

QUALITY ASSURANCE DOCUMENT QA3 – PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Programme Code	TBC					
2. Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Project Management with Foundation Year					
3. Target Award Title	BSc (Hons) Project Management					
4. Exit Award Title(s)	BSc Project Management Dip HE Project Management Cert HE Project Management Foundation Certificate					
5. Subject area	Business					
6. School	School of Project Management					
7. Programme Team Leader(s)	TBC – Level 4 TBC – Level 5 TBC – Level 6					
8. Programme Type	Specialist					
9. Delivery Model	DL F/T	X	BL F/T	X	Apprenticeship	
	DL P/T	X	BL P/T	X	Other	X
Where delivery model identified as 'Other' please provide details	Standalone module study					
10. Location of delivery	All BL centres, DL					
11. Proposed Start date	May 2022					
12. Reference points	QAA benchmark statements, business and management (2019) UK Quality Code (2018) FHEQ level 4, 5 & 6 descriptors (2014) FHEQ classification level 6 descriptor (2019)					
13. Professional, Statutory & Regulatory Bodies (PSRB)	Association for Project Management (APM) Chartered Management Institute (CMI)					

14. Programme aims

This programme aims to equip students with a knowledge and understanding of the key project functions and how these interrelate within the wider strategic and operational context. Students also be given the opportunity to develop a range of generic and specialist skills applicable to the contemporary projects environment.

To achieve these overarching aims, students will:

- Comprehend the role and purpose of projects in the wider programme, portfolio and business environment.
- Critically analyse the theory and practice relating to the role of project management within organisations.

- Develop and evaluate effective solutions and plans to respond to business challenges and problems.
- Develop a critical understanding of complex project environment.
- Critically analyse and apply knowledge of project management theory and models to complex issues, both systematically and creatively, to improve business and management practice;

15. Programme Entry Requirements

To be eligible for our BSc (Hons) Project Management with Foundation Year, applicants must have:

At least 3 x GCSEs OR 45 credits at Level 2 or equivalent – if qualifications are older than 3 years Arden would also ask to see a professional CV.

Applicants may be considered based on a minimum of 12 months of professional work experience evidenced with a CV and Reference if they do not meet the qualification requirements.

Candidates are required to submit a personal statement (of between 350-550 words) or attend an interview demonstrating an ability to study for the programme. This statement should include:

- Motivation for undertaking study
- Why the applicant has chosen the particular programme
- Any long-term goals or career aspirations

For students whose English is not their first language, IELTS 6.0 (no less than 5.5 in any element); or TOEFL iBT 80; or equivalent.

16. Graduate Attributes:

The concept of the Arden University Graduate based upon the definition of “graduate attribute” by Bowden et al (2000) has been developed around 6 attributes:

- 01 Discipline Expertise
- 02 Effective Communication
- 03 Responsible Global Citizenship
- 04 Professional Skills
- 05 Reflective Practitioner
- 06 Lifelong Learning

The Means by which Graduate Attributes are Achieved and Demonstrated

1 - Discipline Expertise: achieved through and demonstrated through:

- Gathering, sharing, and consolidating relevant theory via self-study, peer to peer exchanges and discussions, tutor feedback, case study analyses, independent study, and practical applications
- Drafting, constructing, and commenting upon business documents and applications

- Adopting a research informed approach to learning, assessments, and individual and collaborative exercises
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- 2 - Effective Communication: achieved and demonstrated through:
- Participation in team-based activities and tasks
 - Online collaborative exercises, discussions, and presentations
 - Peer to peer exchanges and feedback
 - Tutor feedback discussions
 - Collaborative case study analyses
- 3 Responsible Global Citizen: achieved and demonstrated through:
- Identifying regulatory and ethical issues applicable to accounting and finance
 - Reflecting upon “best practice” approaches and strategies
 - Evaluating accepted business practice, codes of conduct and protocols
 - Exploring international case studies
- 4 Professional Skills: achieved and demonstrated through:
- Drafting, constructing, and commenting upon business “work products,” systems and policies
 - Participating in “mock” business practices and situations including role plays and business simulations
 - Critiquing own outputs and assessments
 - Diagnosing business problems
- 5 – Reflective Practitioner: achieved and demonstrated through:
- Reflecting upon exercises and tasks
 - Reflecting upon case studies and business simulations
 - Formulating PDPs and personal SWOT analyses
- 6 – Lifelong Learning: achieved and demonstrated through:
- Developing a foundational knowledge of developments in business and management
 - Developing a personal development plan (PDP) and career strategy

17. Learning, teaching and assessment methods and strategies

The programme draws upon an eclectic mix of teaching methods and assessment strategies. Teaching strategies and assessments methods are based around blended and online interventions.

Learning and Teaching

In line with Arden University’s “digital first” teaching focus, interventions are enriched and enhanced by the deployment of a range of digital assets including: specialist software, simulations, discussion fora, social media channels, collaborative tools, webinars and e-presentation software.

Teaching is designed to engage and inspire students via a range of innovative activities and retains a “real world” focus using interventions such as contemporary case studies and industry data sets. Teaching is largely student led; learners are expected to take ownership of their own learning journeys, reflect upon the teaching interventions, datasets, case and

study materials and act upon tutor feedback as they develop their knowledge of and skills in business management.

Teaching activities may require students to work both collaboratively and individually, analyse case studies, participate in simulation exercises, devise solutions to “real world” problems by producing “work products”, exchange peer to peer feedback and reflect upon their own work experiences (where applicable). Teaching is enriched by a programme of industry guest lectures.

Assessment

The assessment strategy similarly centres on a strong alignment with real world organisational and business practice and embraces a range of assessment methods including work related products, presentations, portfolios, reflections, time constrained assessments, report writing and case studies. Students are expected to apply knowledge and theory explored in the modules and produce assessments that simultaneously focus on real business situations and indicate the requisite levels of academic rigour required at levels 4 – 6.

The programme culminates in the submission of the independent study assessment that builds upon content examined and skills developed in the taught modules.



18. Intended programme learning outcomes and the means by which they are achieved and demonstrated		
Learning outcomes	The means by which these outcomes are achieved	The means by which these outcomes are assessed
At the end of this course you, the student, will be able to:		
<p>0. Foundation</p> <p>Fd1. Use factual, procedural and theoretical understanding to complete tasks</p> <p>Fd2. Apply knowledge and understanding to basic, non-complex situations to solve problems</p> <p>Fd3. Demonstrate a range of core academic skills to support study at undergraduate level</p> <p>Fd4. Use effective written communication skills in a variety of tasks which are suitable for a specified audience</p>	<p>Through an integrated learning and teaching pedagogy that includes both asynchronous and synchronous activities drawing upon a range of academic and professional body source materials; students thus have multiple opportunities to gather knowledge of core concepts. (LOs 0, 1, 2,3, 4, 5, 6 & 8) (GA1)</p> <p>Throughout the programme, the student is encouraged to develop intellectual skills further by undertaking further independent study and research, i.e., in addition to “directed study” and learning. (LOs 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8) (GA5 & 6)</p> <p>Analysis of real-world cases; using diagnostic skills to evaluate business and organisational performance and effectiveness. (LOs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8) (GA4,6)</p> <p>Independent and directed student study, supported throughout by comprehensive classroom based and online multi-media teaching materials, activities, simulations, and resources. (LOs 0, 1, 2, 3, 5 6 & 8) (GA1)</p>	<p>Formative Feedback – informal</p> <p>Students will have multiple informal opportunities to receive formative feedback as they navigate the programme. The Arden virtual learning environment (VLE) is highly interactive and features embedded tools to facilitate peer to peer and student to tutor discussion opportunities, examples include discussion fora, interactive exercises and activities, self-assessment tools and reflective activities. (LOs 0-8) (GAs 1 – 5)</p> <p>Formative opportunities – formal</p> <p>As well as the plentiful opportunities for informal feedback, formative occasions will also be scheduled:</p> <p>Students will be given opportunities</p>
<p>1. Identify the key skills, technologies and competencies required to lead and manage projects in the</p>		



contemporary organisational environment.	Discussion in class and online forums where students discuss and critically engage with themes emerging from the materials they learn from; this might include business problems, case studies, simulations, datasets, and industry reports.	to share draft sections of assessments with tutors and (in some modules) peers to garner feedback and guidance. This feedback can then be incorporated in submissions for the summative assessments. Students may also be able to draft plans and outlines for assessment items and receive tutor and peer feedback in a similar manner.
2. Analyse external organisational environments and influences.	(LOs 0, 1, 2,3, 4, 5, 6 & 8) (GA2,4)	
3. Apply the principles of project management in a range of context	Problem solving and diagnostic skills are developed throughout the programme by formative assessment tasks including problem analyses, drafting business documents and reports, analysing case studies, ethical dilemma exercises, data analyses and self-assessments.	
4. Develop a critical understanding of the role and purpose of project management and how they relate and interact with the wider environment.	(LOs 0, 2, 5, 6 & 8) (GA1, 4, 5)	(LOs 0-6) (GAs 2 & 5)
5. Identify and analyse relevant and robust business solutions to meet the challenges presented by the contemporary business environments.	Engaging in reflection on study activities such as: feedback (peer and tutor), cases, academic texts and articles, activities, and simulations. Practical business skills are further developed and integrated through a series of in-class and online activities intended to test practical ability, these can include group forums and activities, drafting business documentation, engaging in simulation exercises and informal peer assessment.	The virtual learning environment (VLE) enables students to engage in targeted online discussions relating to specific aspects of the programme modules, for example, project risks, quality management and social responsibility. Students are encouraged to not just post discussion items in the relevant fora but also to ensure they comment on posts uploaded by their peers.
6. Evaluate project management practices and identify areas of strength, weakness and concern	(LOs 4, 7 & 8) (GA5)	(LOs 0-6) (GAs 2 & 5)
7. Develop a set of generic “life” skills including, self-awareness and management, research, argumentation, numeracy, critical thinking, and analytical ability.	Group discussions and exercises in class and on the online forum promoting argumentation, listening, leadership and team working skills. (LOs 5, & 7) (GA1, 2 & 4)	Students will have access to



<p>8. Evaluate project management methodologies and make appropriate, justified choices</p>	<p>Considering employability and career development options, strategies, and challenges by conducting self-audits, personal SWOT analyses and developing personal development plans. (LOs 1, 7 & 8) (GA3, 5 & 6)</p>	<p>academic staff in all the modules they study. These staff include subject matter experts (lecturers) and study support tutors. Students are invited to attend synchronous learning activities relating to both these areas (academic content and study support) including online lectures, guest lectures, webinars, and other activities. They will also have opportunities to arrange one to one meeting, normally conducted via video conferencing software, where they can discuss specific areas of concern with the tutor(s) (LOs 0-8, GA2 & 3).</p>
<p>GA1 Discipline Expertise Knowledge and understanding of chosen field. Possess a range of skills to operate within this sector, have a keen awareness of current developments in working practice being well positioned to respond to change.</p> <p>GA2 Effective Communication Effectively communicate both, verbally and in writing, using a range of media widely used in relevant professional context. Be IT, digitally and information literate.</p> <p>GA3 Responsible Global Citizenship Understand global issues and their place in a globalised economy, ethical decision-making, and accountability. Adopt self-awareness, openness, and sensitivity to diversity in culture.</p> <p>GA4 Professional Skills Perform effectively within the professional environment. Work within a team,</p>		<p>Summative assessments used on the programme include:</p> <p>Reflections and development plans (GA6)</p> <p>Producing “work type products” (LOs 0,1,2 & 5) (GAs 1-4)</p> <p>Case study analyses (LOs 0 -5) (GAs 3 &4)</p> <p>Individual presentations</p>



<p>demonstrating interpersonal skills such as effective listening, negotiating, persuading and presentation. Be flexible and adaptable to changes within the professional environment.</p> <p>GA5 Reflective Practitioner Undertake critical analysis and reach reasoned and evidenced decisions, contribute problem-solving skills to find and innovate in solutions.</p> <p>GA6 Lifelong Learning Manage employability, utilising the skills of personal development and planning in different contexts to contribute to society and the workplace.</p>		<p>(LOs 0,1,2 & 5) (GAs 2 & 4)</p> <p>Group assignments and presentations (LOs 1,2 & 5) (GAs 2 & 4)</p> <p>Reflections (LOs 2,3,4, 7 & 8)</p>
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19. Summary of modules and mapped programme learning outcomes

Level	Module title	Module type <i>Compulsory (C)</i> or <i>Optional (O)</i>	Identified pinned modules	LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	LO 4	LO 5	LO 6	LO 7	LO 8	GA1	GA2	GA3	GA4	GA5	GA6	
L4	Business Research Methods and Analysis	C	P		X	X		X		X		X		X		X		
	Business Consulting	C	P		X			X		X			X		X		X	
	Principles of Procurement and Contract Management	C			X		X	X	X	X		X	X					
	Governance in a Global Business Environment	C		X	X		X		X	X				X			X	
	Introduction to Project Management	C		X	X	X		X	X		X	X			X			
	Digital skills & professional development	O		X				X		X								X
	Technology and Innovation	O		X	X			X		X		X						X
	L5	Advanced Project Management	C	P	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X				
	Agile and Hybrid Project Management	C	P	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		



	Project Justification	C			X	X	X	X	X		X			X			
	AI and Big Data Analytics	C		X	X			X	X	X							X
	Project Planning	C		X		X	X		X	X	X		X		X		X
	Digital & Social Media Marketing	O			X			X		X				X			
	Operations & Supply chain management	O			X			X		X			X		X		
L6																	
	Project Change and Control	C	P	X		X		X	X			X	X				
	Quality Management	C	P	X	X	X		X	X								
	Project Risk and Issue Management	C		X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X			
	Developing People and Capabilities (PMQ)	C		X			X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X
	Final Project	C		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X

Mapping of Programme Learning Outcomes and Modules – Level 3

Programme Learning Outcomes		Module Type	Fd1	Fd 2	Fd 3	Fd 4
Modules						
Level 3	Academic Skills Practice	C	X	X	X	X
	Introduction to Numeracy, Data & IT	C	X	X	X	
	Ethics, Working Collaboratively & Values	C	X	X		
	Introducing Research Skills	C	X	X		X
	Structure of Business	C	X	X		
	Technology in Organisations	C	X	X		