ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION FOR THE:

BSc IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT FOR BUSINESS,
BSc IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT FOR BUSINESS WITH INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE,

1. General Information

UCAS Code	**Award**	**Programme Title**	**Duration**	**Mode of study**
GN51	BSc (Hons)	Information Technology Management for Business	3 years	Full-time
GN5C	BSc (Hons)	Information Technology Management for Business with Industrial Experience	4 years	Full-time
Exit Awards:				
	BSc (Ord)*	BSc (Ordinary) Information Technology Management for Business		
	Diploma**	Information Technology Management for Business		
	Certificate***	Information Technology Management for Business		

* 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://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/assessment/exam-procedures/

** 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://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/assessment/exam-procedures/

*** 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://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/assessment/exam-procedures/

School	Alliance Manchester Business School
Faculty	Humanities
Awarding Institution	University of Manchester

Programme Accreditation	
Relevant QAA benchmark(s)	Computing, SFIA

2. Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to:

01.	Provide students with a broad background of business operations, procedures and culture applicable to a career in an IT environment.
02.	Equip students with sufficient technical knowledge to play a key management role in an IT related environment.
03.	Develop both personal and inter-personal skills to enable the students to work closely and communicate with employees in non-IT related areas of an organisation.
04.	Provide students with a set of problem-solving and modelling skills appropriate to IT related business operations.
05.	Enable the students to play a management role in an IT project.
06.	Provide the students with business experience in a project-oriented environment.
07.	Provide assistance for students who wish to gain a year's placement in industry and to place this work in the context of a student's professional development ('with Industrial Experience' variant only).

3. Intended Learning Outcomes of the Programme

	BUSINESS
LB01	Have demonstrated that they have mastered basic business disciplines, ethics, and courtesies, demonstrating timeliness, focus when faced with distractions, and ability to complete tasks to a deadline with high quality.
LB02	Have demonstrated a mastery of basic business functions, organisational structures and their impact in different sectors, including an international dimension, with a sound understanding of contemporary business working practices.
LB03	Be able to take apart non-obvious business problems, structure the problem, collect relevant information, consider options, and make recommendations.
LB04	Be able to use basic predictive modelling techniques and system thinking to predict future performance and propose system improvements.
LB05	Be able to sell a moderately complex technology-oriented solution demonstrating understanding of business need, using open questions, and summarising skills, and demonstrating basic negotiating skills.
LB06	Have gained and demonstrated competence in business and data analysis.
	TECHNOLOGY
LT01	Have demonstrated a good understanding of system architecture.
LT02	Gain and be able to demonstrate competence up to Level 3 (APPLY) of the SFIA framework in Database design (DBDS) and Data Analysis (DTAN).
LT03	Gain and be able to demonstrate competence up to Level 3 (APPLY) of the SFIA framework in Programming/Software Development (PROG) and Systems Design (DESN).
LT04	Have demonstrated the ability to collaborate with other people using groupware systems.
LT06	Gain understanding of Management and the way it interacts with IT.
LT07	Be aware of how to roll out a system in a customer friendly way, gaining and demonstrating competence up to Level 3 (APPLY) of the SFIA framework in Usability Requirements Analysis (UNAN).
LT08	Be aware and capable of applying HCI, UX design and ergonomic issues in system design.
LT09	Have acquired the competence to apply data analysis and statistical techniques to discover new relations and deliver insights to a busines problem.
	PERSONAL AND INTER-PERSONAL
LI01	Be able to make concise, engaging, and well-structured presentations, arguments, and explanations of varying lengths, with or without using various media, always considering audience viewpoint.
LI02	Understand their personal preferences, styles, strengths, and weaknesses and be able to demonstrate how they use this knowledge to more effectively complete challenging business assignments.
LI03	Understand how to gain insight into the preferences, motivations, strengths, and weaknesses of other people and demonstrate how they use these insights to work more effectively with others in team situations; motivate others to work more effectively in group situations.

LI04	Be competent in influencing and persuading others constructively, understanding the implications of defensive behaviour and personal strategies to overcome it; demonstrating knowledge of the taught techniques and the ability to use them effectively in realistic situations.
LI05	Have learnt how to deal with setbacks, misfortunes and hiatuses in ways that strengthen their positive attitude and develop their self-reliance and ability to self-start on their own initiative.
LI06	Be able to give and receive direct feedback constructively; demonstrate how they incorporate it into learning and future action.
LI07	Be fluent in written and verbal communicators, able to articulate complex issues, considering the audience viewpoint and have demonstrated competence in this.
LI08	Be able to manage their own course and lifelong learning.
LI09	Be able to conduct effective research, using literature and other media, into IT and business-related topics.
	PROJECT
LP01	Be able to construct a project plan for a multi-threaded project and demonstrate that they can manage a risk register and lead a project review meeting.
LP02	Understand different approaches for managing projects in an IT environment.
LP03	Be able to manage a small project, including the rescheduling for deviations and handling review meetings.
LP04	Understand issues of quality, cost and time concerned with project implementation, including contractual obligations and resource constraints.
LP05	Ensure that realistic project plans are maintained and ensures regular and accurate communication to stakeholders.
LP06	Be able to adopt appropriate project management methods and tools whether predictive (plan-driven) approaches or adaptive (iterative/agile) approaches to a project.

4. Structure of the Programme

The full first and second year programme structure is available at:
https://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/programme/programme-information/programme-structures/

At second year, students on BSc ITMB take 80 credits of core course units and the remaining 40 from the options listed on the programme structure. Availability of options changes from year to year and pre-requisites/co-requisites apply.

The programme structure is available at
https://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/programme/programme-information/programme-structures/

Year 3 – For with Industrial Experience Students only

Students out on industrial experience in their third year complete a statement of placement aims at the start of their internship as well as career develop plan reports throughout the duration of their

work experience. These are both assessed alongside a student presentation, normally held in January / February, a reflective essay, and an employer appraisal.

Assessment weightings for the above are as follows:
Statement of placement aims (10%)
Submission of Career Development Plan Reports (30%)
Reflective Essay (30%)
Student presentation (20%)
Employer appraisal (10%)

The full final year programme structure is available at:

https://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/programme/programme-information/programme-structures/

The contact hours policy for full time Alliance MBS Manchester based programmes is available at: http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=52175

5. Curriculum Progression: Intended Learning Outcomes for Each Year

Year	Intended learning outcomes
Year 1 (Certificate of Higher Education)	A student should be able to: • Describe the structure of the database. • Design and develop a simple database from a well-defined specification (Level 2 (assist) of the SFIA framework in Database design). • Understand how data analytics and statistical techniques can be applied to data to discover new relations and deliver insights to business problems and support decision-making. • Describe the way in which information systems are used by organisations and the impact that such systems have on these organisations. • Design and develop a simple business application written in a programming language from a well-defined user requirements and specification (Level 2 (assist) of the SFIA framework in Programming/Software Development). • Apply basic HCI principles to the design of a business application interface. • Gather and analyse information from various sources. • Structure and write business/technical reports and qualitative essays. • Structure and deliver business/technical presentations. • Work as a team and participate in group discussions. • Understand how teams of people operate and be able to relate his/her skills to working in a group project through the use of a group support system. • Understand and can use and apply project management methodologies, including waterfall (stage gate milestones) and agile approaches (sprints etc.) in a business environment. • Gain an understanding of the software development lifecycles and processes.

	• Prepare a project plan that includes estimates of size and effort, a schedule, resource allocation, and project risk identification and management.
Year 2 **(Diploma of Higher Education)**	In addition to the Year 1 outcomes a student should be able to: • Describe the major techniques and methods of user centred design to complement application development. • Create appropriate documentation of an application artefact using a variety of notations and business models. • Design a collaborative business process and facilitate group meetings using group support systems. • Apply strategic business practice including organisational theory, change management, marketing, human resource management and IT service management to technology solutions development. • Apply and appreciate the strategic importance of data analytics for business decision making. • Appreciate the strategic importance of business processes and demonstrate an ability to document and understand them. • Understand the principles of business transformation by being able to decompose and abstract a non-obvious business problem, structure it, collect relevant information, consider options, and make recommendations. • Understand and apply the techniques that can deliver strategic digital transformation. • Apply UX design techniques to the discovery, development, evaluation, and delivery of system prototypes. • Plan, organise and manage resources to successfully deliver a project, achieve organisational goals and enable effective change. • Manage project progress, productivity, and other aspects against plan, performing progress tracking against tolerance levels, reporting progress and escalating when required. • Critically analyse a business domain in order to identify the role of information systems, highlight issues and identify opportunities for improvement through evaluating information systems in relation to their intended purpose and effectiveness.
For Industrial Placement Students only	• Demonstrate an understanding of career management planning skills.
Industrial Placement Year	Students should be able to: • Apply problem-solving skills to a variety of problems in a commercial or industrial environment. • Make clear and concise written and oral communications, work effectively as a team, demonstrate a professional and responsible approach to work roles in a commercial or industrial environment, with particular emphasis upon their own abilities and future development.
Final Year	In addition to the outcomes of Years 1 and 2, a student should be able to:

	• Critically understand techniques and tools underpinning IT architecture, the important of IT architecture and the role of IT architects in organisations. • Understand and apply qualitative and quantitative techniques for investigating and analysing socio-technical systems. • Understand the main features and key characteristics of distributed computing for digital network and cloud computing systems in business. • Understand the fundamental issues and challenges of machine learning: data, model selection, model complexity, etc. • Understand the scope and methodology of artificial intelligence (AI) through the application of "intelligent agents" and current trends and issues. • Be able to place security in an organisational context and conduct a risk assessment for a defined business context that includes documenting what information is at risk, the type and level of risk realised; and the impact of the risk being realised. • Understand the difference between threat, risk, attack, and vulnerability, and be able to describe typical threats, attacks and exploits and the motivations behind them. • Understand the security threats against network and cloud computing systems and the security measures designed to protect such systemsto increase security, resilience, and dependability. Apply project management skills to individual/group project. • Develop a significant business application/solution using appropriate technology and management technique in the context of an individual project, being able to present progress and results of the development through presentations, demonstrations and writing reports. • Understand the key aspects of organisational change and the key issues involved in designing change implementation in IS applications. • Have an appreciation and understanding of current and future technical landscape environment including potential factors to consider when selecting technologies for business solutions and rapid change of technology.

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 welcome programme for first year students (note – ongoing induction is carried out via BMAN11030 Academic and Professional Practice throughout the whole of the first year). This includes a Programme Director and PS staff meeting, an Alliance Manchester Business School Introduction to Undergraduate Services event, Alliance MBS Student Fair, completion of Health & Safety Course, Alumni/Careers Panel discussion, administrative sessions, Introduction to Academic and Career Development lecture, Unismart lecture and an end of Welcome Week party. Student meetings with their Peer Mentors will also take place in the first few weeks of the semester.

- Induction and reintegration activities for returning second and final year students.

Programme identity initiatives for all levels throughout each year.

- Supporting information on Alliance MBS online undergraduate handbook for all new and returning students and brochure

student notebook for all new students.

Student Support and Development

- Comprehensive Online Undergraduate Handbook available at https://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/

- Academic Advisor for first year students: All first year students will be 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. Contact between student and academic advisor is embedded within the Academic and Professional Development course unit.

- Academic Advisor for second and final year students: In building on the relationship developed between Academic Advisor and students during the first year, ITMB 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), writing references on request, gauging feedback on the student experience and understanding where and when to refer students on to other sources of assistance.

- Dedicated Student Support and Guidance team in Alliance MBS offering advice, guidance and support on any issues that affect a student's ability to study.

-- Disability support: Details are provided via The University's Disability and Support Service (DASS) and /or the School's Disability Co-Ordinator as well as in the Online Undergraduate Handbook.

- Dedicated Programme Office and information, advice and guidance 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.

- Extensive library, computer and other learning resources, in particular My Learning Essentials which can be found here:

https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/using-the-library/students/training-and-skills-support/my-learning-essentials/

- The first year course Academic and Professional 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 formative pieces of assessment which will be marked by the academic advisor. Written feedback will be provided, as will be the opportunity to discuss this further face to face with the academic adviser.

- IT Skills sessions offered at central IT Services. Details in the Online Undergraduate Handbook.

- 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 curriculum. 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 particularly for ITMB, enhanced employability sessions and employer involvement/engagement) 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 ITMB students.

Opportunities for students to engage with activities in social justice, ethical leadership and community action through Stellify as well as actively engaging in volunteering initiatives.

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE YEAR

Applies to students on the 'with Industrial Experience' variant of the programme.

- Pre-departure to the industrial experience year is supported by a network of meetings: introductory meeting (November), mid year review (March) and pre-departure (May).

- A student on industrial experience will be supported by an academic placement tutor who will aid in the development of skills during a student's year in industry. Contact will primarily be through email, however all students will be visited once by their placement tutor. Support in personal development and technical skills will be given and the industrial experience year will place a significant focus on a student's Personal Academic Development Plan. As part of the industrial experience year (and assessment of such) students will return to Manchester to give a presentation.

- In a student's first year, he/she will attend the Academic and Professional Development course unit, which, throughout semester 1 and 2 designed to start to prepare a student for a year in industry (with a focus on personal skills) and to assist a student in getting an industrial placement (CV writing, interview skills, aptitude tests, etc.). This unit will involve speakers from industry.

7. Progression and Assessment Regulations

Details of progression rules are included in the Online Undergraduate Handbook https://www.ambs.ughandbook.manchester.ac.uk/assessment/exam-procedures/

Additional Requirements for 'with Industrial Experience' variant

- Achieve an average mark of 55% or greater at the end of Year 1
- Pass without resits in Year 2

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