

IB3A7-12 The Practice of Operational Research

20/21

Department

Warwick Business School

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Frances O'Brien

Credit value

12

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module covers the craft processes involved in carrying out operational research (OR) studies in organisations. While other modules generally provide specific technical capabilities, the methodology modules supply the general approaches and skills necessary to use these techniques effectively in practical organizational interventions.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The overall aims are:

- (i) to provide students with a general understanding of the process of conducting OR studies;
- (ii) to develop in students some of the basic skills required in conducting OR studies.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

The practice of operational research (OR); models and modelling in OR studies; issues in problem structuring and data collection; OR model validation and verification.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Understand the nature of OR studies and the practical issues involved in developing OR models, as well as recognise the importance of the problem structuring skills required in conducting OR studies.
- Formulate, test and validate OR models.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Subject specific skills

Appreciate a range of modelling approaches and the circumstances in which they might be applied.

Transferable skills

Conduct interviews using problem structuring methods.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	10 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Seminars	8 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Private study	41 hours (34%)
Assessment	61 hours (51%)
Total	120 hours

Private study description

Private Study.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group B5

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Online Examination Exam	100%	61 hours	No
~Platforms - AEP			

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- Answerbook Pink (12 page)
 - Students may use a calculator

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback via My.WBS

[Past exam papers for IB3A7](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- UIBA-N201 BSc in Management
 - Year 3 of N201 Management
 - Year 3 of N20B Management
 - Year 3 of N230 Management with Finance
 - Year 3 of N232 Management with Finance
 - Year 3 of N250 Management with Marketing
- Year 3 of UIBA-NN35 Undergraduate Accounting and Finance

- Year 3 of UCHA-FN11 Undergraduate Chemistry and Business Studies
- Year 3 of UCHA-F1N1 Undergraduate Chemistry with Management
- Year 3 of UCSA-GN51 Undergraduate Computer and Business Studies
- Year 3 of UCSA-G5N1 Undergraduate Computer and Management Sciences
- Year 4 of UIBA-N140 Undergraduate International Business
- USTA-Y604 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics,Operational Research,Statistics and Economics
 - Year 3 of Y604 Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics
 - Year 4 of Y604 Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics
- Year 3 of UMAA-G1NC Undergraduate Mathematics and Business Studies
- USTA-Y602 Undergraduate Mathematics,Operational Research,Statistics and Economics
 - Year 2 of Y602 Mathematics,Operational Research,Stats,Economics
 - Year 2 of Y602 Mathematics,Operational Research,Stats,Economics
 - Year 3 of Y602 Mathematics,Operational Research,Stats,Economics
 - Year 3 of Y602 Mathematics,Operational Research,Stats,Economics
- Year 3 of UPXA-F3N1 Undergraduate Physics and Business Studies

This module is Optional for:

- UCSA-G500 Undergraduate Computer Science
 - Year 3 of G500 Computer Science
 - Year 3 of G500 Computer Science
 - Year 3 of G500 Computer Science
- Year 1 of UIOA-VEU Undergraduate EU Visiting
- UMAA-G100 Undergraduate Mathematics (BSc)
 - Year 2 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 2 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 2 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
- UMAA-G103 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 2 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 2 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 2 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 3 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
- UIOA-VOS Undergraduate Overseas Visiting
 - Year 1 of UVOS Undergraduate Overseas Visiting
 - Year 1 of UVOS Undergraduate Overseas Visiting