University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 2024-2025

Title of Module: The Knowledge Economy and Work			
Code: BUSN10078	**SCQF Level:** 10 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	**Credit Points:** 20	**ECTS:** 10 (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Business and Creative Industries		
Module Co-ordinator:	Wojciech Kwiatkowski		

Summary of Module

Knowledge is widely regarded as being instrumental to the success of many organisations in the modern, knowledge-based economy. However, the managerialist conceptualisation of knowledge as a transferrable, controllable resource is naive and sometimes even dangerous. It can result in the misidentification of the knowledge that forms the basis of an organisation's success and competitive advantage; misunderstandings with regard to how organisations learn, evolve and innovate; misconceptions with regard to the use of consulting firms as external knowledge-providers; sub-optimal technology development efforts; and disregard for the challenges associated with the implementation of new technologies. It may also have destructive effects on labour.

The module provides the students with an opportunity to develop the necessary awareness which will allow them to avoid the above pitfalls through the exploration of both orthodox and critical literature covering topics such as:

- Organisational knowledge and learning;
- Knowledge management;
- Becoming a competent practitioner;
- Politics of collaborative knowledge work;
- New technology development;
- Consequences of new technologies;
- The role of consultancies in the knowledge economy.

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	**Blended**	**Fully Online**	**HybridC**	**Hybrid 0**	**Work-Based Learning**
☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
See Guidance Note for details.					

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Campus(es) for Module Delivery

The module will **normally** be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit) (tick as appropriate)

Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:
☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	

Term(s) for Module Delivery

(Provided viable student numbers permit).

Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐

Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements)
These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module.
At the end of this module the student will be able to:

L1	Demonstrate an awareness of the key concepts, theories and frameworks associated with the topics of the knowledge economy, organisational knowledge and organisational learning.
L2	Critically appraise the key concepts, theories and frameworks associated with the topics of the knowledge economy, organisational knowledge and organisational learning.
L3	Understand the key challenges associated with technology development and the key consequences of the implementation of new technologies.
L4	Position oneself within the ongoing discourse on a selected topic through an appreciation of contrasting scholarly and professional perspectives and independent, evidence-based judgment.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills

SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF Level **10** Demonstrating a critical understanding of the principal theories, concepts and principles relevant to the knowledge economy and working within it.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF Level **10** Apply the developed knowledge and theoretical understanding to appreciate and devise means for addressing the challenges

	associated with the role knowledge and new technologies play in the knowledge economy and work.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level **10** Critically identify, define, conceptualise and analyse complex knowledge- and technology-related problems and issues affecting work in the knowledge economy.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level **10** Present or convey, formally and informally, information about specialised topics to informed audiences. Communicate with peers, senior colleagues and specialists on a professional level. Use a range of ICT applications to support and enhance work at this level.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level **10** Exercise autonomy and initiative in individual and group course activities. Work with others to bring about new thinking.
Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:
	Module Code:	**Module Title:**
	Other:	
Co-requisites	**Module Code:**	**Module Title:**

*Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

Learning and Teaching
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	36
Independent Study	164
	Hours Total 200

**Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

The following book provides a good introduction into most of the topics covered on the module:

Roberts, J. (2015) *A very short, fairly interesting and reasonably cheap book about knowledge management.* London, UK: SAGE.

You are not required to obtain a copy since a selection of further compulsory and supplementary readings and other resources will be made available to the students via the module VLE. Whenever possible, links to relevant entries in the library catalogue and other resources will be provided on the module VLE to facilitate easy access.

(**N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

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 module, academic engagement equates to the following:

- Completion of preparatory activities published on the module VLE ahead of weekly on-campus workshops;
- Attendance at weekly on-campus workshops;
- Completion of module assessments.

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.]()

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Management, Organisations & People

Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	Yes ☐ No ☒
School Assessment Board	Management, Organisations & People
Moderator	Sir Lee
External Examiner	D. Bolton
Accreditation Details	
Changes/Version Number	14/1/2022 – new module amended according to feedback on; 14/3/2023 – updated moderator details, external examiner details and the module reading list 16/2/2024 – updated for academic year 2024-2025 in line with the new module descriptor template

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
To complete the module, students will be required to complete two individual assessments listed below – a poster worth 30% of the module mark and an essay worth 70% of the module mark. Requirements concerning passing modules stipulated in the UWS Regulatory Framework apply.
Assessment 1 – Poster – an individual poster on how new technologies change work and its organising.
Assessment 2 – Essay – an individual essay requiring students to position themselves within the discourse between orthodox and critical perspectives associated with one of the selected topics.
(N.B. (i) **Assessment Outcomes Grids** for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An **indicative schedule** listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)

Component 1							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	**Learning Outcome (1)**	**Learning Outcome (2)**	**Learning Outcome (3)**	**Learning Outcome (4)**	**Learning Outcome (5)**	**Weighting (%) of Assessment Element**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Demonstrations/ Poster presentations/ Exhibitions	✓		✓			30	0
Component 2							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	**Learning Outcome (1)**	**Learning Outcome (2)**	**Learning Outcome (3)**	**Learning Outcome (4)**	**Learning Outcome (5)**	**Weighting (%) of Assessment Element**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Essay		✓		✓		70	0
Combined Total for All Components						**100%**	**0 hours**

Change Control:

What	When	Who
Further guidance on aggregate regulation and application when completing template	16/01/2020	H McLean
Updated contact hours	14/09/21	H McLean
Updated Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure	19/10/2023	C Winter
Updated UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code	19/10/2023	C Winter
Guidance Note 23-24 provided	12/12/23	D Taylor
General housekeeping to text across sections. .	12/12/23	D Taylor

Version Number: MD Template 1 (2023-24)