Aston Business School
Birmingham

BNM804 ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING

Number of Aston Credits: 15

Number of ECTS Credits: 7.5

Staff Members Responsible for the Module:

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Pre-Requisites for the Module:

None

Module Learning Outcomes:

This module provides a broad understanding of the functionality and capabilities of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Systems.

On successful completion of the module students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an appreciation of the core interactions and dependencies that exist between the key functions of a business
- Discuss the role of information systems in the support of business functions and, particularly, cross-functional business processes
- Describe the way Enterprise planning Systems have developed, their functional capabilities and the role of the underpinning technologies
- Discuss ERP success rates, implementation strategies and related issues
- Discuss the role of business process re-engineering (BRP) in ERP implementation
- Discuss recent extensions of ERP into Advanced Planning Systems (APS), Supply Chain Management (SCM), Product Data Management (PDM) and the impact of technology developments like Service Oriented Architecture (SOA).

Module Content:

The ability to appreciate the value and challenge of ERP systems depends on the student understanding the interdependencies that are present between the functions in all

The SAP Alliance provides access to case materials, external speakers and SAP software. The Alliance provides the opportunity for students to take a foundation SAP certification qualification during the year utilising on-line delivery arranged through the Alliance (i.e. not delivered by Aston). This module provides an excellent preparation for this further study.

Method of Learning and Teaching:

To understand the benefits and role of ERP it is necessary to put the use of the system in the context of the normal operational processes of a business. This is achieved here by the in-depth analysis of the potential for application of ERP in a real company (the subject of ERP implementation through an ABS/KTP programme). This is the basis of the group project. The students have to develop the case for ERP through analysis of the impact ERP would have on the company's competitive position, the changes necessary to its business processes and the issues that must be considered for successful implementation. Conventional lectures, directed reading and tutorials are also employed. The completed project is assessed through submission of a report detailing the recommendations for ERP implementation to the case company. The standard ABS system for peer assessment will be used. The group size is set at maximum of 5. Tutorial sessions will be used to support the case exercise and the lectured material.

Workshop sessions will be used to provide students with experience of the operation of an ERP system in a way that parallels the use of such systems in real companies. External speakers will be used to further develop this understanding of the practical implications of the application of such systems.

Contact and directed learning:

Lectures	15 hours
Tutorials	5 hours
Workshops	10 hours
Background & Directed study	30 hours
Group Design Exercise	50 hours
Group workshop exercises	30 hours
Revision	10 hours
Total	**150 hours**

Method of Assessment:

The assessment is via a two-hour closed book examination (60%) and one piece of coursework (40%).

The piece of coursework (40%) is group based and concerns the analysis of a case company business processes and the development of a proposal to justify the implementation of ERP in the firm. The analysis and design work are assessed through submission of a project portfolio of materials that documents the company analysis

O'Leary DE (2000), Enterprise Resource Planning Systems, Systems, Life Cycle, Electronic Commerce, and Risk, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Shields MG (2001), E-Business and ERP, Rapid Implementation and Project Planning, New York: Wiley.

Wallace TF & Kremzar MH (2001), ERP, Making it Happen, The Implementers' Guide to Success with Enterprise Resource Planning, New York: Wiley.

Practitioner Journals:

Institute of Operations Managament (IOM): Control