

Programme Specifications

Premaster’s Business & Management - PMBM

Version 3.0 January 2025

Progression Degrees

MA Global Business & Leadership
MA International Management & Leadership
MA International Management
MA International Management - Creative Leadership
MA International Management - Entrepreneurship & Intrapreneurship
MA International Business & Leadership
MSc Applied Sustainability Management

Foundation Overview

Duration	1 Semester (14 teaching weeks)
Occurrence	October, April
Total teaching hours face to face	322
Total self- study hours	378
Language	English

Premaster’s Modules

	Modules	Codes
1	Advanced English language and Academic skills	PG01
2	Principles of Business and Management	PG04
3	Advanced Maths	PG05
4	German language and culture	GL01 GL02*

*German conversation – optional after progression

Name of Module/ Modultitel: <i>Advanced English Language and Academic Skills</i>					
Course Information/ Kursinformationen	Frequency of delivery/ Häufigkeit des Angebots	Length/ Dauer	Language/ Sprache	ECTS points/ ECTS-Punkte	Study hours/ Studentische Arbeitsbelastung
PG01 Advanced English Language and Academic Skills	Annually	1 Semester	English		Total study hours: 300 Taught hours: 168 Self-study: 132
Module Leader/ Modulverantwortliche(r)/ Lehrende	Credits/ Leistungspunkte	Assessment/ Prüfungsform		Teaching mode and methods/ Lehr- und Lernformen	Weighting/ Prüfungsleistung
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Written Assessment (report (1000 words)) 2. Formative assessment: Reflection on Academic Writing Skills 3. Group Presentation and Seminar Discussion (10 mins each) 4. Examination covering academic reading and listening skills (2hrs) 		Lectures, Seminars, Tutorials, Group work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course work 40% 2. Course work 40% 3. Exam 20%
Module Description/ Constructive Alignment					
<p>This module has been designed to help students develop their academic literacy and communication skills in preparation for undergraduate study and to understand the institutional culture, practices, norms and expectations of German higher education in an international academic context and community. It will enable students to develop academic research and communication skills using contemporary resources and raise students' English language levels to the required entry point for undergraduate entry. It also aims to provide students with understanding of the range of methodologies and a solid grounding for the research skills required in undergraduate study. By encouraging students to share this knowledge in an open class forum (small group tutorial presentations), the module also aims to develop and encourage the use of presentation skills in academic and professional-facing contexts.</p> <p>At the end of this Module, students will have developed transferable and portable skills of effective and professional communication to support their ongoing study as well as providing a basis to foster career and life-building skills. The module utilises several practical activities to allow candidates to develop these essential skills. Assignments for each of the four skills of academic reading, writing, speaking and listening are included to confirm that students meet the appropriate exit threshold in English language proficiency.</p>					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Ability to act /transferrable skills / Handlungskompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, qualitative and quantitative information at an appropriate level 					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed the importance of self-study and reliance. This involves cultivating and developing a responsibility within each student to take responsibility for their own learning, initiative, effective time-management and self-discipline within the academic and professional environments • Demonstrate awareness of the need to function as reflective autonomous learners in a variety of environments, work in teams in a variety of roles, forming, leading, building, problem solving and consolidating, and manage time and tasks effectively • Display an understanding of the concept of continuous improvement and objectivity in relation to an individual's academic performance
Intended Learning Outcomes - Knowledge and subject specific understanding / Fachkompetenz
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an ability to structure and produce an academic essay or report on a topic relevant to the student's discipline, including the planning, writing and editing stages of the process • Develop and practise academic writing skills at the sentence, paragraph and discourse levels in appropriate written genres • Be able to construct arguments with supporting evidence to establish a position on an issue • Interpret, summarise and evaluate arguments, assumptions, data and concepts to make justified decisions or draw justified conclusions
Intended Learning Outcomes – Application and generation of knowledge / Methodenkompetenz
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search for, select and evaluate sources of information for research, and use appropriate citation and bibliography writing conventions, making full use of library and e-learning search (catalogue and bibliographic) resources • Demonstrate an ability to understand and identify the key themes of a lecture, using appropriate comprehension, notetaking and summary writing skills • Select, read, digest, summarise and synthesise information material in a variety of forms, both qualitative and quantitative (text, numerical data and diagrammatic) and in an appropriate manner to identify and determine key facts/themes and relevance. • Analyse and incorporate appropriate academic sources and data into academic writing • Understand the principles and conventions of academic discourse including using sources correctly and avoiding plagiarism • Proficiently use techniques and technology in the collation, interpretation and presentation of data in oral and written formats • Build examination techniques and skills
Intended Learning Outcomes – Communication and cooperation / Sozialkompetenz
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work effectively as a team member and independently • Plan and deliver a formal academic presentation to a group of peers on a topic relevant to the student's discipline
Outline Content/ Lerninhalt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic writing conventions - preparation for and production of academic written assignments in genres relevant to the discipline of study: argumentation, paragraph structure and cohesion, and introduction and practice of appropriate academic grammar and vocabulary to encourage greater linguistic accuracy. • Referencing & Plagiarism – introduction and practise of referencing techniques and tackling plagiarism and use of AI generated text through paraphrasing, reporting verbs and transition signals

- **Reading techniques** - development of reading strategies including reading for different specific purposes, identifying main points and topic sentences, predicting content of reading passages; note-taking and summarising content and evaluating writers' purpose and stance
- **Research skills** – introduction to different methodologies, research design and methods. Data collection and analysis, including uses and application of information technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- **Presentations & Seminars** - Preparation for and planning of academic presentations and participation in seminars: fluency development in spoken academic language, development of verbal and non-verbal communication skills, use of visual aids and techniques of engaging with audience. Developing of interpersonal skills for successful groupwork
- **Listening and note-taking** - developing comprehension skills for listening to authentic lectures and other academic spoken formats. Introduction and development of academic notetaking and summary strategies and skills for listening to lectures
- **Effective Study Techniques** - development of the micro-skills needed for academic writing, including pre-writing, brainstorming, planning, text organisation, editing and rewriting; using drafts and formative peer and tutor feedback to feedforward; selecting and using research from multiple sources in writing; and developing referencing skills.
- **Self-reflection** – helps students to think about feedback provided on their own work and learning where individual improvements can be gained through further study

Recommended reading/ Empfehlungsliteratur

Name of Module/ Modultitel: <i>Principles of Business and Management</i>					
Course Information/ Kursinformatio nen	Frequency of delivery/ Häufigkeit des Angebots	Length/ Dauer	Language/ Sprache	ECTS points/ ECTS-Punkte	Study hours/ Studentische Arbeitsbelastung
PG04 Principles of Business and Management	Annually	1 Semester	English		Total study hours: 150 Taught hours: 56 Self-study: 94
Module Leader/ Modulverantwortliche(r)/ Lehrende	Credits/ Leistungspunkte	Assessment/ Prüfungsform		Teaching mode and methods/ Lehr- und Lernformen	Prüfungsleistung
Swati Jeevan		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Written essay on topic of choice (1500 words) Formative individual presentation Group presentation and seminar discussion about Business & SDGs (3-5min each member) 		Lecture, Seminar, Group work, Problem based learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Course work: 50% Course work: 50%
Module Description/ Constructive Alignment					
<p>This module provides students with the underpinning knowledge and understanding of business and management theory, principles and practice, and to provide a solid underpinning grounding for the more advanced content and comprehension required in postgraduate study.</p> <p>The module provides an overview of key business and management areas including strategy, finance, marketing, human resource management and organisational culture. Using group work, presentations and discussion sessions, students will be able to fully appreciate the inter-disciplinary nature of contemporary business and management and how it fits in with global business environment and sustainability challenges.</p>					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Ability to act/ Transferable skills / Handlungskompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply to put into context the different business and management philosophies Identify different approaches and strategies and explain how these relate to the success of a business 					
Intended Learning Outcomes - Knowledge and subject specific understanding / Fachkompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall and define key concepts and theoretical approaches relating to the context and functions of business Ability to demonstrate understanding of key business functions and management practices 					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Application and generation of knowledge / Methodenkompetenz					

<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate the ability to employ appropriate nomenclature and terminologies across business contexts • Apply research techniques to sourcing and selecting appropriate academic data and literature
<p>Intdended Learning Outcomes – Communication and cooperation / Sozialkompetenz</p>
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiently use techniques and technology in the collation, interpretation and presentation of data in oral and written formats. • Ability to effectively retain and communicate knowledge and understanding of topics covered in the module in a comprehensive manner under timed conditions
<p>Outline Content/ Lerninhalt</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business and Management - a historical perspective • Theories and principles of Business and Management • Management philosophies • Overview of how businesses function: HR, accounting and marketing • People at work: Human Resource Management • Financial information: Accounting, Budgeting and Cash flow • Marketing: how to plan, research and understand customer behaviour • Entrepreneurship • Organisational structure and change management • How are business embedded in external environment and corporate cultures • Globalisation • Ethics, corporate social responsibility and sustainability
<p>Recommended reading/ Empfehlungsliteratur</p>
Empty cell for recommended reading

Name of Module/ Modultitel: <i>Advanced Maths</i>					
Course Information/ Kursinformationen	Frequency of delivery/ Häufigkeit des Angebots	Length/ Dauer	Language/ Sprache	ECTS points/ ECTS-Punkte	Study hours/ Studentische Arbeitsbelastung
PG05 Advanced Maths	Annually	1 Semester	English		Total study hours: 150 Taught hours: 56 Self-study: 94
Module Leader/ Modulverantwortliche(r)/ Lehrende	Credits/ Leistungspunkte	Assessment/ Prüfungsform		Teaching mode and methods/ Lehr- und Lernformen	Prüfungsleistung
TBC		1. Exam (closed book) (1.5 hours) 2. Final Exam (closed book) (2 hours)		Lectures, Seminars, Tutorials, Student-managed learning	1. Exam: 40% 2. Exam: 60%
Module Description/ Constructive Alignment					
<p>The Advanced Maths module provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to carry out complex mathematical tasks throughout their university studies. This module covers key mathematical concepts including algebra, calculus, linear and non-linear equations, probability, statistics, matrices, and vectors. It explores advanced topics such as trigonometric functions, polynomial division, integration, differentiation, differential equations, and numerical methods.</p>					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Ability to act/ Transferable skills / Handlungskompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work effectively with advanced number systems, equations and formulas. Students will also learn how to apply advanced mathematical principles throughout their other modules, considering a variety of real-world contexts. 					
Intended Learning Outcomes - Knowledge and subject specific understanding / Fachkompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define principles of number theory, Non-linear equations, Laws of Logarithms, Trigonometric functions, Matrices and Vectors, Differential Equation and Numerical Methods. 					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Application and generation of knowledge / Methodenkompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply their mathematical knowledge to solve problems in the areas of number theory, Non-linear equations, Laws of Logarithms, Trigonometric functions, Matrices and Vectors, Differential Equation and Numerical Methods 					

Intended Learning Outcomes – Communication and cooperation / Sozialkompetenz

Outline Content/ Lerninhalt

This module covers an introduction to the following:

- Algebra and Calculus
- Linear and Non-Linear equations
- Statistics
- Basic principles of probability
- Polynomial division
- Non-linear equations
- Laws of Logarithms
- Trigonometric functions
- Matrices and Vectors
- Integration and differentiation rules
- Differential Equation
- Numerical Methods

Recommended reading/ Empfehlungsliteratur

Name of Module/ Modultitel: German language and culture					
Course Information/ Kursinformationen	Frequency of delivery/ Häufigkeit des Angebots	Length/ Dauer	Language/ Sprache	ECTS points/ ECTS-Punkte	Study hours/ Studentische Arbeitsbelastung
GL01 (GL02) German language and culture	Semesterly	1 Semester	English/ German		Total study hours: 100 Taught hours: 42 Self-study: 58
Module Leader/ Modulverantwortliche(r)/ Lehrende	Credits/ Leistungspunkte	Assessment/ Prüfungsform		Teaching mode and methods/ Lehr- und Lernformen	Prüfungsleistung
		1. Oral exam		e.g. Lecture, Seminar, Teaching videos, Role Play, Peer to peer learning	Exam: 100%
Module Description/ Constructive Alignment					
<p>The module is intended for students who have little or no previous knowledge of German and offers an introduction to the language. Teaching methods are based on interactive language development tasks, such as group work and role playing. It also includes the study of texts, oral development work and listening comprehension exercises. Students are asked to consolidate class work by learning vocabulary and structures, and by reading, watching or listening to material in German. Using of a range of learning aids and a variety of media, such as a reference grammar and a bilingual dictionary, students will be able to progress faster in accredited German classes during their future studies.</p>					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Ability to act/ Transferable skills / Handlungskompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable an elementary level of communicative competence in everyday situations • Develop an awareness of the general social and cultural background of the language 					
Intended Learning Outcomes - Knowledge and subject specific understanding / Fachkompetenz					
Intended Learning Outcomes – Application and generation of knowledge / Methodenkompetenz					
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the basic grammatical structures of the German language • Read and comprehend simple written and aural texts and extract specific, predictable information related to everyday situations 					

Intnded Learning Outcomes – Communication and cooperation / Sozialkompetenz
<p>Upon completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate about a variety of general topics requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters • Make progress through developing skills of self-study and application and develop an awareness of the diversity of and sensitivity to German culture
Outline Content/ Lerninhalt
<p>Grammar (indicative):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alphabet and numbers; word order in sentences, questions & polite Imperatives; conjugation in the present tense • Genders of nouns; def./ indef. articles; adverbs of time • Addressing someone in the du-form; interrogative when?' • Verb haben' + Accusative; possessive pronouns • Objects and their genders; use of possessive pronouns; informal & formal ways of addressing people • Expressing likes & dislikes - gern/lieber; ein/kein; verbs + direct object • The time; the days of the week • Use of modal verbs können', müssen', wollen'; prepositions either followed by the accusative or the dative depending on the context • Adjective endings in front of nouns Es gibt' (There is / are) ... + Accusative; adjectives in attributive/ predicative position • Use of the informal Imperative • Demonstrative adjectives • Prepositions + Dative / Accusative • The months; subordinate clauses introduced by dass'; use of the past tense forms (past tense of haben / sein + past participle of the verb) <p>Topics (indicative):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of German culture and customs • Greeting others and introducing oneself • Talking about today and yesterday • Order Food at Fast Food Restaurant • Dining in Restaurant • Date, Time, and Transportation • Shopping
Recommended reading/ Empfehlungsliteratur