

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH MODULE RECORD

SECTION A: DEFINITIVE MODULE RECORD. *Proposed changes must be submitted via Faculty/AP Quality Procedures for approval and issue of new module code.*

MODULE CODE: MLA718

MODULE TITLE: MBA Dissertation

CREDITS: 60

FHEQ LEVEL: 7

HECOS CODE(S): 100078

PRE-REQUISITES:

CO-REQUISITES:

COMPENSATABLE: N

SHORT MODULE DESCRIPTOR:

The module provides students with the opportunity to undertake a work-based research project in which you demonstrate the acquisition of the knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities appropriate to the award of the MBA degree. It progresses a robust understanding of business and management theories and industry practices whilst accounting for future management linked to sustainable development.

ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT					
E1 (Examination)	N/A	C1 (Coursework)	90%	P1 (Practical)	10%
E2 (Clinical Examination)	N/A	A1 (Generic assessment)	N/A		
T1 (Test)	N/A	O1 (online open book assessment)	N/A		

SUBJECT ASSESSMENT PANEL to which module should be linked: MLA College

Professional body minimum pass mark requirement: N/A

MODULE AIMS:

This dissertation aims to build on prior relevant graduate employment experience, normally a minimum of 2 years (QAA, 2015), and prior level 7 learning:

- Through provision of a supervised framework for self-led individual research-based academic study of live or critically theoretical complex business or management issues or specific problem relevant to the pathway subject area
- Through the requirement for structured communication of students':
 - systematic understanding and critical awareness of relevant knowledge;
 - application of appropriate investigative techniques to acquire data and information;
 - presentation and analysis of findings, in terms of relevance and validity;
 - critical evaluation that synthesises extant knowledge and their own findings;
 - ability to conclude robustly and reliably their work within the context and reach of the focus of their study.

ASSESSED LEARNING OUTCOMES: (additional guidance below; please refer to the Programme Specification for relevant Programme Intended Learning Outcomes).

At the end of the module the learner will be expected to be able to:

Assessed Module Learning Outcomes (ALOs)	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs) contributed to
<p>At the end of the module the learner will be expected to be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Act autonomously to plan and manage advanced research and scholarship in the discipline 2. Use a combination of general and specialist business knowledge to creatively and innovatively develop existing or emerging theories and practices 3. Apply appropriate theoretical and practical methods to the design and development of business solutions 4. Evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in relevant areas and topics 5. Communicate research findings effectively, in a manner suitable for a wide audience 	<p>8.5.1, 8.5.2</p> <p>8.4.1, 8.4.2</p> <p>8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.1.3</p> <p>8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3</p> <p>8.3.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.3</p> <p>Shown above are the predominant PLO's contributed to by the AMLO. However, it should be noted that due to the one 60 credit module approach, there is some overlap of the AMLO's contributing broadly to a number of PLO's.</p>

DATE OF APPROVAL: 07/2020	FACULTY/OFFICE: Academic Partnerships
DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION: 2020/2021	SCHOOL/PARTNER: MLA College
DATE(S) OF APPROVED CHANGE:	SEMESTER: AY
MODE OF DELIVERY: distance learning	

Additional Guidance for Learning Outcomes:

To ensure that the module is pitched at the right level check your intended learning outcomes against the following nationally agreed standards

- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf>
- Subject benchmark statements <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>
- Professional, regulatory and statutory (PSRB) accreditation requirements (where necessary e.g. health and social care, medicine, engineering, psychology, architecture, teaching, law)
- QAA Quality Code <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

SECTION B: DETAILS OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

Items in this section must be considered annually and amended as appropriate, in conjunction with the Module Review Process. Some parts of this page may be used in the KIS return and published on the extranet as a guide for prospective students. Further details for current students should be provided in module guidance notes.

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2022-23**NATIONAL COST CENTRE: 133****MODULE LEADER: Dr Richard Stones****OTHER MODULE STAFF: TBA****Module Structure**

The module begins with 'taught' e-learning Chapters covering Advanced Techniques in Research Methods (including Business and Scientific Writing Skills), Project Management and Leadership and Statistics. This includes evaluation of literature, data analysis, statistical and modelling techniques; along with planning, writing and presenting a complex research project. The e-learning course materials for these lectures are delivered through MLA's Total Learning Package (TLP). Formative Assessments are required during the first 16 Weeks and are detailed in the marking proforma document; these will be discussed further by your supervisor. Between Weeks 6 – 12 you will be required to submit the Forum Task and Peer Review, and your Dissertation should be submitted by Week 49, with the Presentation taking place between Weeks 49 and 51 (subject to timetabling).

Summary of Module Lectures

- Research Methods
 - Models of Teaching and Learning
 - Science, Science Writing, and the Scientific Method
 - Business and the Business Method
 - Evaluating Sources of Literature
 - Referencing
 - Data Presentation
- Project Leadership
- Project Management
- Sustainable Management and UN SDG's
- Statistics

SUMMARY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING [Use HESA KIS definitions]

Scheduled Activities	Hours	Comments/Additional Information (briefly explain activities, including formative assessment opportunities)
Lectures (online) to support scientific research project	10	Indicative figures for distance learning. All lectures are available on TLP and follow the outline as shown in the Summary above
Tutorials	10	Building on consolidated learning both from an individual and group perspective. This will be done through digital video platforms as well as the Discussion Forum on TLP
Seminars	5	Building on consolidated learning both from an individual and group perspective. This will be done through digital video platforms as well as the Discussion Forum on TLP
Guided independent study	575	Formative tasks are required during the first 16 weeks and are detailed in the marking proforma in Module Handbook
Total	600	(NB: 1 credit = 10 hours of learning; 10 credits = 100 hours, etc.)

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Form of assessment: Formative	% of credit	Duration/length	PILOs	Due Date
Pre-Dissertation Proposal ¹	0	Abstract, Literature Review, Methodology and Health and Safety ²	8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.5	Week 16

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Element Category	Component Name	Component Weighting
Coursework	Forum Task and Peer Review	10%
	Submitted Dissertation - Thesis	90%
Practical	Presentation	100%

Form of assessment: Summative	% of credit	Duration/length	PILOs	Due Date
Forum Task and Peer Review	10	c 250-300 words. Abstract and Title ²	8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.5	Weeks 6 -12
MBA Dissertation	80	c 12000 words Thesis ²	8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5	End of Week 49
Presentation	10	30 - 40 Minutes Plus 20 Minutes Q&A ^{2,3}	8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5	Weeks 49 - 51

REFERRAL ASSESSMENT

In case of not passing the Dissertation, students may be offered the chance of referral and the format is:

Element Category	Component Name	Component Weighting
Coursework	Revised Dissertation - Thesis	100%
Practical	Revised Presentation	100%

To be completed when presented for Minor Change approval and/or annually updated

Updated by: Date:	Approved by: Date:
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