

# BS1131 PERSPECTIVES ON BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

**Module Number:** BS1131

**Module Title:** Perspectives on Business and Management

**Number of Aston Credits:** 10

**Total Number of ECTS Credits:** 5  
(European Credit Transfer)

## **Staff Member Responsible for the Module:**

Dr Josie Kelly  
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## **Other Staff Contributing to the Module:**

**Professor Pawan Budhwar**  
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Availability: Please see office hours on door or group  
administrator, Jenny Thompson, SW8002, Extension 3257

**Lydia Matheson**  
Information Specialist [Business]  
Library & Information Services, Extension 4507  
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Availability: Please see library webpage or contact her directly

## **Pre-Requisite(s) for the Module:**

None

## **Module Learning Outcomes:**

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

To successfully complete the module, students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in the following areas;

- The use of concepts and theories used in the study of business and management from different perspectives;

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- Comprehension of the links between the modules studied in year one of the degree programme;
- Awareness of intercultural difference and how to benefit from them

### **Cognitive/Analytical Skills**

To successfully complete the module, students will be required to demonstrate their cognitive and analytical skills in the following areas;

- An awareness of the range and necessity of using management science concepts to analyse business and management practice;
- Demonstrable knowledge and understanding of the importance of academic and research skills to secure information and data to analyse and report on problems and solutions;
- Competence in utilising new material and findings to plan and to compete a project with others;

### **Subject Specific Skills**

To successfully complete the module, students will be required to demonstrate their subject specific skills in the following areas;

- Understanding of the multiple academic disciplines used in contemporary studies of business and management.

### **Key/Transferrable Skills**

To successfully complete the module, students will be required to demonstrate their key transferable skills in the following areas;

- Understanding of appropriateness of different forms of communication, including writing styles and knowledge of how to use them to best effect;
- Working effectively in teams;
- Following complex instructions and directions;

### **Module Content:**

The module contains three elements; first, ***Academic Skills and Competencies***; provides an introduction to a range of academic competencies which are essential for students embarking on their university career. Second, ***Intercultural Skills***; addresses key intercultural awareness and group working skills which are essential for studying and working in an international environment. The third element of the module ***the Study of Business and Management*** provides an introduction to the academic study of business and management by looking at a particular sector of the UK and international economy.

Please be aware that there will be a full module hand-out available on BlackBoard at the start of semester 1 which will provide more information about the course, the reading list and the assessments.

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## LECTURE PROGRAMME

### **Academic Skills and Competencies**

Week One	Introduction and overview of the module.
Week Two	The Library and the use of academic resources
Week Three	Academic writing
Week Four	Learning styles

### **Intercultural Skills**

Week Five	Intercultural Awareness
Week Six	Working effectively in groups and how to get the most from your team's diversity of background and experience

### **Introduction to the Study of Business and Management**

Week Seven	Introduction to the UK Food Industry Overview of the diversity of business and management
Week Eight	Rise of the Supermarkets – the creation of shareholder value
Week Nine	Buy cheap, pay dear; supply chain management of the food industry
Week Ten	Government and Business; The environmental implications and ethics of the food industry

### **International Dimensions:**

The module will explore the international nature of the UK food industry and the implications this has for exporting countries and for the UK economy. A particular focus of the module is the cross national and international interconnectivity of business and management.

### **Corporate Connections:**

No formal links but students will be expected to look at individual companies and their corporate activities.

### **Links to Research:**

The teaching will be informed by contemporary research and scholarship previously and currently undertaken by the tutors.

### **Learning and Teaching Rationale and Methods:**

(Including composition of learning hours)

The module is similar to other modules at level one and comprises of 10 x 1 hour lectures and 5 tutorials. Students will also be supported by structured learning and advice on how to explore each weekly theme independently. Students will also be encouraged to set up study groups with their peers in addition to their contribution to the group assignment.

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## Contact and directed learning

### Teaching Activities

Lectures	10 hours
Tutorials/Workshops	5 hours

### Learning Activities

Directed learning activities	25 hours
Independent scholarship	22 hours
Formative assessment preparation	15hour
Final assessment preparation	20 hours
Intercultural training	3 hours
Total	<b>100 hours</b>

### Ethical Approval:

(If primary research is involved)  
Not applicable

### Assessment and Feedback Rationale and Methods:

The assessment for this module is in two parts; an individual written assessment and a group work activity.

In addition to generic feedback, students will also receive individual feedback on their assignments. In addition, advice and guidance on how to complete the coursework successfully will be provided in the lectures and tutorials.

Submission date	Nature of assignment	Weighting
Monday week 6	Reflection on a journal article (1000 words max)	50%
Monday week 11	Group Power Point slides and narrative	50%

More information about the assignments will be available in the module hand-out. Advice on the assignments will be provided in lectures and seminars.