

Postgraduate Programme Specification

MSc International Operations and Supply Chain Management

This specification provides a summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate where full advantage is taken of all learning opportunities offered. Further details on the learning, teaching and assessment approach for the programme and modules can be accessed on the University website and Virtual Learning Environment, GCU Learn. All programmes of the University are subject to the University's [Quality Assurance](#) processes.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION			
Programme Title	Master of Science in International Operations and Supply Chain Management		
Final Award	Master of Science in International Operations and Supply Chain Management		
Awarding Body	Glasgow Caledonian University		
School	Glasgow School for Business & Society		
Department	Management		
Mode of Study	Online/Distance Learning (subject to availability)		
Location of Delivery	Any GCU Campus		
UCAS Code			
Accreditations (PSRB)	Accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply		
Period of Approval	From:	September 2023	To: September 2028

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF PROGRAMME
The MSc International Operations and Supply Chain Management programme aims to equip students with comprehensive understanding, knowledge and practice of principles, processes and leading-edge approaches to managing operations and supply chain challenges in a responsible manner across a wide range of sectors and international environments. The programme has been designed to ensure the professional development of essential and desirable graduate skills and competencies within operations and supply chain management to enable students to make a valuable contribution in the workplace in keeping with the requirements of two Professional Accreditation bodies: the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) and the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT). The programme team has a close working relationship with professional bodies has resulted in an Academic Partnership with CILT and CIPS that brings additional benefits for both staff and students involved in the programme (further details of this are provided in Section 5). The syllabus encompasses the study of supply chain networks in a global environment, sustainable operations including ethical/responsible operations management and Carbon Literacy, procurement management, logistical and transport challenges, project management, quality management and improvement including Lean Six Sigma. The

programme therefore provides students with a comprehensive, intellectually challenging, and vocationally significant education giving them a competitive edge in the market.

This Masters degree will enhance student employability through participation in a wide-range of teaching and learning experiences including live case studies, individual and group projects, presentations, company visits and engaging with industry speakers and the professional bodies.

The programme aims to meet the needs of students who wish to pursue a career in operations and supply chain management across a wide range of international organisations and industry sectors both public, private and third sector. Applicants may have a background in business, operations and/or supply chain however the programme will also be attractive to those who have studied non-business-related subjects (e.g., engineering, social sciences, psychology, etc) at undergraduate level. The programme and modules within it will also present a valuable learning opportunity for industry practitioners wishing to acquire a qualification to supplement their experience.

The primary aim of this programme is to provide a broad, analytical and integrated study of international operations and supply chain management. Specifically, the educational aims are stated as follows:

- To develop critical appreciation of the theoretical concepts, principle strategies, policies and practices relevant to international operations and supply chain environments;
- To develop skills to apply the knowledge, approaches and methods to address the strategic and operational management challenges in an international context;
- To develop both a theoretical and a practical understanding of real-world issues identifying responsible decision making and ethically driven behaviours;
- To develop a critical understanding of research techniques and methodologies and apply these to an independent research project relating to an appropriate topic; and
- To develop personal and transferable employability skills related to independent research, analytical skills, problem solving, critical thinking, group working, leadership and management skills, ICT and communication skills.

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

A: Knowledge and understanding;

- A1 Critical appreciation of the principal theories, concepts and principles relating to operations, logistics and supply chain management.
- A2 Critical awareness of the current issues, tools and technologies relating to international operations, logistics and supply chain management.
- A3 Critical understanding of the concept of creating value and quality and how this is achieved through operations, project and supply chain management.
- A4 Critical understanding of how to manage projects within the context of operations and supply chains.
- A5 Critical understanding of how to analyse an organisation's quality performance.
- A6 Detailed critical knowledge about responsible leadership and ethical decision making.

B: Practice: Applied knowledge, skills and understanding;

- B1 Apply professional skills, techniques, and practices in operations and supply chain management.
- B2 Apply knowledge, skills and understanding in planning and executing a significant project of research, investigation or development.
- B3 Critically analyse current thinking, research and business practice in operations and supply chain management.
- B4 Utilise relevant information sources in an appropriate manner to generate alternative decisions and formulate creative and responsible solutions.
- B5 Demonstrate originality, insight and innovativeness in tackling and solving problems.
- B6 Apply knowledge, skills and understanding in solving real world problems.

C: Generic cognitive skills;

- C1 Apply critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to issues that are informed by forefront developments in the operations and supply chain management.
- C2 Identify, conceptualise and define new and abstract problems and issues.
- C3 Develop original and creative responses to problems and issues.
- C4 Critically review, consolidate and extend knowledge, skills, practices and thinking in international operations and supply chain management.
- C5 Deal with complex issues and make responsible and informed judgements in situations in the absence of complete or consistent data/information.

D: Communication, numeracy and ICT skills

- D1 Undertake critical evaluations of a wide range of numerical and graphical data.
- D2 Use a variety of skills to communicate, using appropriate methods, to a range of audiences with different levels of knowledge/expertise.
- D3 Use a wide range of skills to communicate with peers, more senior colleagues and specialists.
- D4 Use a wide variety of ICT applications to support and enhance analysis and decision making as appropriate

E: Autonomy, accountability and working with others.

- E1 Demonstrate leadership and team-working, as appropriate, to make a significant contribution in group work situations and practice critical reflection on own and others' roles and responsibilities.
- E2 Ability to apply the UN Sustainable Development Goals, ethical decision making and responsible leadership to professional practice in the supply chain.
- E3 Demonstrate multi-cultural sensitivity and inter-personal skills in working with colleagues and practitioners.
- E4 Take responsibility for own work and significant responsibility for the work of others in group exercises.
- E5 Manage complex ethical and professional issues and make informed judgements on issues not addressed by current professional and/or ethical codes or practices.
- E6 Exercise substantial autonomy and initiative in professional and equivalent activities.

4. LEARNING AND TEACHING METHODS

The programme provides a variety of learning and teaching methods. Programme and Module specific guidance will provide detail of the learning and teaching methods specific to each module.

Across the programme the learning and teaching methods and approaches may include the following:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Practical classes
- Placements
- Simulation experiences
- Groupwork
- Flipped classroom approaches
- Online learning

The above approaches may be delivered either in person or online as appropriate and determined at module level by the Module Leader.

5. ASSESSMENT METHODS

The programme provides a variety of formative and summative assessment methods. Programme and Module specific guidance will provide detail of the assessment methods specific to each module.

Across the programme the assessment methods may include the following:

- Written coursework (essays, reports, case studies, dissertation, literature review)
- Oral coursework (presentations, structured conversations)
- Practical Assessment (Placement, VIVA, Laboratory work)
- Group work
- Blogs and Wikis
- Portfolio Presentations
- Formal Examinations and Class Tests

The above assessments may be delivered either in person and online as appropriate and determined at module level by the Module Leader.

6. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Specific entry requirements for this programme can be found on the prospectus and study pages on the GCU website at this location: www.gcu.ac.uk/study

The Course webpage specific to this Programme is: <https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate-international-operations-and-supply-chain-management-glasgow>

All students entering the programme are required to adhere to the [GCU Code of Student Conduct](#).

7. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND AVAILABLE AND FINAL EXIT AWARDS¹

The following modules are delivered as part of this programme:

Module Code	Module Title	Core or Optional	Trimester	SCQF Level	Credit Size	Coursework %	Examination %
MMN430180	Ethics, Sustainability and Governance	Core	A	11	15	70/30	
MMN230769	Managing Operations Excellence*	Core	A	11	15	40	60
MMN230174	Global Supply Chain Management*	Core	A	11	15	100	
MMN230173	Sustainable Operations Management*	Core	A	11	15	100	
MMN230181	Postgraduate Research Methods	Core	B	11	15	40/60	
MMN230176	International Logistics and Transport*	Core	B	11	15	30/70	
MMN230770	Procurement Policy and Practice*	Core	B	11	15	100	
MMN230178	Project Management*	Core	B	11	15	100	
MMN630209	Developing Leadership for the Common Good	Core	C	11	15	100	
MMN230182	Masters Research Project	Core	C	11	45	100	

Students undertaking the programme on a full-time basis commencing in September of each year will undertake the modules in the order presented above. This may be subject to variation for students commencing the programme at other times of year (e.g. January) and/or undertaking the programme on a part-time or distance learning mode of delivery.

**programme specific modules*

The following final and early Exit Awards are available from this programme:

Post Graduate Certificate in International Operations and Supply Chain Management:

60 credits of which at least 30 are programme specific modules*

Post Graduate Diploma in International Operations and Supply Chain Management:

120 credits of which at least 60 are programme specific modules*

Master of Science in International Operations and Supply Chain Management:

180 credits - all modules listed above including Masters Research Project

Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body requirements:

For Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) accreditation – Masters Research Project must be in on a topic in procurement and supply chains.

¹ Periodically, programmes and modules may be subject to change or cancellation. Further information on this can be found on the GCU website here:

www.gcu.ac.uk/currentstudents/essentials/policiesandprocedures/changesandcancellationtoprogrammes

8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Students should expect to complete their programme of study under the GCU Assessment Regulations that were in place at the commencement of their studies on that programme, unless proposed changes to University Regulations are advantageous to students. These can be found at:

<https://www.gcu.ac.uk/aboutgcu/supportservices/qualityassuranceandenhancement/regulations-and-policies>

In addition, the programme is also subject to the following exception:

Case No. 224a

Details:

- Reduction in credit size of the Masters Research Project Module (Dissertation) (or programme equivalent) module from 60 credits to 45 credits
- A pass in Postgraduate Research Methods (15 credits) is a pre-requisite to the Masters Research Project

VERSION CONTROL (to be completed in line with AQPP processes)

Any changes to the PSP must be recorded below by the programme team to ensure accuracy of the programme of study being offered.

<i>Version Number</i>	<i>Changes/Updates</i>	<i>Date Changes/Updates made</i>	<i>Date Effective From</i>
1.0	Programme transferred to PSP as part of programme modification	July 2025	Sept 2025
1.1	Addition of Exception which was missed when PSP was updated	July 2026	Sept 2025

Curriculum Map for Master of Science in International Operations and Supply Chain Management

PSMAP

The curriculum map links the modules (Section 4) to the Outcomes listed in Section 3

This map provides both a design aid to help academic staff identify where the programme outcomes are being developed and assessed within the course. It also provides a checklist for quality assurance purposes and could be used in approval, accreditation and external examining processes. This also helps students monitor their own learning, and their personal and professional development as the course progresses. The map shows only the main measurable learning outcomes which are assessed. There are additional learning outcomes (e.g. attitudes and behaviour) detailed in the module specifications which are developed but do not lend themselves to direct measurement

Modules			Programme outcomes																										
	Code	Title	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	D3	D4	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6
SCQF11	MMN430180	Ethics, Sustainability and Governance						x							x	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
	MMN230769	Managing Operations Excellence	x		x		x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x		x	x	x		x
	MMN330174	Global Supply Chain Management	x	x	x				x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	MMN230173	Sustainable Operations Management	x	x	x			x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	MMN230181	Postgraduate Research Methods							x		x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x		x	x		x		x
	MMN230176	International Logistics and Transport	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	MMN230770	Procurement and Policy Practice	x	x	x				x		x	x	x		x	x		x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x		x
	MMN230178	Project Management			x	x			x	x		x	x		x				x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
	MMN630209	Developing Leadership for the Common Good			x			x													x	x		x		x	x		x
	MMN230182	Masters Research Project	x							x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x				x	