

MASTERS OF COMMERCE (BUSINESS MANAGEMENT WITH SPECIALISATION IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT) COURSEWORK



2025

DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORT AND SUPPLY
CHAIN MANAGEMENT



School of Management
College of Business and Economics

The Future
Reimagined



MASTERS OF COMMERCE (BUSINESS MANAGEMENT WITH SPECIALISATION IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT) COURSEWORK

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1. INTRODUCTION

Management and leadership in a complex, technology driven and ever changing world and business environment demands constant investment in personal and corporate talent development and management to ensure that managers' and leaders' knowledge, skills and capabilities develop and grow with the times, to give them a competitive edge.

Every year we are pleased to welcome a new group of exceptional, diverse group of individuals to the MCom (Business Management) programme. Each individual brings with them a unique set of skills and experiences from various backgrounds in the private and public sector. We create a unique learning environment where these skills and knowledge can be shared to enhance the overall learning experience of the programme.

The MCom Business Management programme is considered as one of UJ's flagship programmes and has been in existence for 26 years with more than 1000 alumni.

Management and leadership development has the greatest impact when learning can be translated into action and business results. This is the philosophy on which the MCom Business Management programme was developed. The learning is strongly career directed implying that it is founded on theory but practically oriented. The MCom programme has been perceived as a hybrid Master's degree that is able to balance in a creative way academic rigour with a strong professional orientation.

The MCom programme is known for its focus on competence, individual student attention and unique innovative learning opportunities. This programme offers students a choice of two specialisation areas: Business Management; and Transport and Supply Chain Management.

UJ wishes to attract business leaders and managers from all industries in the private and public sectors. If you are up for a challenge to be part of this unique, dynamic and practice- oriented master's programme we would like to welcome you to apply and join our community of future-fit managers and leaders.

2. PURPOSE OF THE MCom IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

The purpose of the MCom Business Management is to develop future-fit managers with the knowledge, skills and capabilities required to critically engage within businesses, challenging current paradigms through applied research. This will be done by means of developing research skills, intellectual competencies and practical skills in the mastering, analysis, interpretation and application of basic and advanced management principles within a business organisation, and be able to reflect on their managerial decisions and applications and to assess the effect thereof in the holistic context of management as a practice.

3. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students who apply for the MCom must adhere to all the following admission requirements:

- A potential student should be in possession of a BCom Hons qualification, or an equivalent four-year qualification, (excluding BTech) with a minimum level of competency on NQF Level 8.
- A potential student should have obtained a 65% average for the NQF level 8 qualification.
- Individual specialist areas may have different requirements.
- A potential student should have at least 2 years industry experience.
- Students must have adequate English language proficiency by passing a literacy test.

4. COMPOSITION OF THE DEGREE

4.1 Modules

The MCom Business Management degree consists of a prescribed study degree of 10 modules, and a minor dissertation covering an approved topic in the specialisation area. The research component of the degree comprises 50% of the final mark, which is in line with the latest Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) requirements. A short description of the modules is attached in ADDENDUM A.

The prescribed study degree is compiled from the following modules:

YEAR 1: SEMESTER 1	YEAR 1: SEMESTER 2	
Module	Module	
Contemporary Management	Organisational Behaviour	
Critical Management Theory	Qualitative research design & methodology	
Research Methodology	Quantitative research design & methodology	
International Perspectives	Choose ONE according to the specialisation area	
Directed Research Studies (Semester 1 & 2)	Specialisation area	Module
	Business Management	Entrepreneurship
	Supply Chain Management	Supply Chain strategy and design considerations
YEAR 2: SEMESTER 1		
Minor dissertation		
YEAR 2: SEMESTER 1		
Minor dissertation		

4.2 Minor dissertation

In addition to the modules, each student is required to write a minor dissertation on an approved topic. The topic is approved after the submission of a detailed research proposal during the module Directed Research Studies. The minor dissertation should include empirical research. Candidates must pass Directed Research Studies and Research Methodology before commencing with their minor dissertation. The minor dissertation must be in the field of the chosen specialisation area.

5. COURSE PRESENTATION AND ASSESSMENT

The learning in each module is presented in study blocks once a month from Thursday to Saturday at a venue close to the University of Johannesburg Auckland Park campus. A blended learning approach is followed that includes formal lectures, experiential learning, individual and group discussions, guest lecturers and speakers and case studies.

Assessment methods are closely aligned with the learning outcomes. This means that a variety of different methods of assessment is used such as portfolios of evidence, closed and open-book assessments, meaningful class participation, syndicate assignments, individual assignments and examinations, all with a focus on the application of learning to the student's place of work.

6. COURSE DURATION

The MCom Business Management degree must be completed in a minimum of 2 or a maximum of 3 years. Course work is completed in 1 year. Students must complete their dissertation in year 2. Extensions of study after 3 years must be approved by the Executive Dean of the College of Business and Economics.

7. PASS REQUIREMENTS

The required pass mark is 50%. The 50% rule applies to the minor dissertation as well. The contribution of the short dissertation to the final mark is 50% and that of all the other modules together is 50%. Candidates pass with distinction if they achieve a final aggregate mark of 75% and 65% in all individual modules.

Students who fail three modules or more during the first year of study will not be allowed to continue with their studies. A module that is failed more than twice will lead to academic exclusion.

8. LANGUAGE MEDIUM AND COMPUTER LITERACY

The medium of instruction is English.

Students must be computer literate and have access to e-mail and the Internet.

9. COMMENCEMENT OF CLASSES

Lectures commence in February. Class attendance is compulsory. No applications can be considered after the commencement of classes. If students are unable to attend a class they must deregister the module and complete it the following year.

10. COURSE FEES

Information regarding course fees for the MCom Business Management can be obtained from the MCom Academic Coordinator, at the end of September annually. A list of bursaries and scholarships is obtained from the UJ website: <https://www.uj.ac.za/studyatUJ/Student-Finance>

11. COMPULSORY ORIENTATION

All first year students must attend a compulsory one day orientation, normally in the last week of January, just before the commencement of classes. More details with regards to the orientation will be communicated towards the end of the year.

12. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications to the University can be submitted either online or by submission of a hard copy application. The applicant submitting an application online is exempted from paying an application fee and a hard copy application need to be accompanied by a proof of payment of the amount of ±R250 (subject to change).

All applications must be accompanied by CERTIFIED copies of:

- Degree certificates (BCom Honours or relevant, equivalent four-year university degree)

- Official academic record
- Certificate of conduct (obtained from the University where the BCom Honours or relevant, equivalent four year degree was completed)
- ID or Passport (certified)
- A recent abridged CV

International applications to the University of Johannesburg need to be accompanied by the certified copies of the following documents:

- Passport or National Identity Document
- Academic Transcript from the previous institution/s
- Degree certificate/s
- Evaluation certificate from SAQA or the equivalency can be done at the University through the UK-Naric system

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SAQA Contact Details

South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

Centre for the Evaluation of Educational Qualifications (CEEQ)

Postnet Suite 248

Private Bag X06 Waterkloof, PRETORIA SOUTH AFRICA, 0145

Tel. no.: +27 (0)12 431 5070

Fax no.: +27 (0)12 482 5147

For general enquiries: saqainfo@saqa.org.za

www.saqa.org.za

The last day for the submission of international applications for the 2025 academic year is 30 September 2024 (preferably sooner).

When your application has been successful you will receive communication with regards to the registration requirements for international students at the University of Johannesburg.

International students need to contact the International office of the University before applying. Their contact details are available as follows:

<https://www.uj.ac.za/internationalstudents/Pages/about.aspx>

The following payment methods can be used when making payment to UJ:

1. Students with a valid UJ Student Number, using Electronic banking:
 - The new UJ FNB Tuition Fee account is available as a pre-defined beneficiary on the
 - Electronic platforms of all the major banks, including Capitec Bank.
 - Search for the predefined beneficiaries on your own electronic banking platform,
 - Select UJ FNB Tuition Fee account and save that as a beneficiary to make payment
 - Use your valid UJ student number as reference.
2. Students with a valid UJ Student Number, using any FNB Branch:
 - Visit any FNB Branch to make a payment into the UJ Tuition Fee Account.
 - The teller should select the UJ tuition fees account for payment.
 - Use your valid UJ student number as reference.
3. Students with a valid UJ Student Number, using any FNB Cash accepting ATM:
 - Cash deposit; use any FNB cash accepting ATM.
 - Select the card less services option on the ATM
 - Deposit Cash
 - FNB Recipient Name, key in UJ and then space
 - Select UJ tuition fees account

4. Students without a valid UJ student number, but a valid South African ID Number or Passport Number can use the following account:
- FNB UJ Bursary account details Account number:
 - Cheque Account Number: **626 158 73280**
 - Branch name: **FNB Client Services Branch**
 - Branch Code: **210 554**

13. OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER STUDIES

It is possible for candidates who obtain acceptable marks and who wish to study further to apply for a DCom or PhD degree in an appropriate Management field of expertise.

14. POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL (PGS)

The PGS consists of three functional areas, namely: Funding Support, Information Services and Research Capacity Development.

Other services provided by the Postgraduate School:

- Workshops (e.g. Master's Dissertation, Research Writing, Academic Writing Skills);
- Training sessions (in collaboration with the Library and ADS);
- Postgraduate symposia;
- Social and networking functions;
- Working space for postgraduate students, supported by 20 computers and a quiet atmosphere;
- Seminars and conferences on higher education development.

For more information please contact:

<https://www.uj.ac.za/postgraduate-school>

The University reserves the right to amend enrolment requirements, timetables, dates, fees and programme contents as and when the need arises, without prior notice.

15. OVERVIEW OF THE MCom BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CURRICULUM

CONTEMPORARY MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this module is expose students to contemporary management topics due to the impact (and future impact) of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and the complex challenges managers need to deal with in a global, technological driven and ever-changing environment. Students should further be able to reflect on business cases and their management decisions and applications to access the effect thereof in the holistic context of general management. Students should also question the applicability of existing managerial theories, models and practices.

DIRECTED RESEARCH STUDIES

In this module students will conceptualise and design a scientifically correct, academically sound and practically implementable research proposal. In the research proposal students will have to demonstrate their ability to identify a researchable research problem from the research gap in the literature and select and motivate the appropriate research design and methods to critically investigate the research problem within a relevant discipline.

CRITICAL MANAGEMENT THEORY

The purpose of this module is to influence the current thinking on theories and philosophies that underpins the management of an enterprise and develop specialised skills that can be critically communicated and defended in a complex and challenging business and socio-economic environment.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this research methodology module is designed to assist you in developing the necessary research skills that will enable you to write a researchable proposal as well as guide your minor dissertation of limited scope. In this module students will understand the rationale for research

and gain skills in undertaking field research. The methodological designs and methods that are appropriate and applicable in the completion of discipline-specific research projects are presented. Students will have to be able to demonstrate their command of the various methods that can be applied to different discipline specific research projects. Furthermore they have to be able to demonstrate that they are able to design research that complies with ethical research standards.

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

The purpose of this module is to focus on the various issues with regard to doing international business. Students should develop intellectual competencies and practical skills in the range of decisions implicit in planning and execution of international business. Students should further be able to reflect on their managerial decisions and applications to assess the effect thereof in the holistic context of conducting business in a totally different environment.

ORGANISATIONAL BEHAVIOUR

The purpose of this module is to apply organisational behaviour theory to a changing world of work. Students are equipped with the intellectual skills and competencies to research, analyse, interpret and apply organisational behaviour knowledge to solve complex and challenging business problems to enhance individual, group and organisational level effectiveness.

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this module is to provide an in depth understanding of strategic management as a discipline, concepts of strategic importance in the discipline and the application of strategic management in the workplace.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this module is to introduce the fundamental elements of various qualitative research approaches to research. After completion of the module, students will possess knowledge of qualitative research

methods, as well as be proficient in choosing and executing various qualitative research methods.

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this module is to introduce the fundamental elements of various quantitative research approaches to research. After completion of the module, students will possess knowledge of quantitative research methods, as well as be proficient in choosing and executing various quantitative research methods.

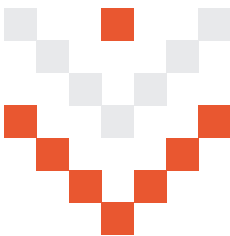
Students choose to specialise in one of the two areas. In choosing a specialist area students complete one subject in the specialist area.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The purpose of this module is to develop intellectual competencies and practical skills in the acquisition, analysis, and application of entrepreneurial management thinking and doing in all sectors of the economy. Students should further be able to reflect on the degree of entrepreneurial culture in their relevant departments and/or organisations and be able to assess the effect of their own entrepreneurial inputs (intrapreneurship) on the holistic outcomes of the organisation's entrepreneurial future.

SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGY AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The purpose of this module is to provide students with specialised competencies enabling them to critically analyse and explain the principles and importance of supply chain strategies and design considerations. This module will create an understanding of the way supply chain strategies and structures are developed and the impact thereof in the competitive position of an organisation. Students will be equipped to reflect on personal and/or group competencies by utilising acquired knowledge of supply chain strategy and design.



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