

# Programme Specification and Curriculum Map for MA International Business Economics



<b>1. Programme title</b>	International Business Economics
<b>2. Awarding institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3. Teaching institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>4. Programme accredited by</b>	N/A
<b>5. Final qualification</b>	MA
<b>6. Academic year</b>	2009 - 2010
<b>7. Language of study</b>	English
<b>8. Mode of study</b>	Full Time

## 9. Criteria for Admission to the Programme

Applicants must have:

- a good honours degree from a UK University in the field of finance or banking, economics, accountancy or business studies with an applied quantitative element, statistics, mathematics, engineering, physics, computing or science, or
- the equivalent of the above from a recognised overseas University.

Students whose first language is not English will need to demonstrate English language proficiency in addition to the other entry requirements. A minimum score of 6.5 IELTS or a TOEFL score of 575 for the written test or 230 for the computer test or a recognised equivalent qualification must be obtained.

## 10. Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to:

- provide students with the knowledge and skills to equip them for a career in business or public sector;
- develop students' competence in applying quantitative skills to the analysis of economic / business problems;
- develop students' critical and analytical powers to evaluate and understand the behaviour of international companies;
- develop critical, analytical problem-based learning skills and the transferable skills to prepare the student for employment as a professional economist; enhance the development of the students interpersonal and team skills.

<b>11. Programme Outcomes</b>	
<p><b>A. Knowledge and Understanding</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. current developments in international business economics;</li> <li>2. the role of data analysis in investigating issues in international business;</li> <li>3. major debates in business economics</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/Learning Methods</b></p> <p>Students acquire knowledge and understanding through reading the required text and articles on the subject, seminar work, presentations in the class, group work, debating issues between themselves and with staff.</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Student knowledge and understanding is assessed by coursework, unseen examination, presentations and through the research and writing undertaken to complete their dissertation.</p>
<p><b>B. Cognitive (Thinking) Skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. analyse and interpret economic data and information;</li> <li>2. identify and solve problems;</li> <li>3. demonstrate independence of mind by completing their dissertation;</li> <li>4. apply theory to practical problems and situations;</li> <li>5. identify and develop an area of research and source suitable supportive research to complete a dissertation;</li> <li>6. apply key economic theories to a range of scenarios including their dissertation.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/Learning Methods</b></p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working through a series of real life problems and seeking solutions</li> <li>• Reading and interpreting research articles</li> <li>• Listening and discussing a series of topics and theories</li> <li>• Identifying suitable research articles to support their learning and their dissertation</li> <li>• Applying theory to a specific problem and producing a significant piece of work based on their analysis</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by setting them coursework which requires them to download data, analyse, and interpret it and write reports.</p> <p>In addition, the planning, implementation and production of a dissertation will give students ample opportunity to think, plan and identify their weaknesses and work through these to solve specific problems.</p>

<p><b>C. Practical Skills</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. retrieve information from a range of different sources including electronic databases and use this to support their learning and the development of their dissertation;</li> <li>2. analyse and interpret data;</li> <li>3. apply the results of economic analysis to real life problems;</li> <li>4. plan, research, analyse data and research articles and produce a report of significant length working through a range of practical problems including the development and presentation of a suitable methodology.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/Learning Methods</b></p> <p>Students learn practical skills by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking at research material and identifying suitable support research to develop their own ideas</li> <li>• Completing coursework and practising for exams</li> <li>• Presenting case studies</li> <li>• Using electronic databases and analysis packages to understand the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Practical skills are assessed in students' coursework, exams and in the production of their dissertation.</p>
<p><b>D. Graduate Skills</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. structure and communicate ideas;</li> <li>2. manage their time and work to deadlines;</li> <li>3. work independently;</li> <li>4. find, classify and use research data to support their learning;</li> <li>5. evaluate the relevance of data in given situations.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/Learning Methods</b></p> <p>Students learn key skills through discussion, problem solving, class work, interacting in lectures and completing written exercises, examinations, coursework and their dissertation</p> <p><b>Assessment methods</b></p> <p>Students' key skills are assessed by: Presentations/Coursework/dissertations</p>

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

### 12. 1 Overall Structure of the Programme

The MA in International Business Economics is designed to be taught over one academic year full time, at the end of which students will be expected to submit a dissertation in November of the following academic year. The dissertation should not exceed 15,000 words. It should address a specific problem directly linked to at least one of the fields studied in this MA Programme and must be agreed with a tutor before being undertaken.

All classes are during daytime hours, commencing in the Autumn. Students are required to attend at the University for classes approximately twelve hours per week together with private study of approximately a further 37 hours per week.

<b>12.2 Levels and Modules</b>		
Level 4		
<b>COMPULSORY<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>OPTIONAL<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS</b>
Students must take all of the following:  ECS 4010 ECS 4030 ECS 4060 STX 4300	Students must also choose at least one from the following:  ECS 4015 ECS 4020 ECS 4025 ECS 4065 ECS 4080	

<b>12.3 Non-Compensatable Modules</b>	
<b>Module Code</b>	
N/A	

<b>13. Curriculum Map</b>
See Curriculum Map attached.

<b>14. Information about Assessment Regulations</b>
University and School Assessment Regulation apply to this programme. There are no exemptions to the regulations.

<b>15. Placement Opportunities, Requirements and Support (if applicable)</b>
N/A

<b>16. Future Careers</b>
Upon successful completion of this programme graduates should possess the necessary skills to pursue careers as professional economists, particularly within organisations having an international focus.

<sup>1</sup> Compulsory modules are those that must be taken, that is, the qualification cannot be made unless these modules have been successfully completed. Each of these modules makes a unique contribution to the learning objectives of the programme.

<sup>2</sup> Optional modules are those from which a specified minimum number must be taken, that is, the qualification cannot be given unless this specified minimum number of optional modules have been successfully completed. Each of the possible combinations of optional modules will make a similarly unique contribution to the achievement of the learning objectives of the programme.

**17. Particular Support for Learning (if applicable)**

- English Language Support, LR Facilities
- Programme Handbook and Module Handbook
- Programme Induction
- Access to Student Counsellors
- Online learning

**18. JACS Code (or other relevant coding system)**

L100

**19. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)**

N/A

**20. Reference Points**

- QAA Guidelines for Programme Specifications
- QAA Qualifications Framework
- Middlesex University Regulations
- Middlesex University Learning Framework – Programme Design Guidance, 2007
- Middlesex University Business School Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategy  
Business and Management subject Benchmark

Please note: 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 if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

## Curriculum map for MA International Business Economics

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.

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes																	
		A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Business Economics	ECS 4010				✓							✓		✓					
International Business and Globalisation	ECS 4060	✓						✓				✓		✓	✓				
Quantitative Data Analysis	STX 4300		✓	✓		✓					✓	✓						✓	✓
Dissertation	ECS 4030		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contemporary Issues in Chinese Economics and Finance	ECS 4025	✓		✓						✓		✓		✓					
Banking Theory and Practice	ECS4015	✓							✓					✓					
International Finance and Risk Management	ECS4020		✓		✓						✓	✓						✓	✓
Development Economics	ECS4065	✓						✓					✓		✓	✓			
Corporate Finance and Portfolio Management	ECS4080		✓		✓						✓	✓						✓	✓

## Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding		Practical Skills	
A1	Current developments in international business economics.	C1	Retrieve information from a range of different sources including electronic databases and use this to support their learning and the development of their dissertation.
A2	The role of data analysis in investigating issues in international business.	C2	Analyse and interpret data.
A3	Major debates in business economics.	C3	Apply the results of economic analysis to problems in an international business perspective.
		C4	Plan, research, analyse data and research articles and produce a report of significant length working through a range of practical problems including the development and presentation of a suitable methodology.
Cognitive Skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Analyse and interpret economic data and information.	D1	Structure and communicate ideas.
B2	Identify and solve problems.	D2	Manage their time and work to deadlines.
B3	Demonstrate independence of mind by completing a dissertation.	D3	Work independently.
B4	Apply theory to practical problems and situations.	D4	Find, classify and use research data to support their learning.
B5	Identify and develop an area of research and source suitable supportive research to complete a dissertation.	D5	Evaluate the relevance of data in given situations.
B6	Apply key economic/business theories to a range of scenarios including their dissertation.	D6	