

Students in Public exemplar details

Faculty, School and Subject Area: AMBS

Course Unit/activity: BMAN30180 Consultancy Project

Course Unit Director/activity leader: Kate Barker, Julian Bond

Consultancy Project

Unit code : BMAN30180

Credit rating : 30

Teaching period(s) : Full year

Aims

The course unit aims to develop an awareness of the issues in developing and implementing a consultancy project in an organisational context and an appreciation of how business and management knowledge taught in other parts of the degree programme can be applied to practical situations. It aims to give deep practical experience of working in a team and delivering a live project to a local third sector or not-for-profit organisation. Through this experience the course unit aims to develop employability skills to a high level, including self-awareness, understanding of team dynamics and organisational change and personal development. The course unit provides the opportunity to learn essential skills and work with a live project under the close guidance of MBS academics.

Objectives (Learning outcomes)

After successful completion of this course unit students will have:

- Understood the organisational development cycle and how consultancy projects are designed, implemented and adopted
- Applied academic knowledge and literature to problem formulation and analysis
- Designed and delivered a project solution for the organisational need
- Developed the ability to critically assess the organisational implications of project development and implementation

- Developed experience of self-managed learning and managing team work
- Developed report writing skills to a high standard
- Developed a very good awareness of their skill sets and work environment attributes
- Developed their presentation skills to a very high standard.

Assessment methods

Coursework only. There is no examination for this course unit.

First group presentation 30 minutes 20% (all students to present)

Final group report 8,000 words maximum not including appendices 50%

20% of the mark for the final report to be allocated by student led assessment. This requires students to submit a form for peer assessment of the effort and contribution of each team member and a brief statement of their own effort and contribution. Each group to submit also a brief diary report summarising the implementation of the project by the team members of up to 2 pages.

Final group poster with presentation 15 minutes 10%

Individual essay (a reflective piece) 2,500 words maximum 20%

Information

Other staff involved: Careers Service, other academics from the IMP division, Directorate for the Student Experience (Student Development and Community Engagement Division)

Programme Restrictions: Available to final year Management, IM and IMABS students. However, the maximum number on this course is 30.

To apply for a place on this course you must complete the application form here:

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

Your application may set out any previous experience in project groups but the main criterion for selection is the students' motivations to work in a group delivering a live project for a client, so experience is not necessary.

Timetable

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

For Academic Year 2017/18

Updated: March 2017

Approved by: March UG Committee

Course unit overview

After an introductory session, the unit begins with interactive sessions with the Careers Service to raise students' interviewing and assessment centre skills to a higher level. Further sessions with the lecturers expand on performing and delivering management consultancy, using the organisation development cycle. The sessions address skills of problem definition, qualitative and quantitative methods and report writing for consultancy. Project management and SMART objectives are covered. Students examine such topics as values, personal style, Meyers Briggs Type Indicator, negotiation and influencing skills, team working, team roles, reflective practice and resilience. Presentation skills are developed to a high level. The projects are introduced before reading week in Semester 1 when students select their projects and groups and meet their clients. After an interim presentation and report at the end of Semester 1, project work continues until the final presentations and report at the end of Semester 2.

Blackboard will be the central resource for lecture materials and further readings.

Teaching staff

No available data to display.

Timetable

Fieldwork - 20 hours

Lectures - 44 hours

Seminars - 8 hours

Teaching and learning methods

Methods of delivery - lectures and interactive sessions, group work, visits to the organisations.
Semester 1: 11x 2 hours lecture/interactive sessions, 8x1 hour tutorials
Semester 2: 22 hours mixed between interactive sessions and group tutorials

Private study: both individual and in groups, delivery of events 228

Meetings with the external organisations (clients for the projects) approx 20 hours

Total study hours: 300 hours split between lectures, classes, self-study and preparation for classes, coursework and examinations.

In semester 1 the class meets weekly for lectures and interactive sessions which cover most of the course content, while the students draw up the scope of the project which they present as the interim project report and presentation in weeks 11 and 12. Semester 1 is weighted at 10 credits.

In semester 2 there are 4x2 hour whole class sessions and 3 one hour tutorials for each group to report on progress and discuss delivery with the course tutors. The work is mainly on the group project itself. Semester 2 is weighted at 20 credits.

The two lecturers work together closely to monitor the groups so that they work effectively to deliver work of a very high standard for the client organisations.