## ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

| Part 1: Basic Data |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Module Title | Managing Change |  |  |  |  |  |
| Module Code | UMOCB3-15-M | Level | M |  |  |  |
| UWE Credit Rating | 15 | Rating Credit | 7.5 | WBL module? | No |  |
| Owning Faculty | FBL | Field |  |  |  |  |
| Department | BBS, Business and <br> Management | Module Type | Project |  |  |  |
| Contributes towards | MSc Business Management; MSc Engineering Business Management |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pre-requisites | None | Co- requisites | None |  |  |  |
| Excluded <br> Combinations | None | Module Entry <br> requirements | na |  |  |  |
| First CAP Approval <br> Date | QMAC 2002, revised <br> September 2011 | Valid from | September 2011 |  |  |  |
| Revision CAP <br> Approval Date | 28 June 2017 | Revised with <br> effect from | September 2017 |  |  |  |

## Part 2: Learning and Teaching

| Learning Outcomes | On successful completion of this module students will be able to: <br> - Identify, explain and categorise common ways of understanding and analysing organisational change. <br> - Analyse concrete organisational problems by selecting relevant theories, and by using their insights in a meaningful manner. <br> - Assess the usefulness of the different theories of change available. <br> - Recognise the role ascribed to managers by different theories of change. <br> - Construct, assess and synthesise solutions to problems in light of contradictory views and insights. <br> All the above learning outcomes are formally assessed through Component $A$. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Syllabus Outline | The module is divided into three parts, which may include the themes underneath. <br> Part 1: Organisations and their environment <br> - The contingency of organisational structures <br> - Between resource-dependency and strategic choices <br> - Structural inertia in organisational populations <br> - The importance of institutional legitimacy <br> Part 2: Organisations and symbols: culture, cognition and sensemaking. <br> - Cognitive changes and sensemaking <br> - Change through culture <br> Part 3: The politics of change: understanding power and resistance <br> - An introduction to power and politics in organisations |


|  | Two views on resistance <br> Understanding change through its language |
| :--- | :--- |
| Contact Hours | The module will be delivered over twelve, two-hour sessions, or an equivalent format. <br> Contact time will include a mixture of tutor-led and student-led activities. |
| Teaching and <br> Learning <br> Methods | There are three fundamental principle underpinning the teaching and learning <br> approach of this module. <br> A multiple-perspective approach for understanding organisational change. The <br> most fundamental idea underpinning this module is that when it comes to <br> understanding organisational change, no single theoretical perspective can be <br> entirely satisfying. Theories are simplified representations of reality that, just like <br> maps, have by their nature limitations. Just as we need different kinds maps to <br> navigate different terrains with different purposes, we need different kinds of <br> theories to navigate the complex reality of contemporary organisations. <br> Research-led learning. Also central to the teaching and learning strategy in this <br> postgraduate module is the principle that students should develop their research <br> skills and become proficient in using academic literature on organisational change. <br> This means that they will be encouraged and supported in developing a number of <br> skills: |

1) Students will become increasingly more familiar with the format, conventions and style of academic literature.
2) They will develop the ability to obtain, analyse and evaluate information, and communicate relevant conclusions and recommendations to colleagues, and professional and academic audiences in oral and written formats.
3) They will develop their analytical abilities; they will learn to establish relevant links between theory and practice. They will be encouraged to reflect upon your work experiences and relate them to the concepts and principles learnt in the module.
4) They will develop their critical and evaluative skills; they will learn to appreciate the usefulness of theories, but also to recognise their limitations.
Active engagement as a member of a community of learners. As learning happens most effectively within a supportive community of learners, activities in the classroom are designed to create and nurture meaningful peer relationships among cohort members.

This module is supported by Blackboard, where students will be able to find all necessary module documentation and resources.
The Study Skills web page provides support and guidance in a range of areas and specific guidance on information, and especially journal article searching, retrieval and evaluation will be provided within this module. This is in addition to that found in other modules in the programme.
Scheduled learning includes lectures and seminars.
Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc. These sessions constitute an average time per level as indicated in the table below. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices you make.

## ACADEMIC SERVICES



## ACADEMIC SERVICES

|  | Hannan, M.T. and Freeman, J.H. (1984) Structural Inertia and Organizational Change. <br> American Sociological Review, 49, pp. 149-164. <br> Meyer, J.W. and Rowan, B. (1977) Institutionalized Organizations: Formal Structure as <br> Myth and Ceremony. American Journal of Sociology, 83, pp. 340-363. <br> Mueller, F., Sillince, J., Harvey, C. and Howorth, C. (2004) "A Rounded Picture is what <br> we Need": Rhetorical Strategies, Arguments and the Negotiation of Change in a <br> UK Hospital Trust. Organization Studies, 25, pp. 75-93. <br> Thomas, R. and Hardy, C. (2011) Reframing resistance to organizational change. <br> Scandinavian Journal of Management, 27, pp. 322-331. <br> These are landmark texts that are used in the module. They illustrate different ways in <br> which the phenomenon of change has been approached and understood. |
| :--- | :--- |

## Part 3: Assessment

| Part 3: Assessment |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Assessment Strategy | The coursework is designed specifically to assess the five learning outcomes <br> described previously. |
| By reflecting on how the theories encountered help them understanding their <br> management practices, students will be able to demonstrate three things: <br> 1) their knowledge of existing theories of organisational change, 2) their <br> ability to use theories to reflect on practice and to inform it, and 3) their ability <br> to assess the usefulness of existing approaches, and to construct solutions to <br> problem when faced with contradictory insights. |  |
| By having two elements to Component A, students are given the opportunity <br> bo receive feedback after the submission of the first element. Formative <br> feedback will be given in class. Through discussions of the readings and of <br> practical case studies, students will be able to assess their understanding of <br> the material. |  |


| Identify final assessment component and element | Component A2 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only) |  | A: | B: |
|  |  | 100\% |  |
| First Sit |  |  |  |
| Component A (controlled conditions)Description of each element |  | Element weighting (as \% of component) |  |
| 1. Essay on part 1 (1600 words) |  | 40\% |  |
| 2. Essay on part 2 \& 3 (2400 words) |  | 60\% |  |
| Component B Description of each element |  | Element weighting (as \% of component) |  |
| NA |  |  |  |


| Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required) |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| Component A (controlled conditions) <br> Description of each element | Element weighting <br> (as \% of component) |
| Essay on part 1,2 \& 3 (4000 words) | $100 \%$ |
| Component B <br> Description of each element | Element weighting <br> (as $\%$ of component) |
| NA |  |

## ACADEMIC SERVICES

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

| First CAP Approval Date |  |  |  | QMAC 2011 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Revision CAP <br> Approval Date | 28 June 2017 | Version | 6 | No RIA - work log 4404 |  |  |  |
| Update this <br> row each time <br> a change goes <br> to CAP |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

