Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits	Optional modular block codes, titles and credits
<p>All blocks are 20 credits unless otherwise specified</p> <p>MG3009 Entrepreneurship and Small Business Ventures Core: Block</p> <p>MG3110 International Business Strategy</p> <p>MG3604 Issues and Controversies in International Business Studies (40 credits) Core: Block</p>	<p>All blocks are 20 credits</p> <p>40 credits from:</p> <p>MG3038 International Marketing</p> <p>MG3113 Business Ethics, Environmental Sustainability and Governance</p> <p>MG3603 International Strategic Innovation Management</p> <p>MG3602 Globalisation, Trade and Investment</p>
<p>FHEQ Level 6 Progression and Award Requirements</p>	
<p>As per Senate Regulation 2</p>	
<p>For BSc International Business with Placement, MG2555 will contribute 11% of the overall degree weighting.</p>	

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a 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 learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.