

# **MSc Strategic Leadership (Part-Time)**

**London Campus** 

Level of study: Postgraduate

Mode of study: Part-time

**Duration: 2 years (14 weekends)** 

## Overview

This work-based programme is reflective of current thinking in strategic leadership and provides an excellent platform for aspiring or substantive senior leaders and managers to enhance and develop sought after strategic leadership skills.

Designed for those who wish to gain a postgraduate degree whilst balancing employment and a range of other commitments, this programme will develop your knowledge, skills and competence in the areas of personal and professional development, leadership, people management, innovation, finance and organisational strategy.

## **Key facts**

Designed for aspirational or substantive leaders who are seeking to understand more about themselves as a potential leader, focusing on leadership behaviours and strategies for professional development. Opportunity to deepen understanding of, and develop leadership competencies in, organisational cross functional activities including human resource management, finance, innovation and strategy.

Successful graduates will receive a dual award, the MSc Strategic Leadership and a CMI Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership Work related assessment wherever possible, designed to deliver impact into your organisation. Delivered over 2 years in Part-Time mode – 14 weekends with supporting online or face to face tuition

#### **Course information**

Level of study: Postgraduate

Fees: To find out about current fees and student finance contact us

Entry requirements: A minimum of a Bachelor's degree or equivalent At least 3 years' work experience with

supervisory responsibility You must be in employment Professional qualifications that are equivalent to an honours degree or work experience may also be acceptable.

English language requirements: GCSE English grade A-C or equivalent

**Mode of study: Part-time** 

**Duration: 2 years (14 weekends)** 



**Assessment methods: Coursework** 

Scholarships or bursaries: available

Student finance: available

Payment plan: available

Starts: Jan, Jul, Oct, Apr,

## **About this course:**

## What will I study?

Throughout the programme, you will become knowledgeable about the theory and practice of responsible business, leadership and management in the context of your own personal and professional practice, organisation and sector specific contextual drivers, and broader societal and global challenges. You will develop your ability to critically reflect on your leadership approach and management capability and practice, whilst also cultivating an awareness of cultural and ethical issues that impact on your individual practice and organisational contexts.

Furthermore, you will work on developing research skills, critical thinking and effective organisational improvement techniques as well as exploring all the personal competences associated with leadership and management in complex, dynamic and excellence focused organisations. But it's not just about cutting edge theory; it's also about hands-on practical experience. To this end, you are encouraged to build on your own leadership and management experience with work related assignments which will contribute to developing self, career and workplace improvement.

Modules within the programme will adopt a combination of research approaches including learning how to research, extracting knowledge from and critically analysing research from others and importantly, applying research in your daily practice.

This MSc aims to provide you with a framework of learning that develops your personal and professional capabilities as an existing or aspiring senior leader, supports you in applying cutting edge business theory to enhance organisational practice and builds your capacity to lead investigations, people and projects in the workplace.

## How will I be taught and assessed?

You'll be taught using a range of methods such as workshops, tutorials, directed study and discussion forums, and led by experienced lecturers and academics who use their industry and research experience to demonstrate how the theories, tools, technologies and methods you will learn on the programme translate in to real life situations.

For each module you can expect 24 hours of overall contact time delivered through interactive workshops and face-toface classroom sessions. This will be supported by a minimum of 12 hours of guided tutor



learning which can be delivered virtually, including tutorials, tutor led collaborative exercises with peers, discussion forums and video presentations.

You will also be expected to engage in independent study, around 164 hours for each module. This will be supported by your module tutor and will consist of pre-class reading preparation, research, assessment preparation, development and writing as well as skills development and online tests and quizzes.

The assessment for this programme is 100% coursework.

As part of the programme, you will have access to the CMI Management Direct portal. This is a resource base that includes online briefings on current management topics, templates and self-assessment tools. Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) is embedded throughout the course with tools such as the 'Blackboard' eLearning Portal and electronic reading lists that will guide your preparation for seminars and independent research.

## **Careers and further study**

This programme is specifically designed for those in employment and who are seeking to develop their careers as a strategic leader. As such significant emphasis is placed upon developing the competences required to accelerate leadership career potential. Through the teaching, learning and assessment strategy, you will be encouraged to develop your knowledge and skills as practising or aspiring leaders, and to think analytically about your personal and organisational practice.

Furthermore, the majority of the Knowledge and Understanding criteria required in the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for management and leadership (2008). The National Occupational Standards are statements of best practice which outline the performance criteria, related skills, knowledge and understanding required to effectively carry out various management and leadership functions.

As a registered student on the programme you will become an affiliate member of CMI throughout the duration of your studies and have access to all of their online resources. The programme is also mapped against the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) enabling you to also receive a CMI level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership upon successful completion of the programme.

## **Entry requirements**

Applicants should have:

Standard entry requirements

- . A minimum of a Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- . At least 3 years' work experience with supervisory responsibility
- . You must be in employment

Non-standard entry requirements

A mature applicant lacking standard academic qualifications may be considered for entry if they have relevant senior level management experience over an appropriate period of time and is able to fulfil the



objectives of the programme. This would be evidenced by a personal statement and conversation with a member of the academic team.

## **Modules**

All modules on this course are core.

# Leader Identity, Leadership and Responsible Organisation (20 credits)

This module is the capstone of the programme, and provides aspiring leaders with an opportunity to critically reflect upon the contribution of leadership in the context of organisations. It is designed to develop you as 'reflective practitioners' and independent learners. Furthermore, the module encourages you to think about the responsibility of individual leaders and organisations in the context of contemporary ethical and sustainable challenges to business.

We will consider contemporary issues and challenges facing individuals and organisations in terms of leading and managing in increasingly dynamic business environments. This approach will develop your ability to critically analyse behaviour, evaluate actions; plan and employ critical judgement through careful consideration of and reflection on current and future management and organisational challenges.

## Leading Organisational Strategy and Change (20 credits)

This module will enable you to critically evaluate the range of factors that impact strategic positioning and performance. It will help you develop new knowledge and skills in strategic analysis and planning techniques, which you will apply in your own context, to critically analyse opportunities for implementation and recommend future improvements to organisational practice.

The module will analyse contemporary theories and models informing strategic approaches to leading change and managing new ways of working across infrastructure, processes, people, culture and sustainability within organisations.

## Finance and Operations Leadership (20 credits)

Central to understanding how organisations achieve success is the appreciation of how accounting, finance and operations can be used for strategic advantage. This module will develop your knowledge and critical appreciation of the key components of accounting, finance and operations and enable you to apply these within the context of a successful commercial organisation.

The module will include key concepts in relation to investment and financing decisions, operational controls, and financial health and growth. You will be able to build your knowledge starting with how to choose and appraise an investment decision, dealing with operational matters that keep the business running, using finance, accounting and operational techniques to strategically manage the direction of the business and to understand how expansion can successfully and sustainably take place.

# Future of Work and Organisation Development (20 credits)

As the future of work and organisations continue to change and take on new shapes, legal and regulatory forms, leaders will have a critical role to play both as strategic partners in organisations, supporting and



developing front line employees as well as managers, and enabling change. Effective management of people is vital for the achievement of an organisation's strategic goals, yet it is hard to do well and easy to do badly. The module investigates the strategic priorities and practicalities of strategic human resource management and development in addition to a focus on stakeholders' development needs. You will develop an understanding of individual and organisational learning, including the opportunities and challenges of approaches to strategic workforce planning such as talent management, workforce design, performance management, diversity and inclusion.

# Leading Innovation in the Digital Organisation (20 credits)

This module will provide you with theoretical and applied perspectives on the challenges and opportunities of managing in the digital economy. Through the use of a range of topical and case based examples this module will illustrate the far-reaching impact that rapid technological change, digital strategies and disruptive innovation has on companies, governments, individuals and society. You will explore how these impacts are interrelated and are dynamic and unpredictable in character. The assessment explores this dynamic interaction, providing an opportunity to explore the impact of transformation digital change. The use of academic and practitioner materials will enable you to clearly understand the socio-economic impact and contribute to developing new strategies to reap potential value from the global digital economy.

## Management Inquiry and Data Analytics for Decision Making (20 credits)

The growth of evidence-based management and the increasing range and amount of data that managers are expected to process on a regular basis requires managers to have analytical skills and a sound understanding of research. This module will equip you with the necessary practical skills needed to manage this complexity and to generate conclusions, which can be used to support management decisions. In addition, you will be provided with a broad understanding of the basic issues and considerations you will face when completing your final management investigation. You will be introduced to philosophical issues as well as frequently used methodologies and techniques to inform whatever research strategy and methods you decide to adopt in your later investigation.

## Academic and Professional Skills (0 credits)

This module will support your transition into postgraduate higher education by developing specific skills and attributes to both manage your studies, to communicate your ideas effectively within the academic community and giving you an insight on how these skills contribute to your professional development. The module supports you to draw on your own experiences at work allowing you to reflect and evaluate your own effectiveness in this area, and plan your own personal development and approaches to managing your future career.

## **Management Investigation (60 credits)**

This module is research/enquiry based and you will be required to identify, and give a convincing rationale for, a researchable work based topic, which addresses an issue or problem within an organisation.

You will identify and critically review relevant literature and synthesise a theoretical framework, which will guide you to choose and execute an appropriate research methodology, including the gathering and analysis of relevant data. From the research findings, you will offer a discussion of the academic relevance



of the results and any further research prompted. Finally, you will outline your conclusions and derive and present a set of realistic recommendations which the organisation could take into practice and which addresses the initial research topic.

Please note that your tuition fees do not include the cost of course books that you may choose to purchase, stationery, printing and photocopying, accommodation, living expenses, travel or any other extracurricular activities. As a London Campus student, you will have full access to our online digital library with over 400,000 e-books and 50,000 electronic journals.

You will be provided with access to the CMI Management Direct as part of your course fees. This portal provides access to a wide range of management resources including online briefings on current management topics, templates and self-assessment tools. The programme fees do not include the application to become a Chartered Manager, students wishing to achieve this status would be required to support their own costs.

The modules you will study do not require you to purchase additional textbooks although we recommend you allow an additional £200-250 for the duration of your studies should you choose to purchase any additional reading materials.