



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Corporate Governance

Course Code: MSCCG

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MSc Corporate Governance (MSCCG)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 04/2026

General Information

Award	Master of Science Corporate Governance
Contained awards	Postgraduate Diploma Corporate Governance (Level 7) Postgraduate Certificate Corporate Governance (Level 7)
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course lengths and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 months (September intake - full time, campus based)• 16 months (January intake - full time, campus based)• 24 months (September intake - part time, campus based and online)• 28 months (January intake - part time, campus based and online)
Part time study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus. Online (Distance Learning)
Entry requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:
AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Course fees

Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

The Corporate Governance Institute (CGI) require you pass all modules on the course to be eligible for graduate membership of the CGI after course completion.

This course adheres to the Academic Principles and Regulations set out by the University. Awards of distinction and merit may be made to students who meet the following criteria:

Distinction

The award of a distinction may be made to those students who have attained:

- an average of 70% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

And/or

- at least half of all taught modules* at the level of distinction in assessments contributing to the final award plus a 60-credit major project module at distinction.

Merit

The award of merit may be made to those students who have attained:

- an average of 60% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

And/or

- at least half of all taught modules* at the level of merit in assessments contributing to the final award plus a 60-credit major project module at distinction.

** For the purposes of this regulation, taught modules are outlined as all modules with the exception of the 60-credit major project module*

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

Corporate Governance Institute (CGI)

Accreditation/recognition summary

This course is accredited by the Chartered Governance Institute UK & Ireland. The MSc in Corporate Governance programme has embedded the learning outcomes of the Chartered Governance Qualifying Programme (CGQP). The quality of provision has been recognised by the Chartered Governance Institute through awarding the University the status of an 'approved centre'. The modules are mapped to CGQP learning outcomes thereby providing a route to the Grad CGI.

Achieving GradCGI status demonstrates high level mastery of the many subjects relevant to governance and compliance. Graduates typically progress quickly to Associate membership, which requires up to six years' relevant work experience in addition to their qualification in governance.

Timetable

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Key Contacts

Your course director Dr Nicholas Beech

Your course administrator Norma Cannonier (LeadershipAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

Course Overview

Aims

The course aims to develop critical, ethical, competent and reflective practitioners who can perform effectively within a range of governance contexts and demonstrate the capabilities required for professionals in the field of corporate administration. It seeks to facilitate the knowledge and understanding of a broad range of corporate governance, legal and financial management principles and practices, as well as the development of related skills and competencies.

The course provides students with an in-depth understanding of corporate governance from corporate, investor and stakeholder perspectives. Corporate governance is concerned with issues such as who controls a company, the relationship between owners and managers and other stakeholders, who takes responsibility for decisions, and executive remuneration levels. Overall, the course takes an international, multi-sector and multi-disciplinary perspective on corporate governance, with a particular focus on development and ethical concerns. A critical mode of thinking is employed to stimulate students' thinking, and encourage students to reflect on their learning experiences, challenge their taken-for-granted assumptions and knowledge, and enhance and enrich their learning experiences.

The course is appropriate for graduate students who have a first degree in management, business or other social sciences. The course is also appropriate for more experienced individuals who are looking for a postgraduate qualification in corporate governance to enhance their career progression to executive director level or for other roles such as non-executive director or consultancy. The rationale of the course is to develop skilled, flexible and adaptable executive leaders who will play a crucial role in facilitating the process of ethical and focused organisational change representing a broad reach of stakeholder interests. The overall aim of the course is to enable students to develop the knowledge, skills and awareness that will enable them to transform their companies by providing team-based leadership through the creation and communication of vision and values, to achieve world-class standards of performance.

The provision provides the opportunity for students to obtain a qualification, which is in continual demand by employers, and needed by professionals to enter, and/or to progress in the corporate secretary profession, therefore the course aims reflect the requirements of the CGI Professional Standards. The course is further matched to QAA FHEQ for H7 and the benchmark statement for business and management.

The MSc Corporate Governance is primarily aimed at students who wish to develop their academic capabilities and management aspirations to gain a career as corporate secretary or work in similar executive or boardroom roles within an organisation. Candidates can also join the programme from any range of background sectors, public and private, MNE or SME and include those working in law, finance HR or general management roles as well as those who have recently completed an undergraduate qualification and are looking for professional progression.

Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Evaluate, synthesise and apply advanced and contemporary themes, theory and techniques to a range of complex and open-ended issues, problems and situations in the field of corporate governance.
2	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the strategic perspective of organisational governance in an external and internal business context and make informed quantitative and qualitative judgements about corporate governance solutions in the absence of complete data so as to administer effectively corporate affairs within an organisation, and contribute to corporate performance appropriate to employment at a senior level.
3	Develop a breadth of knowledge and specialism in a chosen area with a degree of creativity and transferable skills to organisational and professional settings with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture.
4	Learn independently and interdependently accepting responsibility for subsequent career and continuing professional development, demonstrating a critical, ethical and reflective approach to their professional practice.
5	Apply with a degree of creativity and sophistication; intellectual, transferable and subject/professional skills to a range of complex and open-ended organisational problems and situations.

6	Demonstrate the attainment of the CGI Professional Standards.
7	Execute and deliver an applied research project, with due regard to ethical considerations, research philosophy and methodologies. This research project will seek to influence policy and practice within a professional people management and development context and add positively to the pool of established research into current governance and management related business issues.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The course involves a range of different learning and teaching activities to provide a balance of activity and encourage engagement from students with a range of different learning preferences. The course begins with an induction day with interactive workshops which introduces students to concepts of post-graduate study. During the first semester, students study Applied Corporate Law, Interpreting Financial and Accounting Information, and Boardroom Dynamics to provide students with a board and resilient skills base. Learning and teaching activities for these modules include case study analysis, presentation, group work, individual research and theoretical input to provide both underpinning knowledge of key governance, legal and financial corporate themes/concepts and issues but also the resilience, courage and integrity to apply their knowledge in complex boardroom scenarios.

In the second semester students undertake The Practice of Governance, Leadership and Strategy, Corporate Secretarial Practice and Risk Management to enable students to expand and apply their learning through different contexts and theoretical perspectives. Learning and teaching activities for these modules vary on the content, but include activities such as boardroom discussions, critical evaluation of case studies, student-led presentations, debates and guest lectures. Assessment follows on with the applied nature of the programme using examination to assess held knowledge ability to respond on the spot to previously unseen questions this is further developed by the use of extensive and case studies where students demonstrate knowledge, skill and aptitude to substantial and complex cases. The course concludes with students undertaking an independent research-led CGI focused major project.

Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 7

Full Time (September Start)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Applied Corporate Law	20	1
Interpreting Financial and Accounting Information	20	1
Boardroom Dynamics	20	1
The Practice of Governance, Leadership and Strategy	20	2
Corporate Secretarial Practice	20	2
Risk Management	20	2
PG Major Project	60	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Full Time (January Start)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
The Practice of Governance, Leadership and Strategy	20	1
Corporate Secretarial Practice	20	1
Risk Management	20	1
Applied Corporate Law	20	2
Interpreting Financial and Accounting Information	20	2
Boardroom Dynamics	20	2
PG Major Project	60	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Part Time (September Start – Year 1)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Applied Corporate Law	20	1
Interpreting Financial and Accounting Information	20	1
The Practice of Governance, Leadership and Strategy	20	2
Corporate Secretarial Practice	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	80	

Part Time (September Start – Year 2)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Boardroom Dynamics	20	1
Risk Management	20	2
PG Major Project	60	Year-long

Number of credits of compulsory modules	100	
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Part Time (January Start – Year 1)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
The Practice of Governance, Leadership and Strategy	20	1
Corporate Secretarial Practice	20	1
Applied Corporate Law	20	2
Interpreting Financial and Accounting Information	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	80	

Part Time (January Start – Year 2)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Risk Management	20	1
Boardroom Dynamics	20	2
PG Major Project	60	Year-long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	100	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 7

On this course students will be assessed predominantly by coursework with some assessed practical activities. There is a major independent study module which will require the production of a major project.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	273 hours
Independent study	1527 hours

Overall Workload	Level 7
Placement	0 hours