

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION
(Taught Postgraduate)**



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| 1 | Awarding Institution | Newcastle University |
| 2 | Teaching Institution | Newcastle University |
| 3 | Final Award | MSc |
| 4 | Programme Title | Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management (with Study Abroad) Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management (Dual Award) |
| 5 | Programme Code | 5154F 5487F 5154N 5154I |
| 6 | Programme Accreditation | CILT; CIPS; ITS |
| 7 | QAA Subject Benchmark(s) | Business and Management |
| 8 | FHEQ Level | 7 |
| 9 | Last updated | May 2026 |

10 Programme Aims

1. To provide students with the opportunity to engage in the advanced study of operations, logistics and supply chain management in the manufacturing and service sectors through a multidisciplinary perspective.
2. To enable students to develop the ability to apply their knowledge and understanding of operations, logistics, and supply chain management to solve real-world business challenges in a thorough, systematic, informed and creative way.
3. To support students to develop critical thinking and both quantitative and qualitative analytical ability to convert theory into practice to advance the effectiveness and competitiveness of organisations.
4. To enable students to prepare for and /or develop a career in operations, logistics and supply chain management by equipping them employability skills.
5. Offer students the opportunity to develop graduate attributes that increase employability, particularly communication and (where applicable) language skills, intercultural competencies, adaptability, resilience and global awareness.
6. Gain insight into international Higher Education and experience differences in academic approach and learning environment.
7. Provide the opportunity to experience new areas of study outside of their usual programme of study at Newcastle University.

More specifically the aims are:

1. To provide advanced study of operations, logistics and supply chain management in a variety of organisational contexts.
2. To produce graduates with the necessary specialist knowledge and skills appropriate to pursue careers in operations management, logistics, procurement, supply chain management, and general management or consulting.

3. To expose students to a variety of learning experiences.
4. To develop transferable skills, including report writing, personal and interpersonal skills, presentation skills, group working skills and an appreciation of working in a multicultural environment.
5. To produce graduates able to understand, explain and apply an integrated approach to the operations, logistics, and supply chain management as a means of improving organisational performance.
6. To provide an understanding of the contribution of lifelong learning and personal development to both individual and organisational development.
7. To produce highly marketable graduates who are able to make an immediate contribution to their organisation.
8. To provide a qualification which fully meets the expectation at Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualification.
9. To provide a programme that complies with prevailing University policies and QAA codes of practice.

11 Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes have references to the benchmark statements for Masters Awards in operations, logistics and supply chain management and provide students with opportunities to demonstrate disciplinary competency by undertaking research and developing their knowledge.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following:

- A1 How an integrated approach to operations, logistics, and supply chain management can impact business performance.
- A2 The importance of organisational context in operations management, including product/service type, mode of service, size of company, type of industry, stage in the business life cycle and the degree of internationalisation of the business.
- A3 The importance and role of operations strategy and logistics.
- A4 Methods of planning, control and continuous improvement.
- A5 The importance of lean supply, supply chain management and the management of change.
- A6 Quality assurance systems, quality control approaches and the use of statistical methods.
- A7 The role and function of information technology in supporting operations management, logistics, and supply chain management.
- A8 Sustainability issues and their implications in supply chain management and other business practices.
- A9 Comparative international business environments and how they differ across countries and institutions, including business firms, governments, international organisations, and the markets in which they operate.
- A10 Demonstrate the ability to adapt to different learning environments and cultures.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The primary mode of instruction is via lectures and staff-led discussion, supplemented by practical exercises, including the use of case studies. Students are encouraged to employ reading lists to broaden subject knowledge and to use appropriate business cases, quantitative and qualitative examples and new developments in the management of operations, logistics and supply chains to ensure up to date knowledge of theory and practice. External speakers may be invited to deliver sessions on key aspects of operations, logistics and supply chain management in different organisations. Students are encouraged to critically evaluate these sessions in the light of their developing knowledge.

Assessment Strategy

Students' knowledge and understanding of the subject matter and their ability to utilise it will be assessed by a combination of assignments, examinations, portfolios, and dissertations.

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| Intellectual Skills |
| <p>On completing the programme, students should be able to:</p> <p>B1 Integrate evidence from a variety of sources to effect improvement in the operational performance of organisations.</p> <p>B2 Evaluate evidence critically, reach conclusions and present findings.</p> <p>B3 Solve problem within the context of the business environment with particular emphasis on operations, logistics and supply chain management by applying quantitative and qualitative methods.</p> <p>B4 Contribute effectively to the planning, design and implementation of projects.</p> |
| Teaching and Learning Methods |
| Students learn by completing case studies, group and individual exercises, presenting findings, and designing and completing a research project. |
| Assessment Strategy |
| Intellectual skills are assessed by a mix of examinations, supported by assignments which are selected to best reflect the subject being studied. In addition, research skills are assessed by the dissertation. |
| Practical Skills |
| <p>On completing the programme, students should be able to:</p> <p>C1 Implement appropriate operations strategies that maximise the contribution of operations management, logistics and supply chain management while optimising the interests of key stakeholders in various organisational environments.</p> <p>C2 Systematically collect, analyse and interpret data.</p> <p>C3 Effectively use bibliographic skills to review the literature, formulate research questions, apply appropriate methodologies for problem-solving, collect data, synthesise results and reach logical conclusions.</p> <p>C4 Provide advice about how to apply operations, logistics, and supply chain management tools, models and techniques to improve organisational performance.</p> |
| Teaching and Learning Methods |
| Students are required to apply their knowledge of key skills to practical situations through individual and group exercises and through a research project (i.e., dissertations). |
| Assessment Strategy |
| Practical skills will be assessed by a combination of assignments, examinations, portfolios, and dissertations. |
| Transferable/Key Skills |
| <p>On completing the programme, students should be able to:</p> <p>D1 Use appropriate verbal/written communication skills to convey information tailored in content, style and presentation to the needs of their intended audience.</p> <p>D2 Work independently with initiative and adaptability.</p> <p>D3 Work within a team, contributing appropriately and effectively towards the team-based activity.</p> <p>D4 Identify, analyse and solve problems.</p> <p>D5 Where relevant, demonstrate numeracy by applying the appropriate computational techniques and interpret or critically evaluate the results.</p> <p>D6 Plan, manage, and execute a project effectively.</p> |

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| D7 Adapt and operate in a different learning and cultural environment. |
| Teaching and Learning Methods |
| Students develop transferable skills by completing case studies, group exercises/teamwork, presentations, and assignments. |
| Assessment Strategy |
| Transferable skills will be assessed by a combination of assignments, examinations, portfolios, and dissertations. |

12 Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features

Basic structure of the programme

This is a 180-credit modular programme that is studied over a 12-month period on a full-time basis. It is designed for students who generally have limited related experience and aims to develop Masters level knowledge, understanding and skills in operations, logistics and supply chain management subjects. The programme aims to prepare individuals for employment and, therefore, will generally attract recent graduates (cognate or relevant first degree), but there may possibly be some mature entry students. Additional programme-specific requirements can be found in the Programme Regulations.

Semester One – This element of the programme includes 50 credits of compulsory modules. Four 10 credits optional modules are provided. Semester one study aims to provide students with a holistic introduction to the main areas of operations and supply chain management.

Semester Two – This element of the programme includes 40 credits of compulsory modules. Seven 10 credits optional modules are provided. Semester two study provides participants with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and abilities in more advanced and specialist aspects of operations, logistics and supply chain management.

Students must choose 30 credits of optional modules to customise their study path.

Semester Three – Students could proceed to the supervised Master’s dissertation once they have passed the taught component of the degree (please see ‘Progress’ below), passed the Research Methods module (gain a mark of 50% or higher), and satisfactorily completed an ethical approval form and other relevant documents (e.g., fieldwork risk assessment). The dissertation is designed to enable students to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills gained from the programme within the context of a detailed study of a management or business issue. Students are required to carry out 60 credits of study by means of a dissertation.

Optional international experience – following successful completion of taught elements

Following the completion of all taught elements of the programme, registrants will have the option to undertake one additional semester of study with an existing NUBS partner institution. The exchange period will begin in late September/early October (depending on the destination institution) following the submission of the dissertation. Students participating in an exchange will be instructed to select partner modules which will add value to their NUBS degree, focussing on subjects that will enhance their graduate employability prospects

Dual Award

12-18 months of study at a partner institution to pursue a second complimentary degree programme. The additional period of study will begin in later September/early October (depending on the destination institution) following submission of the dissertation.

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)

The programme aims to produce graduates with the specialist knowledge and skills appropriate to pursue careers in operations management, logistics, procurement, supply chain management or general management/consulting. The programme has a strong focus on the core subjects of operations, logistics, and supply chain management, combined with

business-related examples and the latest academic research publications. Moreover, the programme also supports students to conduct industry/project-based dissertations by allocating capable academics to supervise the research projects. Furthermore, the programme has been fully accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply. Students will become full members of CIPS after gaining three years of relevant work experience following completion of the programme. Besides the taught modules, the career service team also provides support for job applications and arranges career fairs/conferences.

The programme also offers participants the opportunity to enhance their graduate employment prospects by improving their intercultural understanding and communication skills by offering an optional semester exchange abroad at one of NUBS' existing partner institutions.

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

[5154 Programme Regulations 26-27](#)

13 Support for Student Learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available [here](#).

14 Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available [here](#).

Accreditation reports

N/A

Additional mechanisms

N/A

15 Regulation of assessment

Generic information regarding University provision is available [here](#).

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/#subject>

Degree Programme and University Regulations: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/>

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.

