

Programme Specification

MSc Project Management Postgraduate Diploma Project Management Postgraduate Certificate Project Management

<i>School:</i>	York Business School
<i>Subject area:</i>	Business Management
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2020-21
<i>in the month(s) of:</i>	January, April, July, September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	Online Distance Learning
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Postgraduate Certificate Project Management Postgraduate Diploma Project Management
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Subject Benchmark Statement for Business Management (June 2015) Master's degree characteristics (September 2015)
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	MA Non-standard period of study as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-year full-time online distance learning• 18 months part-time fast track online distance learning• 3-year part-time structured online distance learning <p>Postgraduate periods of study¹ for full-time / part-time apply for the PGCert and PGDip</p>
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with foundation year</i>	No
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No
<i>Placement year opportunity:</i>	No

Introduction and special features

Project management is fundamental to successful implementation of strategic change in any organisation. The York Business School MSc in Project Management is designed to develop your academic skills in modelling and evaluating the process of project management, allowing you to develop strategic and practical approaches in a wide variety of business environments. You will gain a broad understanding of the principles and practice of project management and the tools and techniques required to contribute to business effectiveness. The programme is designed to provide you with a broad knowledge of strategic and operational processes and techniques associated with project management. The programme offers opportunities to explore and evaluate key theories of project management, bringing together relevant contemporary academic theory, research and concepts as well as encouraging creative and innovative thinking. You will explore issues that have significant impact within organisations by working with others and building on both their experiences and your own.

This programme will be delivered online. This online initiative recognises trends towards independent ways of learning and virtual forms of communicating, whilst maintaining the known benefits of sharing and disseminating experience in a group. Consequently, much of the learning is developed through the establishment of online collaborative learning communities of programme participants and tutors and you will become part of that community of learning. Your understanding is developed around the key skills, processes and practices of project management. Solutions to real problems are suggested, discussed and analysed within the learning community with the support of tutors and fellow learners.

The programme is international in its design and engages with themes on an international basis. Many different cultural contexts will be utilised to help provide the setting for discussions. The distance learning element provides opportunities to grow global networks virtually, as well as creating an environment for cross cultural peer to peer learning.

Special features of the programme include:

- Flexible approach to enable you to make the best use of your time
- Online lectures, specially tailored to help you develop your critical thinking and innovative skills
- Opportunity to work with a range of experienced managers and professionals, both as tutors and peers
- Assessment methods used to mirror organisational based activities
- Provides a supportive platform for critical reflection, through reflecting on the application of academic theories to real work situations
- Participation in active and supportive forums drawing on practical expertise

Admissions criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [postgraduate](#) study. In addition, you must have:

- A Bachelor's degree or equivalent, achieved at Class 2:2 or above, from an approved University or Institution
- or
- Current or recent work experience (within the last two years) appropriate to enable you to contribute to the programme

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Accredited Prior \(Experiential\) Learning \(APL/APEL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aim(s)

The overall aim of the programme is to develop your critical understanding and self-awareness of the issues relating to project management. You will be supported as you:

- Develop critical awareness and understanding of the key concepts of project management, organisational strategy, and national and organisational culture
- Develop the ability to connect theory with practice in creative and innovative ways and reflect upon the learning involved as well as the outcomes
- Develop critical awareness and understanding of the impact that project management, strategy and culture can have within organisations
- Develop and enhance life-long learning skills and personal development in order to work with self-direction and originality

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 7

- 7.1 Demonstrate in-depth, specialist knowledge and mastery of techniques relevant to the study of organisational strategy and project management
- 7.2 Demonstrate an advanced and critical understanding of concepts, information, tools and techniques informed by knowledge at the forefront of the study of contemporary project management issues within the context of society
- 7.3 Demonstrate a systematic, integrated and critically aware understanding of project management
- 7.4 Critically reflect and evaluate theoretical knowledge of project management and other approaches to managing change within an organisational setting
- 7.5 Formulate a critical awareness of current issues in project management informed by contemporary research and practice
- 7.6 Demonstrate a deep knowledge and critical understanding of organisations, context and response to changes in the global business environment
- 7.7 Extrapolate information critically and creatively utilising appropriate decision-making techniques in order to extract meaning and understanding, solve problems, and identify and evaluate options in a world of uncertainty and imperfect information
- 7.8 Design, conduct, analyse and disseminate an extended independent piece of research or business-related project from inception to completion

Programme structure

This programme will be delivered online. The programme is designed to be roll-on and, to facilitate this, the taught modules are delivered in a linear order and students may commence the programme in September, January, April and July.

Full-time distance learning delivery (1 year)

Code	Level	Term	Title	Credits	Module status	
					compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
MBP7001M	7	1	Managing Projects and Programmes	20	C	X
MBP7002M	7	2	Strategic Project Management	20	C	X
MBP7006M	7	2	Risk and Issue Management	20	C	X
MBP7004M	7	2	Project Leadership and Team Management	20	C	X
MBP7003M	7	1	Project Planning, Control and Analysis	20	C	X
MBP7005M	7	1	Project Commercial Management	20	C	X
MBB7010M	7	3	Capstone Project	60	C	NC

Part-time example distance learning delivery (18 months)

Code	Level	Year	Term	Title	Credits	Module status	
						compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
MBP7001M	7	1	1	Managing Projects and Programmes	20	C	X
MBP7002M	7	1	2	Strategic Project Management	20	C	X
MBP7006M	7	1	3	Risk and Issue Management	20	C	X
MBP7004M	7	1	2	Project Leadership and Team Management	20	C	X
MBP7003M	7	1	1	Project Planning, Control and Analysis	20	C	X
MBP7005M	7	1	3	Project Commercial Management	20	C	X
MBB7010M	7	2	1-2	Capstone Project	60	C	NC

Part-time example distance learning delivery (3 years)

Code	Level	Year	Term	Title	Credits	Module status	
						compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
MBP7001M	7	1	1	Managing Projects and Programmes	20	C	X
MBP7002M	7	1	2	Strategic Project Management	20	C	X
MBP7006M	7	1	3	Risk and Issue Management	20	C	X
MBP7004M	7	2	1	Project Leadership and Team Management	20	C	X
MBP7003M	7	2	2	Project Planning, Control and Analysis	20	C	X
MBP7005M	7	2	3	Project Commercial Management	20	C	X
MBB7010M	7	3	1-3	Capstone Project	60	C	NC

NB all modules are non-compensatable for the PGCert

Learning, teaching and assessment

The programme delivery is based on principles of adult learning, recognising that participants are likely to bring a large amount of experience and knowledge to the group, and can share this with each other. The style of the programme is participative, and resources for learning explicitly include the knowledge, experience and skills of all participants and staff.

Some participants may not have been engaged in formal education for some time, and may never have studied social sciences at postgraduate level: support with study skills, conventions of academic analysis and writing will be available for you from the first module, and will continue throughout the programme.

A key part of the philosophy of the programme is that by bringing together relevant academic theory and practical experience, you can enhance your deep understanding of these elements, and develop yourself as an individual and as a leader.

All modules are delivered utilising a range of online teaching, learning and assessment strategies including online video lectures, discussion forums and tutorials. All modules are assessed through a programme of work undertaken whilst studying for the MSc. Video lectures and associated learning materials are used as a foundation for discussion in online forums. This is a dynamic area with wide ranging discussions. Sometimes this is tutor-led and sometimes participant-led, with the oversight of the tutor. As in the classroom, some participants learn best through energetic engagement in debate, while others best through occasional contribution and personal reflection. Everyone has their own learning style and it is one of the strengths of online provision that each person can learn in the way that is most appropriate for them.

A range of assessment tools are used including reports, critical essays, portfolios and video presentations. Each module tutor will provide opportunities for formative assessment feedback to inform your work prior to submission. You will receive detailed feedback on assessment to help you develop and continuously improve your performance whilst on the programme. Advice will be provided in relation to development, further areas for research and guidance on how to enhance your subject knowledge.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's general [regulations](#) for postgraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

Postgraduate Certificate in Project Management

Students can exit with a Postgraduate Certificate in Project Management upon successful completion of any three taught modules and the accumulation of a total of 60 credits.

Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management

Students can exit with a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management upon successful completion of all six taught modules and the accumulation of a total of 120 credits.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- York St John University General Regulations for Postgraduate Awards
- QAA Master's degree characteristics (September 2015)
- Principles for Responsible Management Education (Prime): Inspirational Guide for the Implementation of Prime

Date written / revised: 19/03/19

Programme originally approved: June 2019