

# Management

Management is needed throughout the world. It is a requirement in all organisations designed to get things done – small or large, national or multinational, private or public sector, profit-seeking or not for profit. All those with responsibility for people, resources, activities and information will need some development in management

## Checklist: Why study management in the United Kingdom?

- The UK has a long tradition as a trading, financial and business centre, and a reputation for educating international students to a high standard in management studies.
- Its business schools are world-renowned and closely linked with commerce and industry. More management students are educated in the UK than in the rest of Europe put together.
- UK qualifications are recognised all over the world.
- You can study at all levels – undergraduate, postgraduate, Masters and doctorate.
- The UK has 105 business schools, in all areas of the country. Many of them have invested heavily in developing state-of-the-art learning facilities and attracting high-quality staff.
- The opportunity to improve your fluency in English will improve your job prospects and help both you and your employer develop international links.

## 1 What do I need to think about?

You must first determine what your existing qualifications and experience enable you to do. And secondly you should decide where your ambition lies. Your answers to the following questions will help you reach a decision.

- Are you keen on a work-based vocational course that will allow you to progress to a higher level, or perhaps return home better prepared for the world of managerial work?
- Do you need an access course which will serve as a foundation for more advanced study, or permit you to increase your language proficiency so that you can gain from further study?
- Do you want a three or four-year BA or BSc course, or a two-year foundation degree, to gain both academic and practical skills?
- Do you need a postgraduate Masters programme (MA, MSc) that will serve as a foundation either for doctoral study or prepare you for enhanced work in a functional area of management?
- Or do you wish to follow preparation courses that will permit you to enter an MBA programme at an appropriate stage in your career.

Finally, you need to decide on location. Colleges and universities specialising in management subjects are located throughout the four countries that make up the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). Many of them establish strong links with local businesses and services in both the public and private sectors. These links are beneficial for students, enabling them to research problems or take up job placements that enhance their learning experience.



Different institutions may award the same certificate or degree, and strive for the same goal of excellence, but their differing characteristics give them individuality. Do not assume that all excellent institutions in the UK are based in London! Fees are approximately the same for each type of qualification, but you should bear in mind that living costs in different locations can vary significantly.

## 2 What can I study?

This sheet covers all management courses except for the Master of Business Administration (MBA). For information on MBAs, refer to *Master of Business Administration (MBA)*, in this series. There is also a separate sheet on *Business and finance* in this series.

Type of study	What it involves	Where you can study
<b>Work-based courses</b>		
Modular courses such as GNVQ, NVQ and SVQ  (Normally students are aged 16 to 18)	Available in 'business' and in 'retail and distributive services'  See <i>Choosing a work-based training course</i> in this series.	Further education colleges  Some private providers
Vocational A-levels  Scottish National Qualifications (such as Highers and SGAs)  Normally students are aged 16 to 18)	Study areas include how a business works, customer services, retailing, business planning, human resources, creative marketing and communications. All of these courses provide work experience, which might be in a three-week block. You are also involved in case studies, teamwork, problem-solving and essay-writing, and your work is assessed.	Sixth form colleges  Further education colleges  Secondary schools with sixth forms
Higher National Diploma (HND) (two years – can lead to entry into the second or third year of a degree course)  (Normally students are aged 18 and over)	These courses offer gradual progression into higher education for those who want to develop their academic skills on a practical, work-based course.	Further education colleges  Some universities
<b>Access courses (also known as foundation or bridging courses and in Scotland as international foundation programmes)</b>		
Access to business course (usually one year)  (Some courses are specially designed for international students while others are for mature UK students)	These courses provide an alternative route into higher education for students who lack standard entry qualifications. Many sixth form colleges and further education colleges are affiliated to specific UK universities and degree courses.	Sixth form colleges  Further education colleges  Some universities
<b>Undergraduate degree courses</b>		
Foundation degrees (two years of study)	Foundation degrees are employment-related higher education qualifications designed to prepare students for work in particular sectors of business or industry. These degrees are qualifications in their own right. Graduates can progress into employment or into the final year of an honours degree course. Currently foundation degrees are only available in England. It is important not to confuse foundation degrees with foundation courses (see above).	Further education colleges  Some universities



<p>Three- or four-year courses leading to a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree</p> <p>Many degrees offer a 'sandwich' option (making the fourth year). This means that they include one or more periods of work experience. The work placement is usually done in one 12-month block or two 6-month blocks separated by a period of study.</p>	<p>The range of courses is huge. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Business</li> <li>● Business administration</li> <li>● Business finance</li> <li>● Business management</li> <li>● European business management</li> <li>● European management science</li> <li>● Finance management</li> <li>● Human resource management</li> <li>● International relations/ management studies</li> <li>● Management studies with Chinese/ French/ German/ Japanese (and other languages)</li> <li>● Operational management</li> <li>● Production management</li> <li>● Retail management</li> <li>● Services sector management</li> <li>● Strategic management.</li> </ul> <p>Many general business and management studies courses give you the chance to specialise after the first year (typically choosing 12 modules out of 50, with subjects such as accounting, financial management, marketing, psychology, production/ operations management and human resource management).</p>	<p>Some universities</p>
<b>Postgraduate courses</b>		
	<p>The subject matter of postgraduate courses varies considerably. Here are some examples:</p> <p><b>General management</b> Functions of management such as finance, human resource management, operations management, quality, logistics, marketing, information</p> <p><b>Applied management</b> Health, public sector, education, not-for-profit organisations, etc.</p> <p><b>Special interest</b> Entrepreneurship, gender issues, international/globalisation, corporate governance, strategy.</p>	
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<b>Postgraduate courses</b>		
	<p>These are almost always taught course qualifications. Certificate courses are usually shorter than diploma courses.</p> <p>These qualifications can act as a 'bridging' course at postgraduate level, to give access to students who do not qualify for direct entry to Master courses. The PG Dip is usually the same programme as the Masters but without the dissertation or thesis.</p>	<p>Most universities</p>
	<p>By far the greatest number of programmes are one-year Masters programmes, the final stage of which is the completion of a dissertation.</p>	<p>Most universities</p>
	<p>MA/ MSc by research is normally a one-year research programme, culminating in a dissertation of 15,000-40,000 words. The thesis should present some original research, but not to the same level as PhD or MPhil.</p> <p>Master of Research (MRes) is a very particular kind of Masters programme, oriented towards research but with some taught elements. It is designed to give students training in research, as a preparation for a PhD or for a research career in industry.</p> <p>Master of Philosophy (MPhil) is a research programme extending over two or more years, culminating in a thesis or dissertation. The thesis must present original findings. At a</p>	<p>Some universities</p>



	<p>higher level than the MSc or MRes, it can sometimes be used to convert to a PhD.</p> <p>The PhD is a three-year programme minimum. Professional doctorates are also becoming very popular such as the DBA (Doctor of Business Administration).</p>	
	<p>Distance learning is available at many levels. Look for courses on <a href="http://www.educationuk.org">www.educationuk.org</a></p>	Some universities
Short courses and continuous professional development	<p>Look for short courses on <a href="http://www.educationuk.org">www.educationuk.org</a>  <a href="http://www.managers.org.uk">www.managers.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.cipd.co.uk">www.cipd.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.cim.co.uk">www.cim.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Residential business schools</p> <p>Professional institutes such as the Chartered Management Institute, the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, and the Chartered Institute of Marketing</p>
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