Buckinghamshire New University

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Key Information

Programme Title:	MSc International Supply Chain Management MSc International Supply Chain Management with Placement Year
Awarding Institution:	Buckinghamshire New University
Teaching Institution(s):	Buckinghamshire New University
Subject Cluster:	Business
Award Title (including separate Pathway Award Titles where offered):	Master of Science in International Supply Chain Management
Pathways (if applicable)	N/A
FHEQ level of final award:	7
Other award titles available (exit qualifications):	PG Diploma in International Supply Chain Management PG Certificate in International Supply Chain Management
Accreditation details:	N/A
Length of programme:	One Year Two Years with Placement Year
Mode(s) of Study:	Full-Time
Mode of Delivery:	In person (on-site) delivery
Language of study:	English
QAA Subject Benchmark(s):	Business and Management (including Master's) (2023)
Other external reference points (e.g. Apprenticeship Standard):	N/A
Course Code(s):	MSITSCFT MSITSCSW
UCAS Code(s):	
Approval date:	July 2024
Date of last update:	July 2025

2. Programme Summary

In today's globalised marketplace, efficient supply chain management is essential for businesses to gain a competitive edge and meet evolving consumer demands. The MSc in International Supply Chain Management provides students with the cutting-edge knowledge and practical skills necessary to thrive in this dynamic and essential field.

This comprehensive programme teaches students how to manage complex international supply chains, equipping them with the ability to identify and implement strategic solutions

that drive operational excellence. With a strong emphasis on leveraging technology and innovative approaches, graduates will emerge as leaders in streamlining supply chain operations, enhancing efficiency, and reducing environmental impact.

The curriculum is designed to bridge the gap between theory and real-world applications, featuring a blend of case studies, hands-on software training, industry connections, and immersive company visits. Core modules explore the intricate domains of operations management, supply chain optimisation, and sustainable green logistics, ensuring students develop a holistic understanding of the field.

Graduates of this programme will not only acquire an understanding of supply chain challenges but will also cultivate essential leadership skills, positioning them to take advantage of the rapidly growing low-carbon economy. As businesses increasingly prioritise sustainability and environmental stewardship, the demand for professionals with expertise in green supply chain practices has never been higher.

The course offers the opportunity for students to collaborate with industry partners through live projects. This invaluable experience allows students to apply their knowledge to real-world challenges, fostering practical problem-solving abilities and establishing professional networks that can pave the way for future career success.

With its comprehensive curriculum, industry-relevant focus, and emphasis on sustainable practices, the MSc in International Supply Chain Management at BNU will empower graduates to navigate the complexities of global supply chains, drive innovation, and contribute to a more sustainable future for businesses and communities alike.

3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

Programme Aims

1. This programme aims to prepare its students to manage a high level of complexity within domestic and international supply chains

2. Graduates will be adept at formulating and implementing strategic decisions within supply chains. They will analyse complex scenarios, considering economic, environmental, and social factors, to optimise logistics operations.

3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of sustainable practices in supply chain management. They will develop solutions that minimize environmental impact, promote circular economy principles, and enhance overall sustainability.

4. Graduates will acquire proficiency in data analytics for supply chain decision-making. They will extract meaningful insights from large datasets, enabling informed choices related to inventory management, demand forecasting, and transportation optimization.

5. Students will refine their communication skills, both written and verbal. They will be able to convey supply chain strategies, negotiate with stakeholders, and collaborate effectively within cross-functional teams.

6. Graduates will be equipped to identify and mitigate risks within supply chains. They will understand the importance of resilience planning, crisis management, and contingency strategies to ensure uninterrupted operations. The course fosters ethical

leadership by emphasizing responsible supply chain practices. Graduates will navigate ethical dilemmas, uphold transparency, and champion social responsibility in their professional roles.

These outcomes align with industry demands and prepare students to excel in the dynamic field of logistics and supply chain management.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding (K)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
K1	Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic landscape of logistics and supply chain leadership, encompassing legal frameworks, ethical considerations, human capital management, environmental factors, social dynamics, and technological advancements, with a focus on international perspectives.
K2	Identify and mitigate risks within supply chains through resilience planning, crisis management strategies, and contingency plans to ensure uninterrupted operations.
K3	Synthesise the strategic allocation and utilisation of resources within supply chains, including financial capital, technological resources, material assets, and talent, with a critical appreciation of their role in driving organisational success and competitive advantage.
K4	Articulate effective written and verbal communication skills to convey supply chain strategies, negotiate with stakeholders, and collaborate across cross-functional teams.

Analysis and Criticality (C)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
C1	Evaluate complex supply chain scenarios and formulate strategic decisions by evaluating economic, environmental, and social factors to optimise logistics operations.
C2	Demonstrate an in-depth critical understanding of a chosen aspect of logistics or management through coursework, and presentations
C3	Examine critically a range of contemporary and pervasive issues which may change over time. These may include innovation, digitalisation; sustainability & environment, business ethics, values and norms.
C4	Analyse critically and develop appropriate supply chain policies and strategies within a changing context to meet and protect business interests in a professional academic and work setting.

Application and Practice (P)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
P1	Communicate a critical evaluation of individual and team performance in relation to overall business performance. Display empathetic and effective two-way communication skills including listening, negotiating and persuading or influencing others.
P2	Develop sustainable supply chain solutions that minimise environmental impact, promote circular economy principles, and enhance overall sustainability practices.
P3	Execute leverage data analytics to extract meaningful insights from large datasets, enabling informed decision-making for inventory management, demand forecasting, and transportation optimisation.
P4	Exhibit ethical leadership by navigating ethical dilemmas, upholding transparency, and championing socially responsible practices in professional supply chain roles.

Transferable skills and other attributes (T)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
T1	Develop self-confidence among peers and colleagues. Incorporate a critical ethical dimension to practice, managing the implications of ethical dilemmas and work proactively with others to formulate solutions in an academic and workplace environment.
T2	Evaluate alternative strategies to meet stakeholder requirements and a sensitivity to the diversity of people and different situations present in today's business world.
T3	Utilise effectively written, digital and oral communication skills to present information in a coherent and persuasive manner.
T4	Create connections between known and unknown areas, to allow for adaptation and change. Communicate complex ideas in a written form suitable for dissemination to a wider audience.

Graduate Attributes

The BNU Graduate Attributes of: Knowledge and its application; Creativity; Social and ethical awareness and responsibility; and Leadership and self-development focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens.

On this programme, attributes are developed through the facilitation of project management, negotiation, and reflexive thinking skills. The course design allows students to investigate and evaluate modern supply chain practices across the globe, through practical activities which will equip them with a critical awareness of how international organisations function and how evidence-based strategy contributes to the successful achievement of organisational goals.

A practical and practice-based programme, this course will equip students with the agile, reflexive, and critical thinking skills which are vital for success in modern organisations, including knowledge and application of the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The course is based around the three core pillars of creativity; social and ethical awareness and responsibility; and leadership and self-development and students will analyse the functional areas of international supply chain management through these themes giving them an immersive experience which will result in a thorough understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by organisations working across the globe in the 21st century.

4. Entry Requirements

The University's general entry requirements will apply to admission to this programme with the following additions / exceptions:

- Applicants to the programme will normally have obtained a Bachelor's degree with Honours (or equivalent) which can be in a range of subject disciplines or professions. Applicants need a minimum of a 2:2 in their degree to be considered.
- If your first language is not English or your language of instruction at undergraduate level was not English, you will be required to demonstrate English proficiency at an overall score of IELTS level 6.5 (or its equivalent) and no score below 6.0 in any category.

If you do not meet the entry requirements you may, if you have relevant professional experience, still be invited for interview, where you will be required to demonstrate the necessary knowledge and understanding for entry onto the course.

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules in accordance with our accreditation of prior learning (APL) process.

5. Programme Structure

Pathway 1 or stand-alone course (MSITSCFT)

Level	Modules (Code, Title, and Credits)	Exit Awards
Level 7	**Core modules:** BAM7053 Advanced Contract, Negotiation, and Financial Management (20) BAM7009 Digital Business Strategy (20) BAM7008 International Logistics and Operations (20) BAM7055 Environmental, Social, and Governance Management (20) BAM7054 Data-Driven Supply Chain Optimisation (20) BAM7056 Supply Chain Risk and Resilience Strategies (20) **Option modules:** *Choose one of the following 60 credit modules:* BAM7030 Independent Professional Project (60) BAM7048 Work Placement (60) BAM7047 Business Consultancy (60)	**Post Graduate Certificate International Supply Chain Management** 60 credits at level 7 **Post Graduate Diploma International Supply Chain Management** 120 credits at level 7

Pathway 2 – with Industrial Placement (Placement Year) (MSITSCSW)

Level	Modules (Code, Title, and Credits)	Exit Awards
Level 7	**Core modules – Year 1:** BAM7053 Advanced Contract, Negotiation, and Financial Management (20) BAM7009 Digital Business Strategy (20) BAM7008 International Logistics and Operations (20) BAM7055 Environmental, Social, and Governance Management (20) BAM7054 Data-Driven Supply Chain Optimisation (20) BAM7056 Supply Chain Risk and Resilience Strategies (20) **Core modules – Year 2:** BAM7107 – Industrial Placement (60) BAM7030 Independent Professional Project (60)	**Post Graduate Certificate International Supply Chain Management** 60 credits at level 7 **Post Graduate Diploma International Supply Chain Management** 120 credits at level 7

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

6. Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and teaching

The programme will engage and develop students' learning through face-to-face delivery, supported by effective use of the virtual learning environment (VLE) and flipped learning. Flipped learning supports students to participate in the learning process, through investigations, research and collaboration with others, to produce answers to questions set by the lecturer. Short-burst lecture elements (or very short periods of 'teacher talk' in between student activities) will form part of the programme, enhanced through an active and flipped learning approach. The Arena Blended Connected (ABC) curriculum framework will support the delivery of the curriculum, through the application of a range of teaching styles, such as acquisition, collaboration, investigation, discussion, practice and production, to encourage students to familiarise themselves with a range of learning styles and to be more active in sessions. The use of ABC will also lend itself well to the combination of VLE and in-class learning. The below definitions of inputs explain in more detail what students will be exposed to throughout their course of study.

Lectures

This is the most formal teaching strategy employed in teaching the modules but will constitute a much smaller part of the overall teaching and learning delivery. Short elements of the lecture method will be used to deliver a body of theoretical information to a group of learners and will be incorporated into a seminar, workshop, or tutorial session to consolidate learning.

The lecture format may be supported by written handouts, web or library references which serve to reinforce and expand the audio-visual information presented. In addition, staff will make appropriate use of the University's VLE and rich-media facilities. This will enable lecturers to enhance the traditional communication and learning mediums, as well as making material available to learners off-site and at the university.

Tutorials

Often in smaller groups or on a one-to-one basis, tutorials incorporate guided learning, which can either support a formal lecture by working through materials with the help of a module tutor or academic coach or by discussing plans for formative and summative assessment.

Practical Sessions

Most often in small groups, practical sessions will be made up of simulations, live briefs and role play elements, based on case studies and scenarios. This will enable students to immerse themselves in activities which mirror real-life situations.

Seminars

These can vary from large group seminars, which provide an opportunity for the learner-led formal debate of topic areas, to 'impromptu' discussion sessions with smaller groups, which may for example follow the showing of a video.

Other Activities

Other techniques such as industrial visits, guest lectures and computer aided learning tools will be used where appropriate. This variety of techniques is aimed at stimulating learning. The teaching and learning strategies for individual modules are detailed in the relevant module descriptors.

Assessment

The assessment of this programme includes varied methods. Assessments are, wherever possible, authentic, and tied to real-world contexts and constraints, allowing students to practically demonstrate the skills they have developed. Selected assessments will provide aspects of co-created learning to enable the students to create an individual project. Indicative projects may include simulations, data analysis, pitches, live negotiations, and debates.

The final professional module, worth 60 credits, provides students with three options – a professional project, professional work placement and professional consultancy. All three options enable students to bring together the knowledge, practical and analytical skills that they will have developed throughout the programme.

Selected assessments will provide enough opportunity for learners to exhibit a level of innovation and creativity associated with excellence. Throughout the programme, students will be exposed to a variety of summative and formative assessments whilst developing the academic skills to be a successful learner at post-graduate level study.

Contact Hours

Students can expect to receive approximately 4 hours of scheduled learning activities per week. These will include a combination of lectures, seminars, and workshops. A full breakdown of contact hours can be found in individual module descriptors.

7. Programme Regulations

This programme will be subject to the following assessment regulations:

- *Regulations for Taught Degree Programmes (2023)*

8. Support for learners

The following systems are in place to support you to be successful with your studies:

- The appointment of a personal tutor to support you through your programme.
- A programme handbook and induction at the beginning of your studies
- Library resources, include access to books, journals, and databases - many of which are available in electronic format – and support from trained library staff.
- Access to Blackboard, our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which is accessible via PC, laptop, tablet, or mobile device.
- Access to the MyBNU portal where you can access all University systems, information, and news, record your attendance at sessions, and access your personalised timetable.
- Academic Registry staff providing general guidance on University regulations, exams, and other aspects of students and course administration.
- Central student services, including teams supporting academic skills development, career success, student finance, accommodation, chaplaincy, disability, and counselling.
- Support from the Bucks Students' Union, including the Students' Union Advice Centre which offers free and confidential advice on University processes.

9. Programme monitoring and review

BNU has several ways for monitoring and reviewing the quality of learning and teaching on your programme. You will be able to comment on the content of your programme via the following feedback mechanisms:

- Formal feedback questionnaires and anonymous module 'check-ins.'
- Participation in external surveys, including the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES).
- Programme Committees, via appointed student representatives.
- Informal feedback to your programme leader.

Quality and standards on each programme are assured via the following mechanisms:

- An initial event to approve the programme for delivery.
- An annual report submitted by the External Examiner following a process of external moderation of work submitted for assessment.
- The Annual Monitoring process, which is overseen by the University's Education Committee.
- Periodic Subject Review events held every five years.
- Other sector compliance and review mechanisms.

10. Internal and external reference points

Design and development of this programme has been informed by the following internal and external reference points:

- Office for Students (OfS) Regulatory Framework
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education (2023)
- QAA Higher Education Credit Framework for England (2021)
- QAA Characteristics Statement: Master's Degree (2020)
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Business and Management (including Master's) – see detailed mapping below.
- BNU Qualifications and Credit Framework
- BNU Grading Descriptors
- BNU Policies and Regulations
- The University Strategy, Thrive 2028
- Charter Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS)
- Chartered Management Institute
- Institute of Supply Chain Management
- Equality Act (2010)

Mapping of Subject Benchmark Statement and any relevant Apprenticeship Standard to Programme Learning Outcomes

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard:	Knowledge and understanding (K)				Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)			
Benchmark / Standard requirement	**K1**	**K2**	**K3**	**K4**	**C1**	**C2**	**C3**	**C4**	**P1**	**P2**	**P3**	**P4**	**P5**	**T1**	**T2**	**T3**	**T4**
Knowledge: A systematic and deep understanding of relevant knowledge about organisations, their external context, how they are managed and the detailed relationship between these and their application to practice.	X	X	X	X										X			
Knowledge: Comprehensive understanding of appropriate techniques sufficient to allow detailed investigation, research or advanced scholarship into relevant business and management issues or specialism within business and management.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Skills: An excellent command of subject-specific academic and professional skills relevant to the appropriate field of business and management as well as consistent proficiency in generic skills and attributes.					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Critical perspective: A critical awareness of current issues in business and management which is informed by leading edge research and practice in the field as well as by a proactive and independent approach to learning.	X				X	X	X	X									

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard:	Knowledge and understanding (K)				Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)			
Benchmark / Standard requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4
Critical perspective: Conceptual understanding that enables students to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the field of business and management or a specialism within it.					X	X	X	X						X			
Application: Application of relevant knowledge to a range of complex situations, taking account of its relationship and interaction with other areas of the business or organisation.									X	X	X	X	X				
Application: Originality and creativity in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in business and management, or in a specialist field within it.				X					X	X	X	X	X		X		
Application: Ability to evaluate and integrate theory and practice in a wide range of situations.						X					X	X	X				X
Application: An understanding of how the boundaries of knowledge are advanced through research.					X	X	X	X									
Values: A commitment to championing the values of global social responsibility, ethical values and behaving with integrity.	X	X	X				X			X	X						

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard:	Knowledge and understanding (K)				Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)			
Benchmark / Standard requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4
Values: An ability to take an international perspective, including understanding the impact of globalisation on businesses, societies and the environment and the ethical implications.	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X			X			
Values: An ability to manage and lead with a strong sense of global social responsibility, appreciating the contradictory challenges this presents in complex business and management environments.		X	X								X					X	

Mapping of Programme Learning Outcomes to Modules

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)				Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)				Transferable skills and other attributes (T)			
Module Code (Core)	K1	K2	K3	K4	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	T1	T2	T3	T4
Level 7																
BAM7008 International Logistics and Operations	X	X		X	X	X			X			X	X			X
BAM7009 Digital Business Strategy			X	X			X	X				X	X	X		
BAM7053 Advanced Contract, Negotiation, and Financial Management	X		X	X	X		X		X				X			
BAM7055 Environmental, Social, and Governance Management	X				X		X			X		X		X		
BAM7054 Data-Driven Supply Chain Optimisation			X		X						X				X	X
BAM7056 Supply Chain Risk and Resilience Strategies		X		X				X			X					X
BAM7030 Independent Professional Project	X				X	X							X			X
BAM7047 Work Placement					X								X			X
BAM7048 Business Consultancy					X								X			X
BAM7107 – Industrial Placement		X					X					X	X		X	X