

Variation to the Programme Specification

For Academic Year 2020/21

Name of programme(s) and award type(s): <i>(such as Single Honours History with International Year)</i>	MBA Senior Leader Apprenticeship
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Dear students,

As part of our commitment to continually work to improve our programmes, and in light of our plans to start next academic year with a hybrid delivery model due to the impact of Covid-19, we are confirming in this document the changes to your programme in the Academic Year 2020/21. More general information about what studying at the University will be like in 2020/21 can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/coronavirus/operations/>

Overview of changes to your programme

Specific planned changes

How the programme will be taught <i>(include any significant changes to the balance between on campus and digital delivery and what students can expect)</i>	<p>The MBA always made extensive use of the Keele Learning Environment (KLE), MS Teams and related online and digital resources and readings, to provide students with a very wide range of online materials that they can access as part of their studies. But for 2020- 21 students may notice that the blend of online resources and live interaction will be flexible to allow us to respond effectively to the changing situation re covid-19.</p> <p>In line with the University Covid secure guidelines, we are planning (for semester 1 at least) to provide lecture content in online form rather than in traditional on campus physical form. This ensures that students can engage with content remotely and securely. This will avoid the social distancing challenges associated with large on campus lectures and allow students to access online lecture content ‘on demand’ at times that suit them.</p> <p>Students will still have opportunities to work in small groups with staff and fellow students, meet staff in small groups and on a one to one basis and all of the other aspects of how we would normally deliver our modules, but to remain Covid secure, all of these interactions will be (for now at least) delivered online via our KLE, via online group working and collaborative platforms such as Microsoft Teams.</p> <p>In line with the five-stage operational system adopted by the University we will aim to return to on campus physically present teaching as soon as it is practical and safe to do so.</p>
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Changes to placements, field courses or other practical activities (<i>where applicable</i>)	N/A
Learning resources and any potential additional costs (<i>such as equipment requirements</i>)	<p>As the course usually consists of a 2-day intensive followed by distance and online support, we already make extensive use of web based online learning platforms, digital resources and software that are available to Keele students free of charge. Assignments and coursework on our programme already must be produced and submitted electronically, and work is marked, and feedback and marks returned to students electronically. There is no change in this practice for 2020-21. All of our online resources are designed to be accessible via smart phones, tablets, laptops, PCs and other common internet enabled devices and are not reliant on any particular operating system and do not require the purchase of software or subscription services, so no potential additional costs are anticipated for 2020-21.</p> <p>Given an increasing level of online teaching and assessments for this programme, it would be preferable if students had access to computer equipment with a webcam and microphone. It may also be preferable for students to have adequate Wi-Fi connectivity and associated internet speeds. Students who need support in accessing appropriate IT equipment may be eligible to apply for support from the University's hardship fund.</p>
How the programme will be assessed (<i>a general summary of changes to assessment methods</i>)	<p>All essays, reports and other written work used to assess our modules are already completed electronically and submitted online. The marking process for this work, and the return of marks and feedback to students is also already completed online. For 2020-21 the key temporary changes to assessment will be where module assessment requires students to be present in a physical space with other students, staff and/or the general public. Where these assessments are currently in use in our modules, they will be replaced for 2020-21 similar assessments that can be prepared, completed and submitted online.</p>
How students are supported (<i>any alternative arrangements such as communication methods, support networks etc.</i>)	<p>As this is usually a two-day block intensive teaching delivery, support was mainly delivered remotely with the option of face-to-face meetings. Such meetings will be conducted online. We will continue to maintain our existing extensive student support systems, but with more of an emphasis on a blended and flexible Covid secure approach.</p> <p>For each module we will provide a detailed module specification / guide available online from the start of the semester. Video lectures, PowerPoints, digital readings and related content will be made available to students online in advance of sessions. We will offer module specific opportunities for students to interact on campus with staff teaching on the module (via video link) to ask questions and discuss aspects of the module.</p> <p>In addition to this module specific support, staff will continue to offer 'Office hour' opportunities for students to individually meet them 'on campus' via video link.</p>

Updated module lists for 2020/21

February 2019 intake – Cohort 1

Module	Credits	Teaching Dates (full days unless specified)	Added/removed/unchanged?
HRM-40047 Human Resource Management	15	21 st and 22 nd September 2020	No change (apart from to mode of delivery and/or assessment, as necessary – as detailed above)
MAN-40092 Financial Management	15	16 th & 17 th November 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40102 Extended Company Project	45	N/A – completion deadline 26 th February 2021	No change – as above

September 2019 intake – Cohort 2

Module	Credits	Teaching Dates (full days unless specified)	Added/removed/unchanged?
HRM-40047 Human Resource Management	15	21 st and 22 nd September 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40092 Financial Management	15	16 th & 17 th November 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40100 Research Methods	15	TBC - January 5 th & 6 th or 11 th & 12 th 2021	No change – as above
MAN-40090 Creativity, Innovation and Quality	15	15 th & 16 th February 2021	No change – as above
MAN-40096 Managing People and Organisations	15	15 th & 16 th April 2021	No change – as above
Extended Company Project	45	N/A – completion deadline 27 th September 2021	No change – as above

February 2020 intake – Cohort 3

Module	Credits	Teaching Dates (full days unless specified)	Added/removed/unchanged?
MAN-40094 Strategic Marketing	15	24 th and 25 th September 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40098 Digital Transformation and Information Management	15	14 th and 15 th December 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40090 Creativity, Innovation and Quality	15	15 th and 16 th February 2021	No change – as above
MAN-40096 Managing People and Organisations	15	15 th and 16 th April 2021	No change – as above
MAN-40100 Research Methods	15	14 th and 15 th June 2021	No change – as above
HRM-40047 Human Resource Management	15	23 rd and 24 th September 2021	No change – as above

September 2020 intake – Cohort 4

Module	Credits	Teaching Dates (full days unless specified)	Added/removed/unchanged?
Introduction	15	1 st and 2 nd September 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40094 Strategic Marketing	15	24 th and 25 th September 2020	No change – as above

MAN-40098 Digital Transformation and Information Management	15	14 th and 15 th December 2020	No change – as above
MAN-40088 Leading and Complexity (double module)	15	22 nd & 23 rd March and 4 th & 5 th May 2021	No change – as above
MAN-40100 Research Methods	15	14 th and 15 th June 2021	No change – as above
HRM-40047 Human Resource Management	15	23 rd and 24 th September 2021	No change – as above