

Introduction to Modules and Programmes

Information and Guidance 2025/26

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The majority of students at De Montfort University (DMU) enrol on a programme which leads to an academic award, for example BA (Hons) English; MSc Computing. Programmes are made up of modules which have set credit values and levels; an award is made when a student has passed sufficient modules to meet the credit requirements of the award.
- 1.2 Occasionally students may enrol for individual modules only, without intending to gain an award. These are known as continuing professional development (CPD) modules.
- 1.3 For further information about your DMU programme, please see the module and programme information on LearningZone, the university's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).
- 1.4 For advice and guidance about studying at DMU, please contact your programme leader, module leaders or the Student Advice Centre.

2. Modules

- 2.1 Each module is a stand-alone learning package worth a number of credits at a specific level of study.
- 2.2 Undergraduate modules are set at levels 4, 5 or 6 of the [Office for Students sector-recognised standards](#).
- 2.3 The standard undergraduate module is worth 30 credits. A limited number of 15-credit modules may be available.
- 2.4 Postgraduate modules are set at level 7 of the [Office for Students sector-recognised standards](#).
- 2.5 The standard postgraduate module is worth 30 credits. The postgraduate dissertation, design work or major project is normally worth 60 credits or can be two 30-credit modules. 5 and 10 credit modules are also available as stand-alone modules for continuing professional development (CPD) purposes.
- 2.6 Other module sizes may be required for apprenticeship programmes to accommodate integrated and integrated/aligned End Point Assessments (EPAs). The credit weighting of EPA modules is determined by the relevant apprenticeship standard's assessment plan.
- 2.7 Other module sizes may also be used in programmes which do not run in block delivery mode.

- 2.8 Some modules, normally relating to professional practice in programmes, are zero-credit modules, which means that they don't have a credit weighting.

3. Programmes

- 3.1 Programmes are coherent groups of modules which lead to a specified academic award. The majority of students who enter the university enrol on a programme. Programmes are sometimes also known as courses.
- 3.2 Students may enrol on one or more individual modules for CPD purposes instead of enrolling on a programme.
- 3.3 Students who receive credits for passing individual modules may apply via the [Recognition of Prior Learning \(RPL\)](#) process to use those credits in admission to a programme.
- 3.4 Undergraduate programmes normally consist of four 30 credit modules per level of study. A full-time student would usually complete a level of study within one calendar year. Modules are delivered sequentially, in seven-week blocks. There are two blocks in each 15-week semester, four blocks in total in an academic year.
- 3.5 With faculty permission one block in each undergraduate level of study may consist of two 15 credit modules.
- 3.6 With faculty permission two 30 credit undergraduate modules may be delivered in parallel over two blocks.
- 3.7 Undergraduate programmes have no module choice at level 4; students study a fixed curriculum. Programmes with specified routes are an exception as they offer module choice in block three which determines the route a student will follow at levels 5 and 6.
- 3.8 A limited choice of modules may be available in level 5, normally in block three. A wider choice of modules may be available in level 6 of honours degrees and levels 6 and 7 of integrated master's degrees.
- 3.9 The university offers undergraduate major/minor programmes. One subject is the main focus of study worth 90 credits, and 30 credits is allocated to a second subject. Subject A is normally taught in blocks one, two and four and subject B in block three.
- 3.10 Some programmes offer year-long credit-bearing work placements. At undergraduate level the year placement is normally taken between levels 5 and 6.
- 3.11 Postgraduate programmes normally consist of four 30 credit taught modules, delivered sequentially in four seven-week blocks, followed by a 60-credit module studied across

- blocks five and six. Alternatively, students may study two 30 credit modules in the final blocks.
- 3.12 With faculty permission the postgraduate modules in blocks three and four may be delivered in parallel.
 - 3.13 Part-time programmes will be delivered in alternate blocks, equating to 60 credits per academic session or may be delivered in two consecutive blocks equating to 60 credits per academic session.
 - 3.14 Some programmes may be delivered in different patterns than block delivery. Such programmes may include those delivered at partner institutions and those delivered as part of an apprenticeship.