

Innovation, Enterprise and Circular Economy Postgraduate Certificate Programme Specification

www.brad.ac.uk/courses/pg/innovation-enterprise-and-circular-economy-pgcert/

Academic Year: **2020-21**

Degree Awarding Body: **University of Bradford**

Final award at Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 7: **Postgraduate Certificate Innovation, Enterprise and Circular Economy**

Programme accredited by: **AACSB; EQUIS**

Programme duration: **Distance learning, 12 months**

QAA Subject benchmark statements: **Business and Management**

Date last confirmed by Faculty Board: **January 21**

Please note: This programme specification has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

Introduction

In accordance with the University's mission 'Making Knowledge Work', the School of Management aims to provide programmes that educate individuals as managers and business specialists, and thereby improve the quality of management as a profession.

Short and long term rising commodity prices, structural adjustments and declining quality of resources are presenting major strategic and operational challenges to companies, countries and geo-regions. Shifts in economic geography, instability in financial markets and volatility in access to and security of supply, raise the risks of resource conflicts and social upheaval. Such issues will likely impact more widely on fundamental societal needs for food, water and affordable energy and fuel.

All these drivers and trends point to the need to re-think supply chain design, assessment of risk and security and business models. The Circular Economy Certificate has been developed to meet these challenges and to support our academic programme with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF). According to EMF, a working definition of the circular economy is:

A framework for re-thinking our industrial economy that is, by design or intention, restorative and in which materials flows are of two types: biological nutrients, designed to re-enter the biosphere safely, and technical nutrients, which are designed to circulate at high quality without entering the biosphere.

Closed substance cycles, sometimes referred to as closed loop systems feature prominently in discussions around circular economy. The term 'closed loop' is then also often linked and associated with a further term – 'industrial ecology' – which features a number of characteristics that appear in the circular economy framework.

Closed loop principles are well founded in engineering under the idea of closed loop systems and ecology (operating with feedback systems). These principles involve a careful management of materials flows, which in the circular economy are of two types as described by McDonough and Braungart (Cradle to Cradle, Re-making the way we make things): biological nutrients, designed to re-enter the biosphere safely and build natural capital, and technical nutrients, which are designed to circulate at high quality without entering the biosphere. Earlier studies used terms such as economy in loops referring to product life extension, durability, remanufacture and product service substitution to reduce the material intensity of the economy as well as create virtuous material – economy cycles.

The term industrial ecology also has a number of features of closed loop and cascading principles and itself is often associated with a number of other terms such as clean technology, design for environment and industrial symbiosis. At its heart it refers to industrial eco-systems with inputs and outputs from different processes, and facilities and activities becoming connected or evolving over time to the benefit of all in the network. At the firm or facility level, methods and techniques such as Cleaner Production, Design for Environment, Life Cycle Assessment, Environmental Management Systems highlight significant resource savings that could be achieved from focussed and structured analysis of material and resource inputs and outputs. Industrial symbiosis takes this activity to another level, connecting groups of firms, processes and businesses who can benefit by using each other's wastes or outputs. Projects such as the famous Kalundborg eco-park in Denmark, have provided a blue print for many such schemes in China.

Some of the practical implications of a circular economy are a shift from selling goods/products to selling performance, moving towards renewable energy, rethinking value cycles and supply chains and recognising the value of diversity and whole system design. Innovation and enterprise lies at the heart of the circular economy – harnessing new ideas, modernising old ideas and shifting from a throughput model to circular models for value creation, retention and recovery.

Study and Progression

The programme is designed to be fully on-line with all materials in downloadable format. Students will receive dedicated DL tutor support, online tutor discussions and online live tutorials. There are two intakes each year to this programme.

A student taking the PGC award can transfer to the MBA upon successful completion of the award or during the award, assuming satisfactory academic progression (decided by the Director of Studies). Note that entry requirements for the PGC are the same as for the MBA

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- Prepare students for the transition into business and an organisation in circular economy

- Deepen their understanding of key concepts, principles and business applications of a circular economy framework;
- Identify, test and evaluate ideas, innovation and enterprising solutions around the circular economy within mainstream business and management setting;
- Extend and develop their networks to develop in-depth discussion and updating on complex issues associated with the implementation of the circular economy.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the award of Postgraduate Certificate at FHEQ level 7, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a systemic and critical understanding of management knowledge and awareness of contemporary business issues, and current research and practice in business administration
2. Demonstrate a broad but rigorous understanding of the concepts, constructs and frameworks applicable to business administration and of the tools and techniques used to support decision making
3. Exercise personal initiative and responsibility in effecting solutions to complex strategic business problems surrounding by uncertain business intelligence and incomplete data
4. Evidence adaptability and originality in tackling and solving problems, and the ability to work cooperatively with others and provide ethical leadership in bringing about strategic transformational change

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The programme aims to integrate applied and theoretical knowledge with assessment processes that test knowledge, application and analysis of the disciplines. Each module involves a balance between individual and collaborative learning, both of which requires the student to be highly motivated and willing to develop understanding through self-directed and peer to peer study. To facilitate this and ensure that maximum benefit is derived for this mode of study, a number of teaching methods will be used to support their studies:

- The provision of a detailed interactive study book made up of 8 learning units and 1 revision/overview unit introducing key areas and guiding the student through additional materials (e.g. relevant materials, information on the VLE)
- The provision of relevant set materials and additional practitioner based and academic literature
- Complete online lecture audio, selected lecture videos and presentation slides (selected modules)
- Module leader 'talking heads' introducing and concluding each module
- Test Yourself questions for each module learning unit
- Dedicated DL tutor support
- Online tutor discussion forums

- On line live tutorials with a dedicated module tutor using case studies to further develop understanding of key issues

In addition to the assessed components of the programme, there are a number of skills-based non-assessed programmes available to students. These are delivered by attendance at Bradford or via live online workshops. These programmes are supported by online materials.

Assessment Strategy

The DL PGC in Innovation, Enterprise and the Circular Economy is assessed by assignment. In addition there are formative assessments that allow the student to develop their ideas and confidence with the subject matter. Assessment is integrated with learning and teaching to support and demonstrate achievement of the learning outcomes for individual modules and the programme as a whole. Emphasis is placed on the feedback function of formative assessment as part of the learning, teaching and assessment strategy as a whole.

All written assignments are submitted for evaluation through Turnitin which is a facility within the institutional VLE. Turnitin provides a means of checking that work meets the standards of scholarship expected of students of the University of Bradford and is the mechanism by which marks and feedback will be provided.

All assessment tariffs, evaluation criteria, pass marks and marking scales comply with the University of Bradford's guidance and policies governing assessment.

Curriculum

The programme commences with the module Circular Economy Core Principles and Concepts. This contains the threshold concepts and essential frameworks that are required for students to study the four modules that build upon these ideas.

Students will be eligible to exit with the FHEQ Level 7 award of Postgraduate Certificate in Innovation, Enterprise and Circular Economy if they have successfully completed 60 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Module Type	Credits	Module Code
7	Circular Economy Core Principles and Concepts	Core	20	OIM7018-B
7	Materials, Resources, Energy and Competitiveness	Core	10	OIM7019-A
7	Business Models for a Circular Economy	Core	10	OIM7020-A
7	Diversity, Scale and Development	Core	10	OIM7021-A
7	Enterprise and Innovation	Core	10	EAE7005-A

The curriculum may change, subject to availability and the University's programme approval, monitoring and review processes. All modules will be studied by the Distance Learning (DL) mode of study.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Postgraduate Assessment Regulations which are available at the link: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations/>

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students and most important in the decision to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

An acceptable profile of an applicant with formal academic qualifications would be:

- At least 3 years postgraduate work experience including experience in a supervisory, managerial or business capacity; evidence of numeracy and literacy competences, e.g. a satisfactory GMAT¹, which is valid for the year of entry; a good first degree or equivalent overseas qualification from a recognised institution, and; an approved test in English, if English is not the applicant's first language.

An acceptable profile of an applicant with recognised professional qualifications would be:

- At least 5 years work experience in a professional capacity, post qualification; evidence of numeracy and literacy competences, e.g. a satisfactory GMAT, which is valid for the year of entry, and; an approved test in English, if English is not the applicant's first language.

Applications are welcome from students with non-standard qualifications or mature students (those over 21 years of age on entry) with significant relevant experience.

An acceptable profile of an applicant without formal academic or professional qualifications would be:

- Significant managerial or business leadership experience (normally 8 years); evidence of numeracy and literacy competences, e.g. a satisfactory GMAT, which is valid for the year of entry; an academic recommendation based on a one-to-one Interview, and; an approved test in English, if English is not the applicant's first language.

As the programme is delivered entirely in English, applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language thus, UK educated students must have a GCSE grade 4 (C) or above. Non-native speakers must have a 6.5 score on IELTS test of English, 94 in the internet-based TOEFL or a score of 60 or more in the Pearson English Test – exceptionally, holders of a degree from a native English speaking country (as defined on the University central admissions database) awarded within 5 years prior to entry to the Bradford programme may be exempt from these English test requirements, subject to the provision of an employer's letter indicating the communication medium used in the workplace is English. Alternatively, English capabilities may also be assessed through the provision of a portfolio of evidence as outlined in the Bradford English Matrices.

Applicants may be invited to take an online numeracy and literacy test and to discuss their application with a member of the Bradford admissions team. Test results, references, and

¹ The nominal score varies between countries. Consequentially, all applications are individually assessed against national norms.

the overall quality of an applicant's profile will determine whether an offer of a place is made.

Recognition of Prior Learning

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval
1	Streamlined LOs	January 2021
2	Specification reformatted and made accessible	April 2021