

Postgraduate Programme Specification

MSc Project Management

MSc Project Management with Professional Practice

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	MSc Project Management MSc Project Management (with Professional Practice)			
Final Award	Master of Science Project Management Master of Science Project Management (with Professional Practice)			
Awarding Body	Glasgow Caledonian University			
School	Glasgow School for Business and Society (GSBS)			
Department	Management			
Mode of Study	Full-time Part-Time Online			
Location of Delivery	Glasgow Campus			
UCAS Code	N/A			
Accreditations (PSRB)	N/A			
Period of Approval	From:	September 2026	To:	August 2031

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF PROGRAMME
The MSc Project Management programme at Glasgow Caledonian University is designed to equip students with the advanced knowledge, skills, and professional competencies required to operate effectively in complex and dynamic project environments. The programme integrates academic rigour, applied practice, and professional standards, enabling graduates to develop a sophisticated understanding of project management theory, methodologies, and contemporary industry practice. It is suitable for students from a range of academic and professional backgrounds, including those seeking to enhance their career prospects in project management, consultancy, or leadership roles across diverse sectors. The programme provides a comprehensive curriculum that covers strategic project management, risk and quality management, leadership, governance, stakeholder engagement, sustainability, and ethical decision-making, reflecting the demands of modern project environments. Students engage with industry-informed case studies, simulations, and project-based learning, fostering the ability to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world challenges. The programme also offers opportunities for research-informed practice through the Masters Research Project (MRP) or, where applicable, Professional Practice, encouraging independent inquiry, analytical reasoning, and the synthesis of theory and practice at SCQF Level 11.

The programme aims to:

1. **Develop Advanced Project Management Knowledge and Skills:** The programme aims to provide students with a critical understanding of contemporary project management theories, tools, and methodologies, and the ability to apply them effectively in complex organisational contexts.
2. **Foster Professional Competence and Employability:** By integrating APM professional standards, applied learning, and industry engagement, the programme develops students' leadership, stakeholder management, teamwork, communication, and ethical decision-making skills, preparing graduates for professional practice and career progression.
3. **Promote Critical Thinking and Research Capability:** Students are encouraged to engage with advanced research methods, critically evaluate evidence, and synthesize academic and applied knowledge. This supports independent enquiry and prepares graduates for the analysis, planning, and evaluation of complex project scenarios.
4. **Embed Sustainability, Ethics, and Social Responsibility:** The programme aligns with Glasgow Caledonian University's mission as the University for the Common Good, incorporating sustainability, ethical judgement, and responsible decision-making as integral elements of project management practice.
5. **Enhance Digital and Analytical Competence:** Through the use of digital project management tools and simulations, students develop practical competence in resource planning, monitoring, risk assessment, and project control, reflecting contemporary industry practice and digital innovation.

The MSc Project Management programme is structured to progressively develop knowledge, practical skills, and professional attributes, ensuring students transition from foundational understanding to autonomous, reflective practice. By combining rigorous academic study, applied experiential learning, and industry engagement, the programme prepares graduates to operate confidently and ethically in complex project environments, making a positive impact within organisations, industries, and society.

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 Contemporary Project Management practices relating to principles of responsible and sustainable project management.
- A2 Project Design, Planning, Monitoring and Control using advanced Project Management tools (MS Project) and techniques for project scope, schedule, cost, quality, project risk and procurement management.
- A3 Project Management Methodologies and frameworks
- A4 Responsible leadership and stakeholder management, governance structures, project teams within diverse project contexts.
- A5 Ethical and Sustainable Project Management to fulfil contemporary project requirements for Sustainable Development.
- A6 Role of project management in a global environment; International Project Management.

B: Practice: Applied knowledge, skills and understanding:

- B1 Critically review, synthesise and develop knowledge relevant to Project Management.

- B2 Critically analyse and synthesise qualitative and quantitative information and data
- B3 Critically analyse current thinking, research and business practice in Project management
- B4 Utilise relevant information sources in an appropriate manner to generate alternative decisions and formulate creative solutions.
- B5 Demonstrate originality, insight and innovativeness in tackling and solving problems.
- B6 Reflect on personal learning and development.

C: Generic cognitive skills:

- C1 Effective use of communication and information technologies to present ideas, analyse problems and develop clear and concise conclusions and recommendations.
- C2 Professionalism in the use of a range of oral communications techniques when articulating ideas and concepts.
- C3 Report and project writing skills.
- C4 Numeracy and quantitative skills in interpreting financial and statistical data.
- C5 Effective leadership and team working skills, including cross-cultural sensitivity, team building and project management in group work situations.
- C6 Ethical decision-making, negotiation and conflict resolutions skills.

D: Communication, numeracy and ICT skills:

- D1 Cognitive and intellectual skills including critical thinking, self-reflection, creativity and ethical problem-solving.
- D2 Presentation skills: written communication in a variety of formats; visual and oral presentational skills.
- D3 Planning and time-management; organising and planning work; self-management and independent working.
- D4 Inter-cultural awareness: understanding different perspectives, multi-cultural sensitivity and appreciation and development of a global mindset.
- D5 Inter-personal skills including questioning and listening, influencing and persuading, advising others and giving feedback.
- D6 Research skills: information retrieval and collection; data analysis and synthesis.

E: Autonomy, accountability and working with others:

- E1 Effective leadership and team working skills, including cross-cultural sensitivity, team building and project management in group work situations.
- E2 Planning and time-management: organising and planning work, self-management and independent working.
- E3 Inter-cultural awareness: understanding different perspectives, multi-cultural sensitivity and appreciation and development of a global mindset.
- E4 Inter-personal skills including questioning and listening, influencing and persuading, advising others and giving feedback.
- 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/ Workshops
- Practical classes
- Placements
- Simulation experiences
- Groupwork
- Flipped classroom approaches
- Online learning

The above approaches may be delivered either in person or online as appropriate. The standard mode of delivery for the full-time and part-time offering of the programme will be full (100%) on-campus delivery. GCU is unable to offer Student visa sponsorship for part-time studies.

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
- Class Tests

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

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:

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

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	SCQF Level	Credit Size	Coursework %	
MMN430180	Ethics, Sustainability and Governance	Core	11	15	70%	30%
MMN630209	Developing Leadership for the Common Good	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN230178	Project Management	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN230770	Procurement Policy and Practice	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN230214	Leading Responsible Change	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN330175	Financial Management for Global -Decision Makers	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN230966	Project Management Methodologies and Practices	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN230967	Strategic Project Portfolio Management	Core	11	15	100%	
MMN230782	Postgraduate Research Methods	Core	11	15	40%	60%
MMN230182	Masters Research Project (MRP)	Core	11	45	100%	

Timing and order of modules may be subject to variation for students commencing the programme at different times of year and/or undertaking the programme on a part-time or distance learning mode of delivery.

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

Postgraduate Certificate *achieved upon successful completion of any 60 credits*

Postgraduate Certificate in Project Management - *achieved upon successful completion of 60 credits (excluding the MRP) with a minimum of 45 credits from the following modules: MMN230178 - Project Management; MMN230770 - Procurement Policy and Practice; MMN230966 - Project Management Methodologies and Practices; MMN230967 - Strategic Project Portfolio Management.*

Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management- *achieved upon successful completion of any 120 credits*

Master of Science in Project Management- *achieved upon successful completion of 180 credits*

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

Trimester A Starts* (September intake)

Modules	Trimesters	Credits
Ethics, Sustainability and Governance	A	15
Strategic Project Portfolio Management	A	15
Leading Responsible Change	A	15
Financial Management for Global -Decision Makers	A	15
Project Management	B	15
Procurement Policy and Practice	B	15
Project Management Methodologies & Practices	B	15
Postgraduate Research Methods	B	15
Developing Leadership for the Common Good	C	15
Masters Research (Dissertation)	C	45

Trimester B Starts* (January intake)

Modules	Trimesters	Credits
Project Management	B	15
Procurement Policy and Practice	B	15
Project Management Methodologies & Practices	B	15
Ethics, Sustainability and Governance	B	15
Strategic Project Portfolio Management	A	15
Postgraduate Research Methods	A	15
Leading Responsible Change	A	15
Financial Management for Global -Decision Makers	A	15
Developing Leadership for the Common Good	B	15
Masters Research (Dissertation)	B	45

Trimester C Starts* (May intake)

Modules	Trimesters	Credits
Project Management	C	15
Procurement Policy and Practice	C	15
Project Management Methodologies & Practices	C	15
Ethics, Sustainability and Governance	C	15
Strategic Project Portfolio Management	A	15
Postgraduate Research Methods	A	15
Leading Responsible Change	A	15
Financial Management for Global -Decision Makers	A	15
Developing Leadership for the Common Good	B	15
Masters Research (Dissertation)	B	45

***All schedules shown above are indicative, and subject to change and availability**

7. 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>

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	PSP created as part of Programme Approval Event.	March 2026	Sept 2026