



**Bournemouth
University**

The Business School
Incorporating the
Department of Law

Unit title **Contemporary Issues in Project Management**

Level **M**

Credit value **20**

ECTS Credits **10**

PRE-AND CO-REQUISITES

None.

AIMS

Contemporary Issues is a generic unit with the aim of providing the student with an environment to identify the limits, controversies, and debates within one subject, or a range of inter-related inter-disciplinary studies, relevant for the research project.

The unit also explores relevant professional organizations relevant to the project cognate subject areas as well as identifying key conferences and relevant focussed publications.

The student will need to have a possible research project in mind to do this unit.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Having completed this unit the student is expected to demonstrate:

- 1 A critical understanding of the structure and operations of professions related to project cognate subjects;
- 2 Creation of a summary of key controversial or debated issues related to project cognate subjects;
- 3 Critical knowledge and understanding of the contemporary issues driving the evolution of project cognate subjects;
- 4 An ability to present a subject cognate controversial issue and manage a related discussion or seminar.

LEARNING AND TEACHING METHODS

A Learning Contract is entered into by the Student to show how learning will take place. This may be by attendance at a scheduled delivery of the unit or otherwise by a scheme of blended learning agreed between the student and unit leader. Typically this will take the form of lectures (real or on-line) to deliver an efficient summary of key material, seminars (real or virtual, synchronous or asynchronous) for participants to discuss higher-order issues related to exploring key contemporary issues for one or more subjects related to a project.

This unit will require extensive student managed learning as each student will need to apply the key concepts and methods of this unit to one or more subject areas that are relevant to a proposed project.

Examples from a range of subjects will be used to illustrate teaching which is based strongly on case studies.

ASSESSMENT

All learning outcomes are assessed by means of a portfolio of evidence that the learning outcomes have been achieved (100%). This may include assessment of the contributions made to electronic discussions as well as individual written work.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

Professional Structures and Organization

Models of professional organizations and delimiting professional activity in cognate subject areas.

Professional Ethics

The range of systems of professional ethics. Identifying and understanding critically the potential problem situations to be dealt with using systems of professional ethics.

Orthodoxy and 'Heresy'

The emergence of important unresolved subject issues.

Bodies of Knowledge

Example contrasting bodies of knowledge

The presentation of this unit may be generic, or where sufficient participant numbers permit, or there is a specific subject or professional need, may be done focused on the contemporary issues facing Pathway relevant subjects, such as:

- Contemporary Issues in Marketing

- Contemporary Issues of Performance Management
- Contemporary Issues in Project Management
- Contemporary Issues in Information Management

INDICATIVE KEY LEARNING RESOURCES

Key learning resources for particular pathway subjects can be obtained from the corresponding professional organizations for pathway specific subjects for Programme projects.

Journals

International Journal of Project Management

European Management Journal

Harvard Business Review

Project (monthly publication of APM)

Project Management Journal (published by PMI)

PM Network (also by PMI)

Project Management Today (professional journal)

Web-based sources

www.apm-org.uk

www.e-programme.com

www.ogc.gov.uk

www.pmi.org

www.en.wikipedia.org

The above Key Texts are complemented by additional reading from:

- book chapters and journal articles downloadable from myBU as selected by the Unit Tutors;
- monographs, journals and other sources, predominantly made available online located via the Library Catalogue; and
- relevant e-journal & e-book collections and other online databases.