

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

THE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION FOR THE BSc (HONS) IN INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT WITH AMERICAN BUSINESS STUDIES

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

UCAS Code	Award	Programme Title	Duration	Mode of study
N2T7	BSc (Hons)	BSc (Honours) in International Management with American Business Studies	4 Years	Full Time
	BSc (Ord)*	BSc (Ordinary) in International Management with American Business Studies	4 Years	Full Time
	Diploma**	Management	2 Years	Full Time
	Certificate***	Management	1 Year	Full Time

* Students are not permitted to transfer to an Ordinary route throughout the course of their studies. If a student does not meet the requirements of an Honours degree, then it is the decision of the Finals Examination Board as to whether an Ordinary degree is awarded. See <https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myassessment/RegulationsforUGawards.aspx>

**A Diploma of Higher Education will be awarded to a student who:

Successfully completes Year 2 but terminate their studies at this point; or

Has exhausted all the opportunities to retrieve failed assessment, subject to the accrual of the appropriate number of credits. See

<https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myassessment/RegulationsforUGawards.aspx>

*** A Certificate of Higher Education will be awarded to a student who:

Successfully completes Year 1 but terminate their studies at this point; or

Has exhausted all the opportunities to retrieve failed assessment, subject to the accrual of the appropriate number of credits. See

<https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myassessment/RegulationsforUGawards.aspx>

School	Alliance Manchester Business School
Faculty	Humanities
Awarding Institution	The University of Manchester
Programme Accreditation	N/A (Individual course units may receive accreditation from relevant professional bodies)
Relevant QAA benchmark(s)	Business and Management

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

2. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme aims to:

01.	enable students to acquire state of the art knowledge and understanding of the field of management^ with a specialisation in the international aspects of management
02.	promote the exchange of students between the home and carefully chosen overseas partners to enable students to experience management teaching and learning within a different cultural environment to that of the home institution
03.	provide an educational experience both at home and overseas which will facilitate and promote students' intellectual development and life-long learning skills
04.	appraise students of important new developments in the field of management
05.	enable students to develop appropriate practical and transferable skills
06.	provide a high quality management programme in the home institution and access to a high quality management programme abroad.

^ The term 'field' is used as a composite to signify a range of management-related subjects covering the breadth of research and teaching activities at Alliance Manchester Business School.

3. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

	A. Knowledge & Understanding At the end of the Programme students should be able to:
A1.	understand the 'core' disciplines of the field of management (e.g. accounting, economics, marketing, operations management)
A2(I).	understand subject specific theories, ideas, issues and practices relating to general management
A2(II).	understand subject specific theories, ideas, issues and practices relating to American business and international management
A3.	understand management as a dynamic field, as located in a complex historical, social and international context
A4.	understand developments in business and management.

	B. Intellectual Skills At the end of the Programme students should be able to:
B1.	apply higher-level cognitive skills, including analysis, synthesis and evaluation.
B2.	utilise both qualitative and quantitative problem-solving skills.
B3.	address arguments/ideas through multiple perspectives.
B4.	identify inter-relationships between the subject matter of management and integrate these as a coherent whole.

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

	C. Transferable/Key Skills and Personal Qualities At the end of the Programme students should be able to:
C1.	articulate ideas and arguments with clarity, conciseness and rigour both orally and in writing
C2.	learn independently
C3.	manage time and prioritise workloads
C4.	use IT skills
C5.	operate effectively as a member of a group or team.
C6.	operate effectively in an overseas environment

4. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Summary of curriculum structure

The programme is studied over four years full-time, the third year in an overseas partner institution in the US or Canada. Students take course units worth a total of 120 credits per year at Alliance MBS, and a broadly equivalent workload in the overseas partner.

The first year of the programme is a foundation year in which you learn the basic disciplines and try out subjects to assist with optional course choices for the second and final year. In the second year, students take a compulsory full year (20 credits) course unit that covers the economic, financial and legal systems of North America, and also includes business and labour history. In addition, students take a further 20 credits of designated international courses as well as management courses to achieve 120 credits. The third year is spent abroad at a partner institution studying business and management in the US or Canada - Students will commit 75% of their study to the study of management and business and the remaining 25% may be taken in cultural or language options. In the final year students study course units amounting to a total of 120 credits from the Alliance MBS Management menu, at least 60 credits of which should be selected from the list of approved internationally focused course units. The remaining choices are free, subject to the student having fulfilled the pre-requisite requirements.

Year 1: 120 credits

The first year is a groundwork year in which you build a solid basis of knowledge and capabilities in the disciplines which underpin management education. These disciplines are internationally recognised, and common to most business schools - whether in Britain, North America or elsewhere. So, for this year, you follow course units in common with students on the BSc Honours degree in Management and International Management, to the same rigorous standards as they do. You also start your Personal Development Plan (PDP), designed to help you to assess your own skills, set goals for improvement, record your achievements and reflect on your experiences during your studies. In year 1, this forms part of your summative assessment for BMAN10780 Academic and Career Development.

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

More information is provided about PDPs via

<https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myprogramme/Howyourlearningissupported/PersonalDevelopmentPlan%28PDP%29.aspx>

All courses across the first year are compulsory. Students take five ten credit compulsory course units in semester one and start a full year compulsory 10 credit course unit. In semester 2 students continue with the full year 10 credit course unit and take a further six compulsory course units.

In semester one and two, the Quantitative Methods seminars are split into two: one for the 'X' group, who have A level Mathematics or equivalent, and one for the 'Y' group who have GCSE Mathematics.

Course outlines for all of your first year course units are available via My Manchester at <https://my.manchester.ac.uk>

The full first year programme structure is available at:

<https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myprogramme/Coursechoicesprogrammestructures/Programmestructures.aspx>

Year 2: 120 credits

Students take American Society and Economy (20 credits) which covers the economic, financial and legal systems of North America, and also includes business and labour history. You also take a further 20 credits of designated international courses. You choose additional management courses to make up 120 credits for the year.

Availability of options changes from year to year and pre-requisites/co-requisites apply. Full details are available via My Manchester at <https://my.manchester.ac.uk>

You also continue with your Personal Development Plan.

The full second year programme structure is available at:

<https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myprogramme/Coursechoicesprogrammestructures/Programmestructures.aspx>

Year 3 (Abroad)

By the end of the first two years, you should be fully prepared to embark on your third year abroad studies at one of our partner institutions. It is important that you achieve good grades during your first two years. In particular, passing the first year is essential and your performance may be taken into account during the allocation process. You should set yourself high standards, achieve them and continue with this approach at your third year abroad institution, where you will be studying business and management at one of the carefully chosen partners in the US and Canada.

Information for Year Abroad

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

Please refer to the workload requirements for your year abroad which can be found at <https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myprogramme/ExchangesforIMandIMABS/Meetingsandforms.aspx>

Opportunities to apply for travel awards, scholarships etc may be available from time to time. When available, information will be posted on the Undergraduate intranet and appropriate students will be informed by email.

Please note that you are required to submit a feedback form to the Alliance MBS Undergraduate International Office following your year abroad.

Allocation to places in Partner Institutions

Students will be asked to indicate their preferred institutions by ranking destinations in order of preference. It is important to bear in mind that the number of places is fixed, and since there may be several students who would ideally like to attend the same institution, students should not commit psychologically or otherwise to a specific institution, but should think instead of a range of acceptable destinations. The aim is to place students as high as possible up their personal ranking and to ensure that places are taken up across all our partner institutions. Where a large number of students have chosen the same destination, the written statement and first year performance will be taken into account. Partner institutions have been selected in relation to their academic profile and the education provided. Each institution and location has its own particular characteristics.

The decision of the Programme Director is final.

The selection process above makes clear that students must be flexible about their choice of partner institution. The University of Manchester and Alliance MBS are sympathetic to students with special requirements (e.g. disability, religious belief etc) and will try to ensure that all reasonable requests are taken into account when year abroad places are allocated. We cannot guarantee that special provisions can be made by a partner institution. Students should notify the Programme Director of any special requests as soon as possible. It may not be possible to prioritise students if requests are received late.

Year 4/Final Year: 120 Credits

Students take course units amounting to 120 credits, of which at least 60 credits must be from international management course units marked with an asterisk below. Availability of options changes from year to year and pre-requisites/co-requisites apply.

Availability of options changes from year to year and pre-requisites/co-requisites apply. Full details are available via My Manchester at <https://my.manchester.ac.uk>

You also continue with your Personal Development Plan.

Students are encouraged to undertake a dissertation on an international topic, as this is

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

a good link between your studies abroad and the final year course units. Students may undertake a BSc in Management-style dissertation as part of their free choice credits provided they do not also undertake an international dissertation.

The full final year programme structure is available at:

<https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myprogramme/Coursechoicesprogrammestructures/Programmestructures.aspx>

The contact hours policy for full time Alliance MBS Manchester based programmes is available at:

<https://intranet.mbs.ac.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=EzDDGoFp9pw%3d&tabid=84&mid=572>

5. CURRICULUM PROGRESSION: INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR EACH YEAR

Year	Intended learning outcomes
<p>Year 1 (Certificate of Higher Education) Students who successfully complete the first year of study but terminate their studies at this point will be awarded a Certificate of Higher Education</p>	<p>To enable students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * understand the fundamentals of the 'core' disciplines of the field of management (e.g. accounting, economics, marketing, operations management) * understand basic qualitative and quantitative research in Management * use basic IT skills * manage resources and time * learn effectively and independently * utilise basic qualitative and quantitative problem-solving skills * begin to work effectively as a member of a team or group
<p>Year 2 (Diploma of Higher Education) Students who successfully complete the second year of study but terminate their studies at this point will be awarded a Diploma of Higher Education</p>	<p>To enable students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * understand subject specific theories, ideas, issues and practices relating to general management, American business and international management * understand developments in business and management * understand management as a dynamic field, located in a complex historical, social and international context * address arguments/ideas through multiple perspectives * operate effectively as a member of a group or team. * articulate ideas and arguments with clarity, conciseness and rigour both orally and in writing
<p>Year 3</p>	<p>To enable students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * understand subject specific theories, ideas, issues and practices relating to general management, American business and international management within a North American context * understand management as a dynamic field, as located in a complex historical, social and international context from a North American perspective

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

	<p>* identify inter-relationships between the subject matter of management and integrate these as a coherent whole within an international context.</p> <p>* operate effectively in an overseas environment.</p>
Year 4	See Programme Learning Outcomes

6. **STUDENT INDUCTION, SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT** (in order to deliver the year learning outcomes)

Student Induction

- Pre-induction information, arrival packs and a formal one-week induction programme for first year students (note – ongoing induction is carried out via BMAN10780 Academic and Career Development throughout the whole of the first year). This includes a Programme Director and PSS staff meeting, an Alliance Manchester Business School Introduction to Undergraduate Services event, Alliance MBS Student Fair, Coach tour of Manchester, completion of Health & Safety Course, Alumni/Careers Panel discussion, administrative sessions, Introduction to Academic and Career Development lecture, Unismart lecture, student mentor meetings and an end of Welcome Week party.

- Induction activities for returning second and final year students.

- Supporting information on Alliance MBS online undergraduate handbook for all new and returning students and 'My Undergraduate Guide' brochure for all new students.

Student Support and Development

- Comprehensive Online Undergraduate Handbook available at <https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Home.aspx>

- Academic Advisor for first year students: All first year students are allocated an academic advisor who will remain their advisor (wherever possible) for the full duration of their studies and will support on their academic development. Regular contact between student and academic advisor is embedded within BMAN10780 Academic and Career Development course via alternate week seminars which will take place throughout the full academic year. It is expected that students and academic advisors will engage either face to face (via regular office hours), by telephone, email or through Blackboard in the weeks where no seminar is taking place.

-Academic Advisor for second and final year students: In building on the relationship developed between Academic Advisor and students in the first year seminar sessions, International Management with American Business Studies students will remain with their original Academic Advisor (wherever possible). Formally recorded sessions will take place throughout the academic year between Academic Advisor and student with a focus on academic guidance as required (registration for course units, plagiarism, essay writing, preparation for exams, time management etc), encouraging students to complete their PDP and update and further develop their CV, writing references on request, gauging feedback on the student experience and understanding where and when to refer students on to other sources of assistance.

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

- Dedicated Undergraduate Assessment and Student Support Centre in Alliance MBS offering advice, guidance and support on any issues that affect a student's ability to study.
- Disability support: Details are provided in the online undergraduate handbook.
- Dedicated International and Placement Team with staff whose role it is to help students prepare for life at their host institutions by providing assistance, advice and guidance and to support students during their third year abroad.
- Meetings with Programme Director and International and Placement Team staff to discuss the choice of overseas institutions and the application process.
- The opportunity to meet with final year students who have returned from the year abroad and to talk to exchange students from our partner institutions.
- Dedicated Undergraduate Centre in Alliance MBS, providing Programme Offices and Administrative staff for all programmes.
- Student Representatives: serve on the Programme Committee, Undergraduate Committee and Student/Staff Liaison Committee, aiding in the decision-making processes which affect student experience. Student Representatives also attend a focus group in each semester to provide feedback on Alliance MBS Undergraduate processes. Further details are provided in the online undergraduate handbook.
- Student Peer Mentor Scheme: Details are provided in the online undergraduate handbook.
- Personal Development Planning: Personal Development Plans (PDPs) are aimed at helping students develop their awareness of generic transferable and subject-specific skills and are aimed at helping to improve independent learning and provide a record of academic learning and achievement. For all first year students, the PDP will form part of the summative assessment on BMAN10780 Academic and Career Development. PDPs for returning second and final year students will continue to be linked to academic advisor sessions throughout the programme of study. Students will meet with their academic advisor in a series of meetings to concentrate on the development of the PDP and further development of their CV. Students can then arrange individual meeting with their academic advisor as necessary.
- Extensive library, computer and other learning resources.
- The first year course BMAN10780 Academic and Career Development is intended to support and develop students throughout their first year of study by incorporating study skills sessions, academic advisor contact and the opportunity for students to undertake an early piece of formative assessment which is marked by the academic advisor. Written feedback will be provided on this piece of work, as will be the opportunity to discuss this further face to face with the academic advisor.
- IT Skills sessions offered at central IT Services. Details in the online undergraduate handbook.
- Mathematics surgeries for first year students.
- Case competitions: Opportunity for involvement in business case competitions, e.g. Copenhagen Business School, University of Southern California, McGill.
- Employability/Careers planning: The School ensures a range of opportunities for students to develop their employability and career planning skills both within and outside of the

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

curriculum. Students on IMABS will have the opportunity to develop career management planning skills as part of their 1st year Academic and Career Development course unit. All undergraduate full course unit descriptions include an employability section which highlights to students the transferable/employability skills they develop as part of each specific course unit. The School also ensures that students have access to a variety of tailored events that enable them to further their career aspirations, including: alumni/networking sessions, employer drop in sessions, successful applications session, applying for and securing an internship session, postgraduate student options session. Alliance MBS also has many links with many employers and students are encouraged to attend talks and seminars provided by employers. For some, these will be included within the curriculum (i.e. guest lectures) and for others these will be organised by Alliance MBS affiliated societies or by the Careers Service/Alliance MBS. Students are also encouraged to attend the University Careers Service and any presentations which may have particular interest to IMABS students.

7. PROGRESSION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Details of progression rules are included in the Online Undergraduate Handbook <https://ughandbook.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Myassessment/RegulationsforUGawards.aspx>

Date of original production:	June 2004
Date of current version:	September 2015