Postgraduate Programme Specification

Session	2025/26	**Last Modified**	23/03/2025
Named Award Title	MSc Project Management		
Award Title for Each Award	MSc Project Management PG Dip Project Management PG Cert Project Management		
Date of Approval	February 2025		
Details of Cohort Applies to	All students from 2025-2026		
Awarding Institution	University of the West of Scotland	**Teaching Institution(s)**	University of the West of Scotland
Language of Instruction & Examination		English	
Award Accredited by		APM	
Maximum Period of Registration		2 years full-time, typically 3 years part-time	
Duration of Study			
Full-time	1	**Part-time**	2
Placement (compulsory)	n/a		
Mode of Study	☒ Full-time ☒ Part-time		
Campus	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☒ London ☒ Paisley	☒ Online / Distance Learning ☒ Other (specify) TNE LUBM
School	**Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences**		
Divisional Programme Board	**Engineering Physical Sciences**		
Programme Leader	A Durrant and H Faris		

Admissions Criteria
Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

Appropriate Undergraduate Qualifications:
Applicants will typically possess a degree or equivalent. In the absence of a degree, where entry requirements do not conform to the general entry requirements, other evidence can be considered on an individual basis in line with Regulations 2.13 – 2.36 (Recognition of Prior Learning – RPL / Recognition of Credit).

Appropriate Undergraduate Qualification is an honours degree from a United Kingdom University or an equivalent institution. Direct entry to the MSc course will require students to have completed a Postgraduate Diploma in an appropriate discipline or an acceptable equivalent.

Other Required Qualifications/Experience
Non-standard Entry: entry to the postgraduate course (other than Masters direct) may be open to holders of an HND or DipHE award, or a professional qualification accepted as of equivalent status and usually at least three years' relevant experience at a management level. Candidates without formal qualifications who possess extensive professional experience deemed to equip the applicant with the necessary knowledge and skills to successfully complete the course (normally at least eight years at a management level) may also be admitted to the postgraduate programme. The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Guidelines will be followed.

All students with non-standard entry may be interviewed by one or more members of the course committee. During the interview, evidence of relevant experience will be required to determine if the applicant has the range of knowledge and ability to lead in to the postgraduate programme. International student applications are reviewed by the programme leader, references checked and transcripts considered to ensure the applicant's qualifications and background are suitable for the programme.

Applicants may also be considered with other academic, vocational or professional qualifications deemed to be equivalent.

We welcome applications from international students with equivalency of qualifications. Scholarships may be available on application.

Where English is not first language, applicants must be able to satisfy the University of their competence in English in line with Regulation 2.12, by having an IELTS score of 6.0 or above (with a minimum of 5.5. in each component) or equivalent.
Details are available at the UWS website https://www.uws.ac.uk/international/english-language-requirements/.

Further desirable skills pre-application
It is desirable that all entrants to SCQF level 11 have skills in the following areas: numeracy, communication (including report writing and presentation) and investigation techniques.

General Overview
General Overview
This programme examines current practices, issues and trends in the field of project management and provides students with specialist knowledge to enable them to manage projects to a successful conclusion. The programme is structured around a number of core taught modules namely, Project Management Fundamentals; Projects in Practice; Change Management and Leadership; Project Risk Management; Strategic Project Management and

Sustainability and the MSc Project. The delivery of these modules is designed to suit part-time students, full-time students and DL students.
The programme not only develops technical knowledge in project management but also employability skills such as critical thinking, analysis, problem solving, communication, research and ICT skills.
The programme has been designed with reference to the Benchmarking statements for Masters Degrees in Business and Management (2023) and the Association for Project Management's Body of Knowledge. It is accredited by the Association for Project Management (APM).

The key academic aims of the programme are to:

- Produce graduates with the necessary skills and confidence to guide and manage projects to a successful completion.
- To produce graduates with key skills for employment in the field of, and associated fields of, project management.
- To produce graduates with an enquiring, analytical and creative approach to managing projects.
- To develop and encourage independent judgement and critical awareness in managing projects.
- To guide the student in developing an independent approach to investigatingand presenting findings on a research topic at postgraduate level.

The programme takes 12 months full-time and 24 part-time to complete.
Maximum registration period is 2 years full-time and 3 years part-time.
The programme is delivered: Hybrid and by Distance Learning.
When not attending campus, students should be equipped with their own laptop and licensed copy of Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Project.
The School of Computing, Engineering and Physical Sciences offers a range of opportunities for further study such as progression to MPhil and PhD as well as offering other relevant Masters programmes.

Typical Delivery Method
Delivery of the programme is by on-campus lectures, tutorials and group work activity. The timetables are produced to ensure on-campus learning time is efficiently maximised.

Any additional costs
No

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning
The programme is designed with employability as a priority. All modules encourage and develop these skills in order that the graduate has skills to equip them for employment in the 21st century. Such skills include critical thought, analysis and problem solving, communication, team building, research and ICT.
On completion of the Project Management programme, you will gain the following Graduate Attributes:

- You will be a critical thinker working collaboratively with colleagues on research-minded projects
- You will be an ambitious, motivated work ready professional, able to show future employers you are a problem solver and an effective communicator
- Your research will be innovative and creative producing resilient solutions to our project management challenges.

The University is committed to providing the opportunity to engage with an e-portfolio-based model of (Personal Development Plan) PDP for all students enrolled on University programmes. The process is based upon self review by students at all stages of their study and developing individual learning plans. More specifically students enrolled onto the MSc Project Management will be encouraged to engage in PDP supported through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), induction, the module Change Management and Leadership and the personal tutor system. PDP is further supported through presentations and seminar attendance by the professional bodies such as the APM.
Students will also be encouraged to take advantage of free membership of the Association for Project Management (APM), giving them access to materials and events in this field.

As graduates of this programme, your skills will be applicable in a wide variety of modern industrial and administrative situations. You will be able to devise data-driven solutions to the changes that the modern economy demands, then monitor and manage their progress. The programme seeks to teach these attributes, regardless as to the academic background of your original bachelors' degree.

UWS Graduate Attributes- https://www.uws.ac.uk/current-students/your-graduate-attributes/

Work Based Learning/Placement Details

There is no placement associated with the programme. However, work related learning opportunities for face-to-face students are delivered through field trips, case studies and a 'live' audit at the postgraduate diploma level.
For Distance Learning (DL) students, the entire programme will be carried out in the workplace. DL students, if appropriate will have a mentor in the workplace, and there will be agreed contact points between the company and UWS.
Invited speakers from the profession will also enhance the learning for the student at all levels and all modes of delivery.
All students will be encouraged to carry out their dissertation with a company or in an area that is deemed useful to industry.
All students will be encouraged to join the Association for Project Management (APM) as student members. The APM provides the opportunity for networking, access to resources and information on project management.

Attendance and Engagement

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this programme, academic engagement equates to the following:

On campus students are expected to attend all timetabled sessions and to engage with all formative and summative assessment elements of all the modules that are included in the programme specification as core modules as well as any optional module when applicable.

On-line students are expected to engage via the University VLE and video conferences as well as engaging with all formative and summative assessment elements of all the modules that are included in the programme specification as core modules as well as any optional module when applicable.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.

Aligned with the University's commitment to equality and diversity, all modules in this programme support equality of opportunity for students from all backgrounds and learning needs. Using the VLE, material will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content. This module complies with University regulations and guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice in accordance with the University's policies and regulations. More information on the University's EDI policies can be accessed at: https://www.uws.ac.uk/about-uws/uws-commitments/equality-diversity-inclusion/ (N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School).

Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards (Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework)

Learning Outcomes

SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the principal theories and concepts of project management.
A2	Develop a critical awareness of methodologies and technologies for project management.
A3	N/A
A4	N/A
A5	N/A
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Effectively use the main techniques of project management to ensure a project achieves its objectives.
B2	Effectively apply methodologies to projects.
B3	Critically evaluate the impact of the project in relation to risk, change and society.
B4	N/A
B5	N/A
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Communicate to a range of audiences with different levels of knowledge and expertise.
C2	Use a wide range of software including MS project to enhance learning.
C3	N/A
C4	N/A
C5	N/A
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Apply critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to issues in the field of project management.
D2	Apply scenario analysis to project problems.
D3	N/A
D4	N/A
D5	N/A
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Exercise substantial autonomy and initiative in learning activities.
E2	Demonstrate the key interpersonal skills for managing projects such as leadership and teambuilding.
E3	N/A
E4	N/A

E5	N/A

Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	QUAL11013	Project Management Fundamentals	20	☒	☒	☒	1
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

Footnotes for Core Modules

1. Should the student fail to pass QUAL11013 Project Management Fundamentals, a named award cannot be given.

Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	QUAL11021	Projects in Practice	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11028	Sustainability & Organisational Strategy	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11016	Case Studies in Project Management	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11015	Change Management and Leadership	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11019	Project Risk Management	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11026	Postgraduate Research Methods	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11030	Entrepreneurial Project Management	20	☐	☐	☒	London only
11	QUAL11029	Cost Estimation and Financial Planning in Industry	20	☐	☒	☒	Paisley only
11	QUAL11XXX	AI for Project Managers	20	☒	☒	☒	

Footnotes for Option Modules

An additional 40 credits should be selected from the above optional modules for the award of PgCert.

Level 11- Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) **Criteria for Award**

Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations
1. Students who achieve 60 credits from the programme above, including all core modules will be eligible for the award of Pg Cert Project Management. Note: Another module can be selected where there is up to a 20-credit deficit of optional modules and where the programme learning outcomes can be met. This must be done in discussion with the programme leader.

SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of developments in project management.
A2	Develop a critical awareness of risk management issues within the project environment.
A3	N/A
A4	N/A
A5	N/A
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Select and use a range of specialised skills and techniques for project management.
B2	Apply the skills and techniques of project management to solve complex problems
B3	Apply modelling and analytical techniques for risk management.
B4	Develop and apply knowledge to case study scenarios.
B5	N/A
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Communicate, using appropriate methods, to a range of project stakeholders and team members.
C2	Communicate with peers, more senior colleagues and specialists.
C3	Undertake critical evaluation of a wide range of numerical and graphical data.
C4	Choose and apply appropriate software to assist in managing projects.
C5	N/A
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Identify, conceptualise and define new and abstract problems and issues in project management.
D2	Develop original and creative responses to problems and issues.
D3	Critically evaluate case studies for project success.
D4	N/A
D5	N/A
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Demonstrate effective end ethical project and team leadership.
E2	Develop the ability to reflect on own and others' roles and responsibilities.
E3	Deal with complex and ethical and professional issues.
E4	N/A
E5	N/A

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	QUAL11013	Project Management Fundamentals	20	☒	☒	☒	1
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

Footnotes for Core Modules

1. Should the student fail to pass QUAL11013 Project Management Fundamentals, a named award cannot be given.

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	QUAL11021	Projects in Practice	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11028	Sustainability & Organisational Strategy	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11016	Case Studies in Project Management	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11015	Change Management and Leadership	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11019	Project Risk Management	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11026	Postgraduate Research Methods	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11030	Entrepreneurial Project Management	20	☐	☐	☒	London only
11	QUAL11029	Cost Estimation and Financial Planning in Industry	20	☐	☒	☒	Paisley only
11	QUAL11XXX	AI for Project Managers	20	☒	☒	☒	

Footnotes for Option Modules

Students must select 100 credits from the modules shown above

Level 11- Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip)
Criteria for Award
Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations

1. Students who achieve 120 credits from the programme above, including all core modules, will be eligible for the award of Pg Dip Project Management.

2. Distinction will be awarded in line with University Regulations, no imported credit can be used. (Regulations 3.25 & 3.26).

Note: Another module can be selected where there is up to a 20-credit deficit of optional modules and where the programme learning outcomes can be met. This must be done in discussion with the programme leader.

SCQF LEVEL 11 – Masters Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Develop a critical awareness of current issues in project management.
A2	Critically evaluate evidence from a variety of sources.
A3	Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice.
A4	N/A
A5	N/A
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Demonstrate originality and creativity in the application of project management knowledge.
B2	N/A
B3	N/A
B4	N/A
B5	N/A
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Formulate and present a written volume of work on project management.
C2	Communicate with a range of people to research a topic.
C3	N/A
C4	N/A
C5	N/A
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Critically review, consolidate and extend knowledge, skills, practices and thinking in areas of project management.
D2	Make informed judgements in situations in the absence of complete or consistent data.
D3	N/A
D4	N/A
D5	N/A
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Deal effectively with complex ethical and professional issues in managing projects.
E2	N/A
E3	N/A
E4	N/A
E5	N/A

Masters Modules

CORE

		Module Title	Credit	Term	Footnotes

SCQF Level	Module Code			1	2	3	
11	QUAL11013	Project Management Fundamentals	20	☒	☒	☒	1
11	QUAL11012	MSc Project	60	☒	☒	☒	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

Footnotes for Core Modules

Should the student fail to pass QUAL11013 Project Management Fundamentals, a named award cannot be given.

Masters Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	QUAL11021	Projects in Practice	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11028	Sustainability & Organisational Strategy	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11016	Case Studies in Project Management	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11015	Change Management and Leadership	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11019	Project Risk Management	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11026	Postgraduate Research Methods	20	☒	☒	☒	
11	QUAL11030	Entrepreneurial Project Management	20	☐	☐	☒	London only
11	QUAL11029	Cost Estimationand Financial Planning in Industry	20	☐	☒	☒	Paisley only
11	QUAL11XXX	AI for Project Managers	20	☒	☒	☒	

Footnotes for Option Modules

Students must select 100 credits from the modules shown above

Level 11- Masters
Criteria for Award
Please refer to UWS Regulatory Framework for related regulations

1. Students who achieve 180 credits from the programme above, including all core modules, will be eligible for the award of MSc Project Management.

2. Distinction will be awarded in line with University Regulations, no imported credit can be used. (Regulations 3.25 & 3.26)

Note: Another module can be selected where there is up to a 20-credit deficit of optional modules and where the programme learning outcomes can be met. This must be done in discussion with the programme leader.

Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the University Regulatory Framework.

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

Combined Studies

There may be instances where a student has been unsuccessful in meeting the award criteria for the named award and for other more generic named awards existing within the School.

Provided that they have met the credit requirements in line with the SCQF credit minima (please see Regulation 1.21), they will be eligible for a Combined Studies award (please see Regulation 1.61).

For students studying at Level 11, they will normally be eligible for an exit award of PgCert / PgDip / Masters in Combined Studies.

Version no: 1

Change/Version Control

What	When	Who
Following ILR in 2025, Award , Graduate Attributes, Delivery Approach and Equality and Diversity sections updated.	24/03/2025	T.Leslie