

## **ACADEMIC SERVICES**

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data							
Awarding Institution	University of the West of England						
Teaching Institution	University of the West o	University of the West of England					
Delivery Location	University of the West o	f England					
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition							
Faculty responsible for programme	Business and Law						
Department responsible for programme	Bristol Business School (Business and Management)						
Modular Scheme Title	Postgraduate Modular Scheme						
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links							
Highest Award Title	MSc Marketing Communications						
Default Award Title	n/a						
Fall-back Award Title	n/a						
Interim Award Titles	Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing Communications						
UWE Progression Route	Postgraduate Certificate in Marketing						
Mode(s) of Delivery	FT/PT						
Codes	UCAS:	J	ACS:				
	ISIS2: N50212	ESA:					
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Business and Management						
First CAP Approval Date	QMAC September 2008	Valid from	September 2008				
Revision CAP Approval Date	15 December 2016	Revised with effect from	September 2017				
Version	3						
Review Date	September 2022						

### Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

This programme is designed to suit the needs of those who wish to specialise after having completed their undergraduate degree, or want to switch career or build on their current marketing related positions. The MSc Marketing Communications is distinguished from the MSc Marketing by its emphasis on marketing communications activities.

Marketing is both a vocational practice and a subject of academic study. The programme seeks to reflect this by:

- Providing an academically demanding that draws on current academic concepts, theories and research;
- Maintaining a strong vocational orientation, allowing students to use theory to structure their experience and understanding of marketing activities;
- Enabling students to develop subject specific knowledge and skills as well as an understanding of their areas of application;
- Familiarizing students with a wide range of organizational and market contexts;
- Developing students' capabilities such that they can contribute to and lead marketing communications related activities.

# Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)

The programme is distinctive in combining depth and rigour in the coverage of marketing theory with a broad range of opportunities to apply these to professional marketing tasks. It is integral to the philosophy of the programme that students adopt a structured approach to thinking, encouraging students to reflect on and develop the way in which they apply intellectual skills. Through the development of greater intellectual discipline, students become more effective at negotiating complex and unfamiliar challenges. This programme focuses in particular on the communications aspects of marketing, hence practical, transferable skills in communicating through various media are prominent in the programme. In terms of intellectual skills, the development of creativity is also emphasized.

## Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

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	Outcomes:	UMKDDS-15-M	UMKC8T-15-M	UMKDH3-15-M	UMKC8L-15-M	UMKDH4-15-M	UMKC8Q-15-M	UMKCYB-15-M	UMKDH5-15-M	UMKDH9-45-M	UMKDH6-45-M
	edge and understanding of:										
organi	ature, role and scope of marketing, its relationship with other functions and its contribution to sational performance;	~	~	~							
	ting communications' relation to marketing more generally as well as business and general gement functions, and its contribution to organisational performance and delivering customer value;	<b>~</b>			~		~	~			
3. The in	npact of external and internal factors on marketing activities in general and marketing unications activities in particular;	<b>~</b>	~	~	~					~	<b>&gt;</b>
includi	and techniques by which marketers understand and influence the organisation(s) that they serve, ng strategic planning, financial reporting, financial management, marketing metrics, organisational och, internal marketing, data analysis, data management and knowledge management;	~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>		~	~	<b>,</b>		~	<b>&gt;</b>
includi	and techniques by which marketers understand and influence customers and other stakeholders, ng marketing research and information systems, marketing communications, marketing strategies ctics, transactional marketing, relationship marketing, digital marketing, segmentation, buyer iour;	~	~	~	~	~	~	~		~	>
	stinctive features of different product, organisational and market contexts and their implications for ting communications practice;	~	<b>~</b>		~	~	~	~		~	~
7. Resea	rch philosophies, strategies and methodologies than can be used in business and management;	~		<b>~</b>					~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>
8. Currer	nt developments and trends in marketing thought and practice;	~			<b>~</b>	~			<b>v</b>		
	standing the relevance of trends in sustainability to marketing communications thought and practice.	~	~		~						
	ctual Skills							. 4		. 4	
	ation: the ability to use generic principles, typologies and models to achieve a specified outcome in cular context. Application is a vehicle through which other intellectual skills are exercised;	~	~	~	~	~	<b>'</b>	~	<b>Y</b>	~	~
•	sis: the ability to identify constituent elements of an object, concept or construct. This typically es processing and organizing information to clarify specific qualities, relationships or differences;	<b>~</b>	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme										
3. Evaluation: the ability to make and justify judgements relating to an object, concept or construct;	~	~	~	<b>~</b>	~	<b>~</b>	<b>v</b>	~	<b>~</b>	~
4. Synthesis: the ability to put different objects, concepts or constructs together to form a coherent whole.	<b>~</b>	~	~	~	~	~	<b>v</b>	~	~	~
<ol><li>Creativity: the ability to transcend established rules, conventions or patterns of action, thought or communication. Creativity may be exhibited in relation to analysis, evaluation or synthesis.</li></ol>	~	~	V	~	V	~	~	<b>V</b>	<b>~</b>	~
6. Reflexivity: the ability to evaluate and consciously develop one's own knowledge and skills (intellectual, professional and transferable).	~				<b>~</b>			~	~	<b>~</b>
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills				-						
Apply the knowledge and skills outlined in A, B and C to marketing activities.	<b>~</b>	~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	~
(D) Transferable skills and other attributes						-			-	
1. Communicate ideas, arguments and information in a manner appropriate to the audience and task at hand;	<b>~</b>	~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	~
Communicate persuasively using a wide variety of media;				<b>~</b>	~	<b>~</b>				
<ol> <li>Use IT skills for data capture and manipulation, to locate material and to support private study and research;</li> </ol>	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
4. Work as part of a team;	<b>~</b>		•					~	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>
5. Initiate, plan and lead team activities;	<b>~</b>		•		~			~	~	~
6. Undertake independent/self-directed study/learning;	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	~	~	<b>~</b>	~	<b>v</b>	~	<b>~</b>	~
7. Manage time and work to deadlines.	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	<b>~</b>	~

### Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

## Teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

The teaching and learning and assessment strategy of Bristol Business School encourages students to take responsibility for their learning and staff to take responsibility for facilitating that learning. Learning approaches have an overall emphasis on learning through active student involvement. Assessment is viewed as an integral part of the learning process not simply as a measure of the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The vocational emphasis of the programme is reflected in classroom, directed learning and assessment activities that simulate professional marketing activities. Although work-based learning is not part of the scheduled learning, students are encouraged to gain professional marketing experience through initiatives such as the UWE-Integrity student experience scheme, part-time work and volunteering opportunities. Such experience forms an important resource, which is shared throughout the cohort by student—led activities. Where professional marketing activities are simulated, the realism of such simulation is heightened by the use of `live' case studies, visiting speakers and input from the programme team's research activity.

In certain core module, students receive explicit instruction in transferable skills such personal presentation, argument formation, group work, research skills, written communication skills, and multimedia skills. This supports the development of such skills through a range of learning and assessment activities.

The programme takes a structured approach to the development of students' intellectual skills, encouraging them to approach marketing tasks through a sequence of analysis, evaluation and synthesis. Theory is presented as a means by which to facilitate these three intellectual activities and creativity as a way of enhancing them. As the programme progresses, students are encouraged to apply these skills reflexively, reflecting on their own practice and professional development.

Scheduled learning is typically 24 hours per 15 credit module, delivered through weekly two-hour workshops. In addition, all tutors publish office hours, during which times students can make an appointment to receive individual guidance and feedback. The programme is further supported by a twice — weekly the `Marketing cafe,' where two senior staff of the Marketing, Events and Tourism cluster provide a drop in clinic where students can seek advice in an informal setting.

Support to students with disability is coordinated centrally through Disability Services. This acts as a holistic service for disabled students and applicants to the University but also supports the academic and administrative staff who work with disabled students.

In addition to the above The University's Student Services offers a range of services to support students during their time at university and beyond:

- University Health Centre and general advice on Staying Healthy;
- Careers and employability, advice on choosing a career, and finding student and graduate vacancies;
- UWE volunteering, opportunities for students to get involved in the local community through the Community Volunteer Programme;
- Student Advisors & Counselling for anything from exam stress to homesickness and depression;
- The Living Centre, for support with faith and spiritual matters;
- Global student support, to help international students to make the most of living and studying in the UK:
- Managing disability and dyslexia, to get help with all disability related support needs;
- Money and Visas, for financial checkups,

## Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support

## Description of the teaching resources provided for students

Blackboard is the main vehicle by which students are provided with specific resources, in the form of readings, lecture slides, activity briefings, case studies and a range of related materials. Through reading lists, preparatory reading and follow-up activities, students are encouraged to make full use of digital and paper-based library resources.

## **Description of any Distinctive Features**

The structured approach to intellectual skills development is seen as a distinctive feature of this course. The development of a robust intellectual methodology gives the students greater flexibility and confidence in dealing with complex and unfamiliar problems and contexts. The core modules for this programme give particular emphasis to creativity and communication skills.

### Part 5: Assessment

Delete one of the following statements as appropriate

A: Approved to <u>University Regulations and Procedures</u>

## **Assessment Strategy**

As with the teaching & learning strategy, assessments are designed to simulate professional marketing activities as accurately as possible. This is achieved through an emphasis on written reports, 'live' case studies and practical tasks. Assessment criteria throughout the programme will focus on the application of intellectual skills (see part 3b) in a variety of organisational and market contexts. Assessments are also designed to develop and evaluate a full range of transferable skills, as well as students' ability to analyze, evaluate and plan their personal development.

## **Part 6: Programme Structure**

**MSc Marketing Communications** 

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including: level and credit requirements, interim award requirements, module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

<b>ENTRY</b>	Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
		Choose one from:	
	Contemporary Marketing Practice	(subject to availability)	Postgraduate Certificate in Marketing
	UMKDDS-15-M	Customer Relationship	Credit requirements:
	Strategic Marketing	Management UMKC8M-15-M	(60 compulsory credits, which must include
	Planning UMKC8T-15-M	Social Marketing Principles and Policy	UMKDDS-15-M Contemporary Marketing Practice)
	Marketing Analytics UMKDH3-15-M	UMKCR3-15-M	,
	Principles of Marketing Communications	Promotion and Society UMKDH7-15-M	Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing Communications
	UMKC8L-15-M	Global Marketing UMKC8P-15-M	Credit requirements:     120 (including 105)
	Research Methods for Marketing UMKDH4-15-M		compulsory credits)
	Digital Marketing UMKC8Q-15-M		
·	Corporate Communications UMKCYB-15-M		
	Dissertation Research Methods UMKDH5-15-M		
	Dissertation – Marketing UMKDH9-45-M OR Work-based Project UMKDH6-45-M		

#### **GRADUATION**

### Part time:

The part-time route is flexible, allowing students to study alongside full timers at their own pace. Part-time students typically complete the full programme in 2.5-3 years.

## **Part 7: Entry Requirements**

 An honours degree (minimum 2.2) in any subject from a recognised UK Higher Education institution or equivalent from a recognised overseas institution. Students whose first degree involves a significant element of marketing (more than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> will not normally be offered a place).

#### 2. Students for whom English is foreign language

Unless gained degree in UK or programme was delivered in English language in home institution then: IELTS 6.5

TOEFL 600 (computer version 250)

Conditional offers should be made where students apply without language qualification.

#### Students who do not have a good or recognised honours degree EITHER:

Must have successfully completed a programme of study post 18 years of age resulting in professional qualifications such as the professional Diploma in Marketing or must have achieved excellent results in qualifications such as BTEC.

#### and

Have 3 years relevant work experience

Or

Have a GMAT score of 550

#### Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme has been designed to accord with the UWE Bristol 2020 Strategy in emphasising a vocational orientation and the practical application, of academic and professional skills and knowledge. The views of current students, alumni, employers and external academic advisors have been taken into account in the development of the programme.

The programme aligns to level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications and against the 2007 Subject Benchmark for Masters courses in Business and Management (type 1 and 2) and the SEEC (2010) credit level descriptors for level 7.

The design has also been informed by the Chartered Institute of Marketing's *Professional Marketing* Standards 2014.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications, available on the <a href="University's website">University's website</a>.

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

First CAP Approva	al Date	QMAC 2008			
Revision CAP Approval Date Update this row each time a change goes to CAP	15 Dec	ember 2016	Version	3	link to RIA
Next Periodic Curriculum Review due date		mic year in which next Pe al or last Periodic Curricu			ew due (6 years from initial
Date of last Periodic Curriculum Review					