

MRes Business

This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is intended as a reference point for prospective students, current students, external examiners and academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement.

Programme Information

Programme Title	Business			
Award(s)	MRes			
Programme Code	N1UQ			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London			
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London			
Faculty	Imperial College Business School			
Department	Imperial College Business School			
Mode and Period of Study	1 calendar year full-time (12 months)			
Cohort Entry Points	Annually in September			
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points	Master's Degrees in Business and Management			
Total Credits	ECTS:	90	CATS:	180
FHEQ Level	Level 7 - Master's			
EHEA Level	2 nd cycle			
External Accrator(s)	AMBA , EQUIS , AACSB International			
Specification Details				
Student cohorts covered by specification	2016/17 entry			
Person responsible for the specification	Veronica Russell, Teaching & Quality Manager			
Date of introduction of programme	September 2015			
Date of programme specification/revision	September 2016			

Description of Programme Contents

The MRes in Business is offered over 12 months full-time. It is the first year of the School's Doctoral programme which in total is a full-time, five-year programme. The formal modules of the MRes provide a theoretical grounding and thorough research training for a solid foundation for an academic career. The PhD thesis, under the guidance of a supervisor, provides students the opportunity to conduct a substantial piece of original research. Following on from successful completion of the MRes in Year 1, doctoral students submit their thesis for examination within 3.5 years from the start of the PhD and, no later than four years from the commencement of the PhD (Year 5 of the MRes/PhD programme).

MRes Introductory modules

Completion of two introductory modules is compulsory for all students, however only one of these (Data Analysis Tools) is formally assessed, with either a pass or fail mark. The Introductory modules must be completed to progress but do not count towards the overall MRes mark.

- Data Analysis Tools (BS1230)
- Systematic Literature Reviews (BS1217)

Elective modules

Students take three Research Methods modules and three Specialist Modules in the autumn and spring terms of the MRes year. The specialist modules are selected from either the Finance, Management or Innovation and Entrepreneurship stream. Elective modules are assessed as part of the overall MRes award. Students can propose alternative elective modules from other faculties in consultation with their supervisors and the Programme Director, providing that the total credit value is of equal or greater value. A selection of these modules are listed within this programme specification.

MRes Research Project

During the year students work on their MRes project which is formally assessed and counts towards the overall MRes mark. Students are expected to approach potential supervisors from within the department's academic staff.

Students submit their proposed research project title and a brief outline by the end of February.

Students submit a Progress Report in May, outlining their progress to date with the thesis.

During the Summer Term, students will submit their MRes dissertation. This will be followed by an oral exam.

Learning Outcomes

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes

The Programme has been developed to prepare individuals for a fruitful career in research. To achieve this the programme aims to:

- Attract motivated, high calibre students who are passionate about pursuing a career in research
- Develop students' ability to present technical work to a wide audience
- Introduce students to the research techniques and tools necessary to undertake effective qualitative and quantitative research in Finance, Economics and Management.
- Provide students with breadth and depth of knowledge in discipline-specific theory and literature.
- Train students to identify important problems within their chosen area of research and to be able to design a research project that effectively sets out to solve these problems.
- Provide an environment that is intellectually stimulating and inspiring, that fosters a student's curiosity and creative thinking in their chosen field.
- Provide students with a good foundation to continue on to the PhD Programme at the Business School and undertake high quality doctoral research

Students who have successfully completed the programme will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and skills in social science research methods and techniques;
- Demonstrate understanding of how these research methods and techniques are applied to specific areas in Finance, Economics and Management and applying this to their own research projects, assignments and exams;
- Demonstrate knowledge of theory and current work in their chosen area of research, identifying issues and new research opportunities.

Skills and other Attributes

In addition, the programme will enable students to:

- Acquire a comprehensive mastery of research techniques and skills applicable to their own intended independent research;
- Develop a conceptual understanding that enables them to critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in a research topic and to carry out original research in that topic;
- Assimilate and understand a large body of complex concepts;
- Critically evaluate current research and offer new perspectives;
- Recognise commonalities and patterns in data and draw logical conclusions;
- Identify questions of research that would contribute to and design a research project, using appropriate tools and techniques to answer that question;
- Carry out extended investigative work in Finance, Economics or Management through an extended research project;
- Carry out investigative project work;
- Design research projects and identify the methods, techniques and software tools necessary to carry out this research;
- Carry out independent research using available literature;

- Communicate effectively by listening carefully and presenting complex, technical information in a clear and concise manner orally, in writing and via presentation tools (i.e. tables, charts, graphs);
- Use analytical skills, paying attention to detail and using technical language correctly, to manipulate and precise and intricate ideas to construct logical arguments;
- Use IT skills for communication and analysis;
- Use own initiative to work independently in an organised way in order to meet deadlines and plan effectively for longer term projects;
- Work in groups, interacting with and providing constructive feedback to others.

Students who have successfully completed the programme should have knowledge of:

- Problem solving strategies and methods;
- Effective development of research ideas and design;
- A wide range of social science research techniques utilised in the fields of Finance, Economics and Management, including quantitative and qualitative research methods and research design;
- Programming software packages commonly utilised in Finance, Economics and Management research.

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	<p>Normally a UK Master's degree at merit, or equivalent, in a subject related to research interests.</p> <p>Exceptionally a UK honours degree at 1st or equivalent, in a subject relevant to research interests.</p>
Non-academic Requirements	<p>All applicants will need to complete a personal statement which outlines their motivation for undertaking an MRes and their area of research interest.</p> <p>Where available applicants should submit GMAT and GRE test scores. A GMAT score of 700/800 or higher is preferred for students with a research interest in Management subjects and a GRE quantitative score of 159/170 (new style test) or 750/800 (old style test) or higher is preferred for students with a research interest in Finance and Economics subjects.</p> <p>Two references are also required.</p>
English Language Requirement	<p>English language test: IELTS level 7 with no element below 6.5 (or equivalent).</p>
<p>The programme's competency standards documents can be found requested from the Business School's Teaching & Quality Office</p>	

Learning & Teaching Strategy	
Scheduled Learning & Teaching Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures • Practical classes and field work • Equipment/technique demonstrations (e.g. Bloomberg, Datastream) • Seminars • Workshops • Case studies • Group work exercises • Formal presentations
E-learning & Blended Learning Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-programme VLE modules • On-line discussion forums • On-line lecture materials • Interactive content including video and module quizzes
Project and Placement Learning Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Research Project
Assessment Strategy	
Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays • Continuous assessments • Written Examinations/Tests • Multiple Choice Tests • Formal Presentations • Reports • Case Studies • Participation • Oral presentation
Academic Feedback Policy	
<p>The School aims to provide feedback to students on coursework within two weeks and to provide provisional examination grades six weeks from the examination date. With each returned coursework assignment, a written evaluation will be provided. General feedback to the cohort is provided on examination performance. Students will be provided with an alpha grade. The numerical mark will only be available on completion of the programme and will be released by Registry. Grades received during the year are deemed provisional until confirmed by the External Exam Board.</p>	
Re-sit Policy	
<p>The College's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams/resit</p>	
Mitigating Circumstances Policy	
<p>The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams</p>	

Programme Structure					
Full-time	Pre-session	Term One	Term Two	Term Three	Term Four
Core Modules	2				
Elective Modules		6			
Projects			1		
Assessment Dates & Deadlines					
Written Papers		September, December, January, March, May			
Coursework Assessments		Continuous assessment			
Final Report		Between July and August (thesis)			
Practical Assessments		Between July and August (oral assessment)			
Assessment Structure					
Programme Component			ECTS	% Weighting	
Data Analysis Tools Module			3	0% (pass/fail)	
3 modules from elective group (A) (equally weighted)			24	40%	
Elective modules to the value of at least 18 ECTS from elective group (B) (weighted proportionately according to credit value)			18	30%	
Research Project			45	30%	
Total			90	100%	
Marking Scheme					
<p>Assessment Rules and Degree Classification:</p> <p>All research training and practice assignments are weighted equally and total 40% of the student's final mark. Similarly, the content course exams are weighted equally, and count for 30% of the final mark. Finally the thesis and viva are 30% of the final mark.</p> <p>Pass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An average of 50% or above in each of the four programme components • At least 40% in each assignment and examination • At least 50% in the research project <p>Merit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An average of 60% or above in the following programme components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Elective 'research training' modules ○ Elective specialist 'content' modules ○ Research Project • An average of 50% in the 'Data Analysis Tools' module • At least 40% in each assignment and examination 					

- At least 60% in the research project

Distinction

- An average of 70% or above in the following programme components
 - Elective specialist 'research training' modules
 - Elective specialist 'content' modules
 - Research Project
- An average of 50% in the 'Data Analysis Tools' module
- At least 40% in each assignment and examination
- At least 70% in the research project

Marking Schemes for postgraduate taught programmes:

The Pass Mark for all postgraduate taught course modules is 50%. Students must pass all elements in order to be awarded a degree.

Indicative Module List

Code	Title	Core/ Elective	L&T Hours	Ind. Study Hours	Place- ment Hours	Total Hours	% Written Exam	% Course- work	% Practical	FHEQ Level	ECTS
BS1317	Plagiarism Awareness	Core	10	15	0	25	N/A			7	0
BS1217	Systematic Literature Reviews	Core	10	15	0	25	N/A			7	0
BS1230	Data Analysis Tools	Core	33	42	0	75	100%	0%	0%	7	3
BS1231	Research Design	Elective (A)	33	167	0	200	50%	50%	0%	7	8
BS1221	Econometrics 1	Elective (A)	30	170	0	200	50%	50%	0%	7	8
BS1228	Econometrics 2	Elective (A)	30	170	0	200	0%	100%	0%	7	8
BS1232	Qualitative Research Methods	Elective (A)	33	167	0	200	0%	100%	0%	7	8
BS1227	Time Series	Elective (A)	30	170	0	200	50%	50%	0%	7	8
BS1242	Empirical Corporate Finance	Elective (B)	24	176	0	200	0%	80%	20%	7	8
BS1241	Empirical Asset Pricing	Elective (B)	24	176	0	200	0%	70%	30%	7	8
BS1233	Consumer Behaviour	Elective (B)	30	120	0	150	0%	70%	30%	7	6
BS1204	Corporate Finance	Elective (B)	27	123	0	150	75%	25%	0%	7	6
BS1202	Microeconomics	Elective (B)	18	132	0	150	100%	0%	0%	7	6
BS1201	Asset Pricing	Elective (B)	27	123	0	150	50%	50%	0%	7	6

Indicative Module List											
Code	Title	Core/ Elective	L&T Hours	Ind. Study Hours	Place- ment Hours	Total Hours	% Written Exam	% Course- work	% Practical	FHEQ Level	ECTS
BS1234	Organisational Behaviour and Human Resource Management	Elective (B)	30	120	0	150	0%	70%	30%	7	6
BS1235	Entrepreneurship	Elective (B)	30	120	0	150	0%	100%	0%	7	6
BS1236	Innovation Management	Elective (B)	30	120	0	150	0%	100%	0%	7	6
BS1238	Strategic Management	Elective (B)	30	120	0	150	0%	90%	10%	7	6
EE9-SC3	Probability and Stochastic Processes	Elective (B)	30	95	0	125	85%	15%	0%	7	5
EE9-SO7	Traffic Theory and Queuing Systems	Elective (B)	20	105	0	125	100%	0%	0%	7	5
M5MS02	Fundamentals of Statistical Inference	Elective (B)	30	181	0	211	100%	0%	0%	7	8.4375
M5MS03	Applied Statistics	Elective (B)	30	181	0	211	0%	100%	0%	7	8.4375
M5MS04	Computational Statistics	Elective (B)	30	181	0	211	0%	100%	0%	7	8.4375
CO395	Machine Learning	Elective (B)	27	73	0	100	66.6r%	33.3r%	0%	6	4
CO495	Advanced Statistical Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition	Elective (B)	27	85.5	0	112.5	90%	10%	0%	7	4.5

Indicative Module List

Code	Title	Core/ Elective	L&T Hours	Ind. Study Hours	Place- ment Hours	Total Hours	% Written Exam	% Course- work	% Practical	FHEQ Level	ECTS
CO343	Operations Research	Elective (B)	27	73	0	100	90%	10%	0%	6	4
CO477	Computing for Optimal Decisions	Elective (B)	27	85.5	0	112.5	90%	10%	0%	7	4.5
CO422	Computational Finance	Elective (B)	27	85.5	0	112.5	90%	10%	0%	7	4.5
BS1819	Retail and Marketing Analysis	Elective (B)	20	117.5	0	137.5	0%	100%	0%	7	5.5
BS1809	Digital Marketing Analytics	Elective (B)	20	117.5	0	137.5	0%	100%	0%	7	5.5
BS1808	Logistics and Supply Chain Analytics	Elective (B)	20	117.5	0	137.5	0%	100%	0%	7	5.5
BS1810	Workforce Analytics	Elective (B)	20	117.5	0	137.5	0%	100%	0%	7	5.5
BS0448	Contemporary Topics in Health Policy	Elective (B)	22	115.5	0	137.5	70%	30%	0%	7	5.5
BS1239	Research Project	Core	0	1125	0	1125	0%	80%	20%	7	45

Supporting Information

The Programme Handbook is available at:

<http://wwwf.imperial.ac.uk/business-school/programmes/programme-information/>

The Module Handbook is made available to students via the Hub once the module commences. Module descriptions are available in the Programme Handbook (link above).

The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements

The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance

The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at:

<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/regulations>

Imperial College 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 the College's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established the College as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine".

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters-statutes-ordinances-and-regulations/>

Imperial College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/of/>

Modifications

Introduce elective module EE9-SC3 (Probability and Stochastic Processes)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module EE9-SO7 (Traffic Theory and Queuing Systems)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module M5MS02 (Fundamentals of Statistical Inference)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module M5MS03 (Applied Statistics)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module M5MS04 (Computational Statistics)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module CO395 (Machine Learning)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module CO495 (Advanced Statistical Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30

Introduce elective module CO343 (Operations Research)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module CO477 (Computing for Optimal Decisions)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module CO422 (Computational Finance)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module BS1813 (Retail and Marketing Analysis)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module BS1809 (Digital Marketing Analytics)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module BS1808 (Logistics and Supply Chain Analytics)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module BS1810 (Workforce Analytics)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30
Introduce elective module BS0448 (Contemporary Topics in Health Policy)	Programmes Committee	25 October 2016	PC.2016.30