Master of Business Administration

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses). These regulations are available online via the Open University ‘Essential Documents’ website at www.open.ac.uk/essential-documents.

Award letters
MBA (Open)

Academic Entry requirements
An Honours degree from a recognised degree-awarding body or equivalent or the Open University Professional Diploma in Management

Other Entry requirements
Minimum of three years management experience at the start date of the first module

Credit requirements
180 credits

Maximum duration of study
7 years, including any credit transfer

Progression rules
Students must pass Stage I before studying the specified 30-credit project module.

Maximum transferred credit
30 credits.

Maximum age of credit transfer
Credit transfer is included in the maximum duration of study.

Unique study requirement
Minimum amount 60 credits. The unique study for this qualification must include the credit from the compulsory project.

Routes to this qualification
The modules in the current structure of F61 are being gradually replaced, with new modules being introduced from November 2019. The credit requirements for the MBA can be met with a mixture of existing and new modules.
If you commence study of the MBA in or after November 2019, using all the new modules as they are introduced, the credit and classification regulations for your qualification route are in the **November 2019 onwards Route** section of this document.

If you commenced study of the MBA before this date and study all of the current modules including the specified specified compulsory project module (B839) in or before the final presentation, starting in May 2020, the credit and classification regulations for your qualification route are in the **Final Study in May 2020 Route** section of this document.

If you commenced study of the MBA before this date and study a combination of existing modules before their final presentation dates and the remaining credit from newly introduced modules, the credit and classification regulations for your qualification route are in the **Hybrid Route** section of this document.

**November 2019 onwards Route**

**Stage I:** 60 credits from two specified compulsory 30-credit modules (B870 and B872)

**Stage II:**
- 30 credits from a specified compulsory module (B873)
- 15 credits from a specified compulsory module (B874)
- 45 credits from specified option modules and
- 30 credits from a specified compulsory project module (B875)

Credit transfer is not valid against the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B875).

**Award with Distinction:**

Minimum of 90 Distinction level credits which must include the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B875) *and* an additional 60 Distinction level credits from any other modules in the qualification.

**Award with Merit:**

Minimum of 90 Merit level credits which must include the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B875) *and* an additional 60 Merit level credits from any other modules in the qualification.

**Final Study in May 2020 Route**

**Stage I:** 60 credits from a specified compulsory module (B716)

**Stage II:**
- 30 credits from a specified compulsory module (BB835)
- 15 credits from a specified compulsory module (BB831)
- 45 credits from specified option modules and
- 30 credits from a specified compulsory project module (B839)

Credit transfer is valid against the specified option modules in Stage II only.

**Award with Distinction:** Minimum of 90 Distinction level credits from the compulsory module in Stage I (B716) and either the 30 credit compulsory module in Stage II (BB835) or the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B839). No other modules may be counted towards classification.
Award with Merit: Minimum of 90 Merit level credits from the compulsory module in Stage I (B716) and either the 30 credit compulsory module in Stage II (BB835) or the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B839). No other modules may be counted towards classification.

**Hybrid Route**

Stage I: 60 credits from a specified compulsory module (B716)

Stage II: 30 credits from a specified compulsory module (BB835 or B873)
- 15 credits from a specified compulsory module (BB831 or B874)
- 45 credits from specified option modules and
- 30 credits from a specified compulsory project module (B875)

Credit transfer is not valid against the 60-credit specified compulsory module in Stage I (B716) or the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B875).

Award with Distinction:

Minimum of 90 Distinction level credits which must include the 60 credit specified compulsory module in Stage I (B716) and an additional 30 Distinction level credits from any other graded modules in the qualification.

*or*

Minimum of 90 Distinction level credits which must include the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B875) and an additional 60 Distinction level credits from any other graded modules in the qualification.

Award with Merit:

Minimum of 90 Merit level credits which must include the 60 credit specified compulsory module in Stage I (B716) and an additional 30 Merit level credits from any other graded modules in the qualification.

*or*

Minimum of 90 Merit level credits which must include the 30 credit specified compulsory project module in Stage II (B875) and an additional 60 Merit level credits from any other graded modules in the qualification.

**Discontinued versions of this qualification**

The University previously offered the MBA under a different qualification code (F02) until the end of 2015. Regulations for F02 are held on a separate document.

The University also previously offered the MBA (F61) under a structure where Stage II of the qualification required completion of the following four elements:

- completion of 450 hours of study on two compulsory non-credit bearing modules (B831 and B835)
45 credits from a specified compulsory assessment component (B836)
45 credits from specified option modules and
30 credits from a specified compulsory project module (B839)

The final presentation of the first of these elements was in 2013, the final presentation of the second of these elements was in 2014. If you did study these discontinued modules prior to their withdrawal and are completing the remaining elements within the overall seven year time limit, you should refer to the Regulations for this previous version of qualification code F61 which are held on a separate document.

Both of these documents may be requested from the Student Policy and Regulations Team within Academic Services.