

## Programme Specification

1	<b>Awarding body</b>	University of London
2	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>
3	<b>Programme Title(s)</b>	<b>MSc Corporate Governance and Ethics</b>
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMSGVETH_C
5	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A
6	<b>Home Department</b>	Management
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 year (full-time); 2 years (part-time)
9	<b>Mode of Study</b> (FT/PT/DL)	FT/PT
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	7
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution</b>	Geography Politics
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A
13	<a href="#">QAA Benchmark Group</a>	N/A

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<p><b>Main Aims:</b>          The main aim of the programme is to provide a postgraduate level education for those interested in studying the complex and changing relationships between business corporations, their stakeholders (shareholders, employees, customers, suppliers etc.) and the societies in which they operate. The economic and financial aspects of corporate governance relationships have long been of concern to those in the business and investment communities, and in recent years the social, political and moral aspects of these relationships have also become a major public concern. This programme aims to address both these sets of issues and to meet the needs of people wishing to engage critically with the policy aspects of corporate governance as well as those wishing to be involved professionally in the direction and regulation of companies and the management or trusteeship of pension funds and other investments. The programme is available one year full-time or two years part-time and will combine coursework and independent research leading to a dissertation.</p> <p><b>Distinctive Features:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The programme is international in scope, recognising both the wide variety of cultures and corporate governance systems within which businesses operate worldwide and the increasing globalization of business and finance.</li> <li>• The programme builds on the Department of Management's research strength in Corporate Governance and Business Ethics. This is supported by the London Centre for Corporate Governance and Ethics Research Centre.</li> <li>• The programme combines an interdisciplinary approach with an in-depth research training in Management. It provides a strong foundation for PhD research in the area and has achieved ESRC Research Training recognition.</li> <li>• The program benefits from the involvement of a number of leading figures in the field</li> </ul>

	including members of national and international committees on corporate governance, shareholder activists and NGO representatives.
15	<p><b>Entry Criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normally at least a second-class honours degree in any subject area from a UK university or a non-UK equivalent; other qualifications will be considered.</li> <li>• Non-native English speakers need to provide proof of English language ability: A minimum IELTS score of 6.5 (with a minimum of 6 in the sub-tests) and provide the certificate.</li> <li>• A professional or other qualification obtained by written examinations approved by the College.</li> <li>• Relevant experience, supporting statements and references may be taken into consideration, especially in the case of non-standard applications.</li> </ul>
16	<p><b>Learning Outcomes</b></p> <p>On successful completion of the programme, students will be able to:</p> <p><b>Subject Specific:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain some insight into national systems of corporate governance in the major world economies; of the political and economic principles and cultural values on which these are based; and of the pressures promoting and resisting their convergence.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a critical understanding of the nature, behaviour and outcomes associated with the social, economic, political and legal systems that govern the modern corporation: an understanding of the key roles and relationships through which corporate governance is realized; an appreciation of the key similarities and differences across national corporate governance systems and the key pressures for reform within these systems; an understanding of the key ethical issues which arise in relation to corporate activity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Intellectual:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge of theories and systems of corporate governance</li> <li>• Critically assess corporate governance theories and systems</li> <li>• Assess the reliability and validity of quantitative and qualitative analyses</li> <li>• Demonstrate imaginative and original approaches to the use of theoretical and methodological tools in different subject areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Practical:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate library and archive skills including the ability to conduct literature searches using electronic databases such as the Social Science Citation Index and EBSCO Host.</li> <li>• Apply appropriate essay/report writing skills</li> <li>• Demonstrate an appropriate level of numeracy and IT skills.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal and Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through coursework, class discussion and group work the student will gain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral presentation and communication skills</li> <li>• Writing skills</li> <li>• Ability to work in teams</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In summary, the postgraduate programmes in Corporate Governance &amp; Business Ethics comprise a comprehensive programme of intellectual inquiry and training that develops</p>

	knowledge, skills, and competencies that are transferable to a wide range of research, teaching and applied situations.
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17	<b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b>
	<p>The assessment for each module varies from a combination of coursework and unseen, formal examination, to modules that are assessed by exam only or by coursework only. The length of the coursework and exam will vary depending on whether they are the only mode of assessment for the module or whether they are combined with another mode of assessment.</p> <p>In regards to the coursework, it can be noted that the student is required to adopt a critical and interpretive approach when answering the question set and the department's marking criteria is adhered to when the examiners mark the scripts. The outline answers provided by the module convenor (to the second marker(s)) act as a standard against which the quality of the work is assessed.</p> <p>The summative assessment for all modules measures each student's attainment with respect to the learning objectives, and it can be noted that the external examiners are charged with approving the formal, unseen examination papers. The examination questions set ask students to link theory and practice, and critically appraise assumptions. The examination process is rigorous and provides an opportunity to test a student's understanding of the subject matter.</p> <p>Both the course work assignment and the unseen, formal examination, require students to think logically and to adopt an analytical approach to answering the question. It can be argued that the assessment is balanced and all timetabling takes into account the fact that those students with specific needs, have their needs taken into account and they are not disadvantaged in any way. The pass mark is 50% for the combined course work and unseen, formal examination. Each student is allowed one re-sit.</p>

18	<b>Programme Structure</b>
	<p><b>Description:</b> The degree consists of eight modules (totalling 120 credits) and a 12,000-word dissertation (worth 60 credits).</p>

<b>Full-time programme - 1 year</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	MOMN028H7	Corporate Governance	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN039H7	Corporate Responsibility	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN032H7	International Business Ethics	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory
7	BUMN061D7	MSc Dissertation	60	Core
7		Option modules – from closed list, see below	30	Option
7		Option modules – free choice from any postgraduate modules in the Department of Management	30	Option

Year of entry: 2022/23

<b>Part-time Programme - 2 years</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	MOMN028H7	Corporate Governance	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN039H7	Corporate Responsibility	15	Compulsory
7	MOMN032H7	International Business Ethics	15	Compulsory
7		Option module – from closed list, see below	15	Option
7		Option module – free choice from any postgraduate modules in the Department of Management (including closed list)	15	Option
<b>Year 2</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory
7	BUMN061D7	MSc Dissertation	60	Core
7		Option module – from closed list, see below	15	Option
7		Option module – free choice from any postgraduate modules in the Department of Management (including closed list)	15	Option
<b>Indicative list of modules for closed options:</b>				
7	BUMN070H7	Economics for Managers	15	Option
7	BUMN114H7	Environmental Economics	15	Option
7	MOMN074H7	Globalization: Forces, Players and Management	15	Option
7	BUMN069H7	Institutions, Governance and Development	15	Option
7	BUMN173H7	Legal Perspectives on Governance	15	Option
7	MOMN010H7	Principles of Organization and Management	15	Option
7	BUMN002H7	Sport Governance	15	Option

**Status\***

*CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module*

23	<b>Programme Director</b>	Dr Sue Konzelmann
24	<b>Start Date</b> ( <i>term/year</i> )	October 2002
25	<b>Date approved by TQEC</b>	Spring 2002
26	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Summer 2002
27	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	January 2021