

Corporate Social Responsibility

MA



Location: London City campus, Moorgate

Starts September	Yes
Starts February	Yes
Full-time	Yes
Part-time day	No
Part-time day and evening	Yes

Aims of the course

Over the last 10 years, the relationship between organisations and society has been subject to much debate, often of a critical nature. The decade has seen protests concerning the actions of organisations, exposures of corporate exploitation and unfolding accounting scandals. Meanwhile, ethical behaviour and a concern for the environment have been shown to have a positive correlation with corporate performance. The nature of corporate social responsibility (CSR) is therefore a highly topical one for business.

The majority of organisations around the world are taking steps to demonstrate and enhance their CSR credentials, including committing to sustainable development. Public interest in these issues is great but is mixed with widespread scepticism about the sincerity of corporate engagement with social and environmental programmes. Consequently, employment opportunities across the spectrum of management disciplines are extensive for graduates with this degree.

This course enables you to address the many conflicting issues concerned with CSR and to arrive at an appropriate framework of evaluation. London Metropolitan Business School is leading in the application of the principles of social responsibility to the problems facing business. Students undertaking this course will benefit from cutting-edge research and theory in this important area.

Duration and attendance

Full-time: 1 year, 3 days/evenings a week

Part-time: 2-3 years. Depending on how many modules you take per semester. Minimum requirement is one module per semester. All four core modules run in the evening, while chosen electives may run in the day.

Dates/timetable

Autumn semester: September – January

Spring semester: February – May

Summer dissertation period: June – September

Course structure

Students undertake four core modules, two optional modules and a dissertation of 15,000 words.

A typical full-time programme structure, starting in September, is shown below. Exact programme details may vary and must be agreed with your tutor.

Autumn semester

- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Corporate Governance and Accountability
- Designate module

Spring semester

- Research Methods for CSR
- Corporate Ethics
- Designate module

Summer semester

- Dissertation

Core modules

Corporate Social Responsibility – This module will allow you to examine the complexity of CSR. With the help of frameworks you will explore and evaluate the actions and performance of organisations in the context of sustainable and socially responsible activity.

Corporate Governance and Accountability – You will be introduced to the basics of corporate governance and accountability to stakeholders, setting corporate behaviour in a wider context.

Corporate Ethics – You will examine the ethical issues confronting people at work in organisations, whatever the responsibilities of their position. You will explore ethical dilemmas and frameworks for appraising ethical alternatives.

Research Methods for Corporate Social Responsibility – This module has two broad complementary aims. The first is to develop the knowledge and skills you require to carry out research for your dissertation. The second is to develop lasting skills to carry out quality, rigorous research and independent work in your future careers.

Optional modules

You will also take two optional modules. This flexibility helps you to pursue your own interests at a deeper level within the broad area of corporate social responsibility. You will choose two modules from the following:

- Sustainability and the Corporation
- Negotiated Study in Corporate Responsibility
- Global Strategic Management or Strategic Management or Strategy for Managers

- Management of Change and Innovation
- Advanced Financial Reporting
- Marketing Communications or Brand Equity

You may take a module from outside of this list with permission from your tutor. Optional modules are subject to change.

Dissertation

Following the taught elements of the programme, you will prepare and submit a dissertation of about 15,000 words. This will be based on in-depth research in an area of your own choice, relevant to corporate social responsibility and subject to your course leader's approval. The dissertation is an opportunity for you to conduct some useful academic research in an area of interest.

Research

Our research centre, the Centre for Corporate Responsibility (CCR) is an active agent of social change. The centre's work involves making selected social interventions, evaluating the utility of CSR programmes and activity, and providing a forum for scholars and business practitioners alike to engage in rigorous and challenging debate on the role of business in society.

The CCR undertakes research and intervention projects that address educational, social and business challenges facing London's communities as well as internationally. Colleagues are involved in a wide variety of projects encompassing the broad areas of sustainable development and sustainable reporting, corporate governance, SRI (socially responsible investment) and international development.

Teaching and learning

Assessments will be based on a mix of individual and group work. A variety of methods will be used to assess your performance including essays, seminar presentations, case studies, time-constrained assessments and the dissertation.

Career opportunities

In business, voluntary and public services most CSR roles are carried out by individuals located within a variety of specialist functions, including HR, corporate communications and corporate legal services. In addition, there are many potential areas of employment related to CSR such as environmental management, social marketing, health and safety, ethical investment management and public relations.

Graduates of this course will find their skills much in demand in a variety of industries in this growth area. You will also be well placed for further study or research work.

Fees 08/09*

Full-time (EU)	£5,400
Full-time (non-EU)	£9,000
Part-time (EU) per 20 credit module	£600
Part-time (non-EU) per 20 credit module	£1,000

* Tuition fees are subject to change, please contact the Admission Office.

Entry requirements

Applicants should have a good UK Honours degree or equivalent. Those with lower qualifications but substantial relevant work experience are also encouraged to apply.

Students for whom English is not their first language must demonstrate sufficient fluency in both written and spoken English. The minimum requirement is one of the following:

- IELTS 6 minimum with a minimum of 6 in speaking and writing and 5.5 in listening and reading
- TOEFL (old examination) 600 minimum
- TOEFL (new examination) 250 minimum

How to apply

Apply directly to the University. Please contact Admissions for an application form or you may download one at www.londonmet.ac.uk/how-to-apply

Further information

Admissions Office
London Metropolitan University
166-220 Holloway Road
London N7 8DB

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7133 4202

Email: admissions@londonmet.ac.uk

Web: www.londonmet.ac.uk/lmbs

For further academic questions contact:

Dr Lez Rayman-Bacchus

Course Leader

Tel: 020 7133 3954

Email: l.rayman-bacchus@londonmet.ac.uk

Open days/evenings

You can also come to one of our open days or evenings, held throughout the year. See our website www.londonmet.ac.uk/lmbs or call the Admissions Office for up-to-date details.

We do everything we can to ensure that information in this leaflet is correct, however details may change and we cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions.