Programme Specification

**MSc Business Information
Systems Management**

1. Programme title	MSc Business Information Systems Management
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	MSc
6. Year of validation **Year of amendment**	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	FT/PT

9. Criteria for admission to the programme
The principal criteria for admission are that entrants are capable of working at postgraduate level and are able to succeed at, and benefit from, the programme. The following would normally be considered appropriate entry qualifications: • At least a second class honours degree in a discipline related to the programme such as: · relevant numerate subjects or · those providing a significant exposure to Information Systems (such as Business Information Systems, Information Sciences, Software Engineering, Computer Science, Computer Studies, Computing, Business Information Technology etc.) or · a relevant aspect of business (such as Business Studies, Business Administration, Economics, etc.)
Or *An Honours Degree together with employment or professional experience in a field relevant to the programme and at an appropriate level in the field. Applicants with degrees in other disciplines need to be computer literate.* **International students** *whose first language is not English or who have not been taught in the English medium*

throughout, and whose first degree is not from a British university, must achieve an IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL 575 (paper based) 233 (computer based).

Note: University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations, 'Information for Students with Disabilities'.

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10. Aims of the programme

- Give students an understanding of theories and principles that are imported from different disciplines to underpin the development and management of web based Information Systems. These theories/principles include cognitive psychology, legal and regulatory theory, ethics and professionalism, systems theory and organisational theory.
- Enable the students to recognise the centrality of Information Systems to business and to society at large through studying critically recent developments in Information Systems in Organisations.
- Equip students with relevant knowledge and skills necessary to analyse and understand business, organisational, social, technical and regulatory issues relevant to the evaluation and management of information systems.
- Develop an awareness of web-based information systems development and enable students to make informed choices on specific information systems technologies, methods and tools, in context (organisational type, scope and complexity).
- Equip students with the technical skills necessary to develop and implement strategies for the introduction and management of information systems and knowledge management programmes.
- Enable students to further their personal and professional development

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11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding	Teaching/learning methods
On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:	. Students learn knowledge, gain understanding and develop cognitive skills and abilities through self directed, resource based learning, small group discussions, small group and individual exercises, lab sessions, demonstration software, on-line examples and the research project.
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of Information Systems within the context of underpinning systems theory, organisational theory, and core business principles necessary to evaluate and implement Information Systems in a variety of organisations.	
2. Critically evaluate IS/IT strategy in various organisational contexts, applying systems theory, and assess the social impact and management	Throughout their studies students are encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate

challenges which IS/IT systems bring to these organisations. 3. Critically evaluate, measure and manage Information Systems quality. 4. Demonstrate an understanding of legal ethical and professional issues related to the management of Information Systems. 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and use of web-based applications. 6. Assist organisations in developing effective Knowledge/data Management programmes to maintain competitive advantage in knowledge/data driven economies.	what is being learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject. Critical evaluation and reflection engage the students in applying theory to practice.
	Assessment Methods Group and individual coursework, presentations and the unseen examination and the project thesis assess students' knowledge and understanding. Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are assessed by a mixture of individual and group coursework, as well as unseen examinations and the research project.
B. Cognitive (thinking) skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Advise on the nature of Information Systems and their commercial possibilities 2. Apply various business and management theories in the development of suitable strategies for the introduction and management of Information Systems in various organisational contexts 3. Analyse, design, develop, implement, and evaluate web-based applications and use information in effective decision making 4. Advise on relevant legal, ethical and professional issues governing Information Systems and the use of Information Technology. 5. Evaluate, select and manage Information Systems 6. Identify critical Information Systems and Knowledge Management Systems success and failure factors and manage their quality	**Teaching/learning methods** Students develop practical abilities through the teaching and learning programme outlined above. These abilities are also nurtured through small group discussions, small group and individual exercises, laboratory sessions, demonstration software, on-line problem-solving examples and the research project **Assessment methods** Students' practical abilities are principally assessed through coursework reports and the thesis report, with examination questions addressing aspects of practical abilities as appropriate to the subject material. Outcomes are assessed through coursework assignments using real case studies and in the research project.

C. Practical skills	Teaching/learning methods
On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:	Students learn transferable skills through the teaching and learning programme outlined above. Although not all the skills are explicitly taught, they are nurtured and developed throughout the programme, which is structured and delivered in such a way as to promote this process.
1.　　Select and use a variety of modes of discourse for effective communication, including graphical, written and oral, according to the needs of the intended audience.	
2. Perform effectively as a member of a team in complex and diverse working environments that may arise where members of a team are brought together from diverse backgrounds in the pursuit of European and global integration.	**Assessment methods**
3. Deploy advanced techniques and solutions from one specialised field of computing to another and from one complex problem situation to another.	• Outcome 1 is assessed through coursework, reports, examinations, presentations and the project report. • Outcome 2 is assessed through group coursework and reports.
4. Demonstrate a critical understanding of, and the ability to deploy effectively, a wide range of learning methods resources and technologies.	• Outcome 3 is assessed primarily through examinations. • Outcome 4 is assessed through coursework.
5. Manage their own learning and development demonstrating time management and organisational skills at a professional level.	• Outcomes 5 and 6 are assessed primarily through the research project report.
6. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in learning and problem-solving in familiar and unfamiliar situations.	• Outcomes 6 and 7 are assessed through individual coursework involving critical analysis and presentation of relevant current research issues
7. Appreciate the need for continuing professional development in recognition of the need for lifelong learning.	
D. Graduate skills	**Teaching/learning methods**
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:	**Assessment methods** 　.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 4 (1)

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following:	one module should be selected from these options:	Students must pass all taught modules before they can progress onto the project
BIS4408: Information Systems Quality Management		
	*BIS4410: Knowledge Management Strategies	
BIS4425: Regulation of Electronic Commerce and Information technology		
	*BIS4435: Data Management for Decision Support	
BIS4440: Information Systems Strategy and Management		
Must pass all taught modules and then progress to		
BIS4992: Postgraduate Computing Project		

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	**Module code**

Module	Coursework Component and the respective Weighting	Learning Week of the Submission
BIS4440	1.1 Extended Abstract	Week 4
	1.2. Presentation	Week 12
	1.3. Final Research Paper	Week 14 – 15
	In order to pass the module, you need to achieve an overall 40% for your coursework.	
BIS4425	One consultancy report - involves some research and giving advice on legal aspects of e-business.	Week 22
	In order to pass the module, you need to achieve an overall 40% for your coursework	
BIS4410	50% on weekly group presentations	
	50% A research Essay	Week 23
	In order to pass the module, you need to achieve an overall 40% for your coursework.	
BIS4408	1.1 Group CW Management report submission	Week 7
	1.2 Group CW poster exhibition	Week 8
	2. Individual CW report submission	Week 19
	In order to pass the module, you need to achieve an overall 40% for your coursework.	
BIS4435	1. Database and data warehouse (20%)	Week 11

	2. Decision support and neural network (20%)	Week 21
	In order to pass the module, you need to pass each component (i.e. achieve a 40%).	

14. Information about assessment regulations

- Information on how the University formal assessment regulations work, including details of how award classifications are determined, can be found in the University Regulations at http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations/gradecriteriaguide.aspx
- Practical aspects of the programme are often assessed via coursework that may be carried out using specialist software and may include lab tests.
- Theoretical material is assessed by coursework and examinations.
- Grades are awarded on the standard University scale of 1–20, with Grade 1 being the highest. To pass a module all components, both coursework and examination, must be passed individually with a minimum grade of 16. Failure in one of the components will result in the failure of the module.

For additional information on assessment and how learning outcomes are assessed please refer to the individual module narratives for this programme

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

16. Future careers (if applicable)

All programmes in the School of Science and Technology – their curricula and learning outcomes – have been designed with an emphasis on currency and the relevance to future employment.

• The majority of graduates are employed in posts relevant to the subjects covered.

• Over 20% of students pursue further postgraduate study or research.

The employer links with the School are encouraged in a number of ways e.g. by inviting practitioners from industry as guest speakers in lectures; through links with companies where students are employed as part of their Industrial placement and through alumni both in the UK and overseas

Campus Careers Offices can be found on each campus for advice, support and guidance – or go to http://www.mdx.ac.uk/campus/support/careers/index.asp

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

The School's Teaching and Learning Strategy is compliant with those of the University, in seeking to develop learner autonomy and resource-based learning.

In support of the students learning experience:

- All new students go through an induction programme and some have early diagnostic numeric and literacy testing before starting their programme. Learning Resources (LR) provide workshops for those students needing additional support in these areas.

- Students are allocated a personal email account, secure networked computer storage and dial-up facilities

- *New students are provided with a hard copy of the schools Subject Handbook at enrolment (electronic copies for all students can also be* found at UniHub. If you require a hard copy of this Subject Handbook please request them to programme leader.

- New and existing students are given module handbooks for each module they study. Soft copies of all module handbooks can be found on MyUniHub. Web-based learning materials are provided to further support learning

- Extensive library facilities are available on all campuses. These pages are available as learning resources through the Oasis system

- Students can access advice and support on a wide range of issues from the UniHelp helpdesk. Student Advisers aligned to subject areas offer confidential one to one advice and guidance on programme planning and regulations

- Placements are supported by Campus Placement Offices and School academics; please refer to section 19 of this programme specification

- High-quality specialist network, software, digital and wireless laboratories equipped with industry standard software, hardware and tools as appropriate, for formal teaching as well as self-study. Middlesex University is a Cisco Local Academy and a Xilinx University partner

- Access to campus based teaching and learning support drop in sessions, arranged by the school to provide assistance and guidance

- Tutorial sessions for each module are provided for additional teaching support

- Formative feedback is given on completion of student coursework

- Past exam papers with solutions and marking schemes for all modules are available for students in module handbooks and at UniHub

- Research activities of academic staff feed into the teaching programme, which can provide individual students with ad-hoc opportunities to work with academics on some aspect of research

- Middlesex University encourages and supports students with disabilities. Some practical aspects of Engineering and Information Sciences programmes may present challenges to students with particular disabilities. You are encouraged to visit our campuses at any time to evaluate facilities and talk in confidence about your needs. If we know your individual needs we'll be able to provide for them more easily. For further information contact the Disability Support Service (email: disability@mdx.ac.uk) or contact Sobia Hussain on 020 8411 4945.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	G500
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Computing

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- QAA Computing subject benchmark statement
- Towards Benchmarking Standards for Taught Masters Degrees in Computing (sponsored by CPHC), May 2004
- QAA/CLQE guidelines for programme specifications
- QAA Code of Practice for the assurance of academic quality and standards in HE
- University Policy, Regulations and Guidelines

Middlesex University and School of Engineering and Information Sciences Teaching Learning and Assessment policies and strategies

21. Other information

Middlesex University has formal links with 250 institutions world-wide, including student exchange agreements with more than 100 institutions. Currently a number of students both from the UK/EU and overseas take part in such exchanges. For further details please visit http://www.europe.mdx.ac.uk/ or contact Mark Springett (M.Springett@mdx.ac.uk).

Curriculum map for MSc Business Information Systems Management

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of Information Systems within the context of underpinning systems theory, organisational theory, and core business principles necessary to evaluate and implement Information Systems in a variety of organisations.	C1	Select and use a variety of modes of discourse for effective communication, including graphical, written and oral, according to the needs of the intended audience.
A2	Critically evaluate IS/IT strategy in various organisational contexts, applying systems	C2	Perform effectively as a member of a team in complex and diverse working

	theory, and assess the social impact and management challenges which IS/IT systems bring to these organisations.		environments that may arise where members of a team are brought together from diverse backgrounds in the pursuit of European and global integration.
A3	Critically evaluate, measure and manage Information Systems quality.	C3	Deploy advanced techniques and solutions from one specialised field of computing to another and from one complex problem situation to another.
A4	Demonstrate an understanding of legal ethical and professional issues related to the management of Information Systems.	C4	Demonstrate a critical understanding of, and the ability to deploy effectively, a wide range of learning methods resources and technologies.
A5	Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and use of web-based applications.	C5	Manage their own learning and development demonstrating time management and organisational skills at a professional level.
A6	Assist organisations in developing effective Knowledge/data Management programmes to maintain competitive advantage in knowledge/data driven economies	C6	Demonstrate self-direction and originality in learning and problem-solving in familiar and unfamiliar situations.

A7		C7	Appreciate the need for continuing professional development in recognition of the need for lifelong learning.
Cognitive skills		**Graduate Skills**	
B1	Advise on the nature of Information Systems and their commercial possibilities	D1	
B2	Apply various business and management theories in the development of suitable strategies for the introduction and management of Information Systems in various organisational contexts	D2	
B3	Analyse, design, develop, implement, and evaluate web-based applications and use information in effective decision making	D3	
B4	Advise on relevant legal, ethical and professional issues governing Information	D4	

| B5 | Evaluate, select and manage Information Systems | D5 | |
| B6 | Identify critical Information Systems and Knowledge Management Systems success and failure factors and manage their quality | D6 | |

(Continuation from previous: "Systems and the use of Information Technology.")

Programme outcomes																		
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
Highest level achieved by all graduates																		
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code and Level	Programme outcomes																		
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
Information Systems Strategy and Management	BIS4440	x	x			x		x	x	x				x	x		x	x		

Module	Code	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Information Systems Quality Management	BIS4408	x		x			x		x		x	x		x	x				
Regulation of Electronic Commerce and Information Technology	BIS4425				x	x				x							x		x
Knowledge management Strategies	BIS4410				x	x		x			x			x	x	x	x		
Data management for decision support	BIS4435				x	x	x		x		x			x	x	x	x		
Postgraduate Computing Project *	BIS4992												x	x	x	x	x	x	

Project * - Depending on the focus of the project several other learning outcomes will be achieved and assessed

Project** - Students must pass successfully all the taught modules in order to progress to the project stage.