Programme Information

Programme Title		Programme Code	HECoS Code
Master's of Research in Business		N1UQ	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
MRes	1 calendar year (12 years)	Full time	Annually in September	90	180
PGCert	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	60

The PG Certificate is an exit award and is not available for entry. You must apply to and join the MRes.

Ownership

Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Imperial College Business School
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	Imperial College Business School
Associateship	Diploma of Imperial College (DIC)	Main Location(s) of Study	South Kensington Campus

External Reference

Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points	Master's Awards in Business & Management
FHEQ Level	Level 7
EHEA Level	2nd Cycle

External Accreditor(s) (if applicable)

External Accreditor 1:	EQUIS		
Accreditation received:	2006	Accreditation renewal:	2030
External Accreditor 2:	AACSB International		
Accreditation received:	2012	Accreditation renewal:	2028

Collaborative Provision

Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date
London Business School	Module exchange	September 2021	Renewal due September 2024

Queen Mary University London	Module Exchange	September 2023	Renewal due September 2027

Specification Details

Programme Lead	Professor Alex Michaelides
Student cohorts covered by specification	2025-26 entry
Date of introduction of programme	September 15
Date of programme specification/revision	October 25

Programme Overview

The Master of Research (MRes) at Imperial in Analytics, Marketing and Operations is a one-year research-oriented postgraduate programme for individuals who hold an MSc level qualification (or exceptionally a BSc level) qualification and who may wish to progress to doctoral study. The MRes is considered a pre-requisite to our PhD programme.

You will select elective modules to familiarise yourself with the research frontier in your chosen area(s) of specialisation and develop independent research interests. There may be opportunities to choose electives from our partner institutions London Business School and Queen Mary University, or from other Business School programmes (subject to availability).

During the year, you will work on your MRes project, which can form the basis of later doctoral work.

You will be taught by faculty whose research interests address the major issues facing the world today, focussing on key themes in business analytics, design and management of processes across manufacturing and services sectors, marketing analytics, decision making and customer behaviour.

Imperial's research-oriented business school offers some of the most exciting and well-resourced environments in which to conduct the social science needed to address these major questions. Faculty are engaged in activities across disciplines, departments and faculties within the university through Research Centres that reflect the Business School focus. This places our Doctoral programme in a unique position, allowing university-wide research collaboration. You will be able to benefit from the Business School's location in one of the world's leading STEMMB Universities, with opportunities to take modules taught by faculty outside the Business School in the rest of Imperial.

The MRes is a stand-alone degree, although it constitutes for most individuals the necessary training for a planned PhD. Studentship funding is available for candidates with demonstrated potential for a successful research career for both the MRes and PhD programmes.

The MRes in Business (in the fields of Analytics, Marketing & Operations) is offered over 12 months full-time. It is the first year of the Business School's Doctoral programme which in total is a full-time, five-year programme. It is aimed at students seeking a career in Analytics, Marketing and Operations research.

The modules of the MRes provide a theoretical grounding and thorough research training for a solid foundation for an academic career.

Electives

You will study elective modules equivalent to 45 ECTS. These electives may include offerings from other Departments within Imperial and with external partners (subject to availability). The programme recognises the diversity of the students recruited to the programme, and the varying research interests and development needs of students admitted to the AMO department. You will be provided guidance by the Department Director on appropriate elective choices for your areas of research interest prior to the start of term.

MRes Research Project

During the year you will work on your MRes project which is formally assessed and counts towards the overall MRes mark. You are expected to approach potential supervisors from within the department's academic staff. Normally these would be confirmed by January.

Submission for your proposed research project title and a brief outline is due in early February, with a Progress Report due by mid May, outlining your progress to date with the dissertation. The final MRes dissertation will be submitted in early July, followed by an oral exam.

It may be possible for projects to be carried out partly or wholly at an external organisation and requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

Progression to the PhD

Progression to the PhD is not automatic. To progress from the MRes to the PhD, you must successfully complete the MRes with an overall average of 60% in the taught modules plus a minimum of 65% in the research project module. Those individuals who successfully complete the MRes programme but are required to re-sit more than one assessment or do not achieve the overall progression requirement would exit with the MRes award and only exceptionally be accepted onto the PhD.

Learning Outcomes

Students who have successfully completed the PG Cert will be able to:
- Demonstrate understanding of social science research methods and techniques relevant to their chosen discipline through assessed exams.

Students who complete the MRes programme successfully will be able to:
- Demonstrate understanding of social science research methods and techniques relevant to their chosen discipline through assessed exams and coursework
- Identify issues and research opportunities in their chosen discipline using the knowledge gained from their academic study
- Formulate research opportunities using their knowledge of theory and current work in their chosen area of research
- Select and apply the appropriate research methods and techniques for research in the areas of Analytics, Marketing and Operations and apply these to their own research projects, assignments and exams.
- Identify issues and new research opportunities in their chosen area of research that can be pursued at PhD level.

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at:
https://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/education/our-graduates/

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	Normally a UK Master's degree at merit or distinction, or equivalent, in a subject related to research interests. Exceptionally a UK honours degree at 1st or equivalent, in a subject relevant to research interests. The Business School does not award credit for Prior Learning (Recognition of Prior Certified Learning (RPCL) or Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL)).
Non-academic Requirements	All applicants will need to complete a personal statement which outlines their motivation for undertaking an MRes and their area of research interest. Applicants should submit GMAT/GRE test scores in 90th percentile. This equates to a GMAT score of 700/800 or higher, or for GRE, the different test elements scores in the 90th percentile roughly equate to: 165/170 in quantitative reasoning, 163/170 in verbal reasoning and 5/6 in analytical writing. GRE is the preferred test for students applying to the Operations pathways. Two references are also required.

English Language Requirement	**Higher requirement** IELTS score of 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all elements).
Admissions Test/Interview	Following application review, each eligible candidate is interviewed by two faculty members within the specified department. Interviewees are assessed on the following: 1. Capability: top-level intellectual capacity 2. Commitment: demonstrated serious intent and ability to pursue PhD studies on a full-time basis 3. Compatibility: research interests that are compatible with those of the research faculty Faculty provide a score out of 5 for academic excellence and fit with the department and interview feedback. Scores and feedback for all candidates are discussed with the Department Research Coordinators and Academic Director, and an offer list and waitlist are confirmed. Second interviews can take place with the Department Research Coordinators.

The programme's competency standards documents can be requested from the Business School's Education Quality Office.

Learning & Teaching Approach

Teaching
The programme combines academic rigour and practical relevance. There is a careful balance of teaching and learning, individual and group work. Case study methodology and class-based discussions are used to strengthen the conceptual, analytical and problem-solving skills of the participants in real situations. In addition, there are regular seminars by external expert speakers.

Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods
- Lectures
- Practical classes
- Equipment/technique demonstrations (e.g. Bloomberg, Datastream)
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Case studies
- Group work exercises
- Formal presentations
- Pre-programme on-line modules
- Individual Project

Independent learning
You are expected to spend significant time on independent study outside of face-to-face contact time. This will typically include accessing resources online, reading journal articles and books, undertaking research in the library, reviewing lecture notes and watching lecture recordings, working on individual and group projects, working on coursework assignments and revising for exams.

Overall Workload
Your overall workload consists of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each ECTS credit taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 2250 hours per year.

Typically, you will spend approximately 8% of your total study hours on lectures, seminars and similar, and the remainder of your time on independent study.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods

Modules will be assessed by one or more of the following types of assessment methods:
Participation
Peer review
Presentation
Project
Written Examination
Problem Sets
Term Paper
In Class Test
Literature Review
Article Critical Review
Weekly summaries
Research Proposal
Academic Articles
Essay questions
Research questions
Essay
Journal Entries
Referee Report

Assessed modules comprise coursework that is designed to help you master key elements of the subject and, in part, to help prepare you for the final assessment, which is typically a report or examination. Examinations are scheduled throughout the year, generally at the end of the term the module is taught or at the start of the subsequent term. The format of examinations may be written, computer-based or timed remote assessment. Modules will also contain opportunities for formative assessment where relevant.

Coursework weighting varies among modules. The various assessments allow you to demonstrate that you have met the intended learning outcomes for each module and these collectively contribute towards your achievement of the programme's learning outcomes, detailed above.

Assessments are designed to ensure that you have acquired the core knowledge and skills expected of a Business School graduate and that you are able to apply these in your career aspirations upon completion of the programme.

Feedback can take many forms. You will receive written feedback on all coursework along with other forms of feedback such as verbal feedback on presentations.

Academic Feedback Policy

Feedback can take many forms. During lectures and classes, you will receive verbal feedback on the ideas that you contribute to discussions and on in-class presentations. The online teaching materials contain exercises with built-in, immediate, feedback that is received when you submit an answer.

The School aims to provide feedback on coursework within two weeks. This will be sent in written form to the individual or the group, as appropriate. Academic staff may also provide verbal feedback of a general nature in class or posted to our virtual learning environment. Office hours offered on all modules also provide an opportunity for individual feedback.

The School aims to provide provisional examination grades twenty-five days from the end of the examination period. General feedback to the cohort is provided on examination performance, usually in written form. If you need to resit an examination, you may also approach the module leader for feedback on your performance in the first sitting.

You will be provided with a percentage grade for coursework and examinations with the final numerical mark only confirmed after the Board of Examiners Meeting and then released by Registry. Grades received during the year are deemed provisional until confirmed by the Final Board of Examiners.

Imperial's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Re-sit Policy

Imperial's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/
Mitigating Circumstances Policy
Imperial's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Additional Programme Costs		
This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.		
Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
None	N/A	N/A

Important notice: The Programme Specifications are the result of a large curriculum and pedagogy reform implemented by the Department and supported by the Learning and Teaching Strategy of Imperial College London. The modules, structure and assessments presented in this Programme Specification are correct at time of publication but might change as a result of student and staff feedback and the introduction of new or innovative approaches to teaching and learning. You will be consulted and notified in a timely manner of any changes to this document.

Programme Structure				
Year 1 – FHEQ Level 7 **You will complete the compulsory Research Project module, along with elective modules to the value of 45-47.5 ECTS. You will be provided guidance on appropriate elective choices for your areas of interest.**				
Code	Module Title	Compulsory/ Elective	Term	Credits
BUSI70462	Research Project	Compulsory	SP/SU	45
BUSI70163	Advanced Topics in Organisational Behaviour – suspended for 25.26	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70190	Applied Microeconometrics	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70192	Asset Pricing Theory	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70471	Consumer Behaviour	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70317	Corporate Finance	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70164	Corporate Sustainability	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70447	Decision Making Under Uncertainty	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70254	Digital Marketing Analytics – suspended for 25.26	Elective	SU	5
BUSI70193	Econometrics	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70194	Empirical Asset Pricing	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70561	Empirical Industrial Organisation	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70166	Entrepreneurship	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70450	Financial Economics of Climate and Sustainability	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70680	Foundations of Big Data and Machine Learning in Finance	Elective	AU/SP	7.5
BUSI70212	Healthcare & Medical Analytics	Elective	AU	5
BUSI70453	Industrial Organisation	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70167	Innovation Management	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70168	Interdisciplinary Research	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70260	Logistics & Supply Chain Analytics	Elective	SP	5
BUSI70573	Machine Learning and Text Analysis for Social Science	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70456	Machine Learning for Analytics	Elective	SP/SU	7.5
BUSI70344	Machine Learning in Economic Analysis – suspended for 25.26	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70560	Macroeconomics 1	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70668	Macroeconomics 2	Elective	SP	7.5

BUSI70458	Micro Development Economics	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70474	Macro-Finance – suspended for 25.26	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70196	Microeconomics I	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70198	Microeconomics 2	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70460	Optimisation	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70264	Optimisation & Decision Models	Elective	AU	5
BUSI70169	Organisational Behaviour	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70170	Organisational Theory	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70171	Qualitative Methods 1	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70172	Qualitative Methods 2	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70173	Quantitative Methods	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70174	Readings in Digital Business – suspended for 25.26	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70175	Readings in Social Networks: Social Capital – suspended for 25.26	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70265	Retail & Marketing Analytics	Elective	SP	5
BUSI70181	Special Topics in Organisational Theory and Strategy	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70464	Stochastic Processes	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70182	Strategy	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70468	Sustainable Behaviour – suspended for 25.26	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70330	Topics in Empirical Banking	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70340	Topics in Environmental and Resource Economics	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70576	Topics in Finance	Elective	AU/SP/SU	7.5
BUSI70331	Topics in Health Economics	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70341	Topics in Household Finance – suspended for 25.26	Elective	SU	7.5

	Elective modules delivered by London Business School and Queen Mary, University of London			

Year 1 – FHEQ Level 7
You may also choose to study elective modules with our approved partner institution, London Business School and Queen Mary, University of London. See below for an indicative list of approved modules. Note: You can only select one 10 ECTS module from QMUL.

Code	Module Title	Compulsory/ Elective	Term	Credits
BUSI70508	Basic Readings in Business (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70509	Behavioural Foundations of Strategy (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70510	Consumer Behaviour (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70511	Demand and Revenue Management (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70513	Dynamic Programming (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70514	Econometrics 1 (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70516	Econometrics 2 (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70518	Economic Foundations of Strategy (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70519	Empirical Marketing Models (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70520	Entrepreneurship and Innovation (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70521	Financial Economics 1: Asset Pricing (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70522	Financial Economics 2: Empirical Finance (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70523	Financial Economics 3: Corporate Finance (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70526	Inventory Management (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70527	Judgement and Decision Making	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70529	Macroeconomics 1 (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70531	Macroeconomics 2 (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70346	Micro Organisational Individuals (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70533	Micro Organisational Behaviour - Teams (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70534	Microeconomics 1 (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70536	Microeconomics 2 (Part 1) (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70537	Microeconomics 2 (Part 2) (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70539	Modelling (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70540	MSO PhD Seminar Advanced Optimization (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70541	PhD Seminar Accounting 1 (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70542	PhD Seminar Accounting 2 (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5

BUSI70543	Probability Models in Marketing (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70544	Proseminar in Marketing (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70545	Research Design (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70546	Sociological Foundations of Strategy (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70547	Statistical Research Methods 1 (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70347	Statistical Research Methods 2 (LBS)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70548	Strategy Core Doctoral Seminar (LBS)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70348	Topics in Econometrics (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70549	Topics in Macroeconomics (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70551	Topics in Microeconomics (LBS)	Elective	SU	7.5
BUSI70503	Advanced Econometrics (QMUL)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70506	Advanced Macroeconometrics (QMUL)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70507	Advanced Microeconometrics (QMUL)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70512	Development Economics (QMUL)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70525	International Economics (QMUL)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70528	Labour & Public Economics (QMUL)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70550	Topics in Microeconometrics (QMUL)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70504	Advanced Finance 1 (QMUL)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70505	Advanced Finance 2 (QMUL)	Elective	SP	7.5
BUSI70515	Econometrics 1 (QMUL)	Elective	AU	10
BUSI70517	Econometrics 2 (QMUL)	Elective	SP	10
BUSI70524	Foundations in Asset Pricing Theory (QMUL)	Elective	AU	7.5
BUSI70530	Macroeconomics 1 (QMUL)	Elective	AU	10
BUSI70532	Macroeconomics 2 (QMUL)	Elective	SP	10
BUSI70535	Microeconomics 1 (QMUL)	Elective	AU	10
BUSI70538	Microeconomics 2 (QMUL)	Elective	SP	10
			Credit Total	**90-92.5**

Progression and Classification

Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert)
To qualify for the award of a postgraduate certificate you must have a minimum of 30 credits at Level 7 (this may include a maximum of 10 credits from Level 6 where this is approved as part of the award).

Award of a Postgraduate Degree (including MRes)
To qualify for the award of a postgraduate degree you must have:
1. accumulated credit to the value of no fewer than 90 credits at Level 7
2. and no more than 15 credits as a Compensated Pass;
3. met any specific requirements for an award as outlined in the approved programme specification for that award.

Classification of Postgraduate Taught Awards

The university sets the class of Degree that may be awarded as follows:
1. Distinction: 70.00% or above.
2. Merit: 60.00% or above but less than 70.00%.
3. Pass: 50.00% or above but less than 60.00%.

For a Masters, your classification will be determined through the weighted average mark in the designated 'taught' and 'final research project' aspects of the programme each meeting the threshold for the relevant classification band.

Your degree algorithm provides an appropriate and reliable summary of your performance against the programme learning outcomes. It reflects the design, delivery, and structure of your programme without unduly over-emphasising particular aspects.

Programme Specific Regulations

N/A

Supporting Information
The Programme Handbook is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/business-school/programmes/programme-information/
Imperial's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements
Imperial's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance
Imperial's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations
Imperial College London is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of Imperial's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established Imperial as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine". www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/governance/university-governance-structure/charters/
Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS) www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/
This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that you may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if you take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.