



Defence Acquisition Management

MSc/PgDip/PgCert

Whether you are involved in establishing or managing capability requirements; engaged in procurement, commercial or contracting activities; or developing and implementing support solutions, this course will provide the underpinning knowledge and develop the critical thinking skills required for effective management of defence acquisition. The course is focused on the wider Defence community and attracts civilian and military students from the public and private sectors globally. Whether you are involved in specifying or managing capability requirements; engaged in the procurement of systems, services, equipment and materiel; managing commercial relationships and contracts; designing and optimising supply chains through better logistics and inventory control; or managing efficient and effective support solutions to sustain large diverse fleets of maritime, land, and air systems through long service lives; this course will provide the underpinning knowledge and develop the critical thinking skills you will require. The course teaches and encourages you to develop the skills to critically evaluate and apply a rich array of management theories, models, tools and techniques to meet your needs effectively in a dynamic national and international context.

Course structure

There are 11 compulsory modules and one elective. Eight of the compulsory modules are common to all students, and three are determined by the student's choice of pathway: General Acquisition, Through Life Support, or Commercial. Module 12 is elective.

Individual project

The individual research project begins with a one week compulsory module on Research Methodology and the subsequent production of a 20,000 word research-based thesis.

Future career

This qualification will take you on to career development in the equipment capability area, a defence equipment and support organisation (or other relevant areas such as defence estates), defence manufacturers, commercial organisations or government departments. It also provides a relevant lead-in towards PhD studies focused on acquisition.

Example modules

Compulsory:

- Introductory Studies,
- Strategic Management and Introduction to Acquisition,
- Financing Acquisition,
- Project & Programme Management,
- Sourcing Strategies and the Industrial Interface,
- Managing Acquisition Change,
- Supply Network Management in Defence and the Commercial Environment,
- Supply Network Analysis and Modelling,
- Cost Estimation and Planning,
- Commercial Relationships in the Defence Environment,
- Efficient and Effective Through Life Support,
- Defence Capability Management,
- Research Methods,
- Thesis.

Elective

- Sustainability in Defence,
- The International Dimensions of Defence Acquisition,
- Capability, Requirements and Systems,
- Personal and Organisational Development.

Duration:

PgCert: up to three years part-time,
PgDip: up to four years part-time,
MSc: up to five years part-time.

Start date:

January.

Location:

Shrivenham.

Entry requirements:

A first or second class Honours degree or equivalent, in a relevant subject area. Alternatively, a lesser qualification such as an HNC/HND with relevant professional experience may be acceptable.

Contact details

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For further information please visit

www.cranfield.ac.uk/courses/taught/defence-acquisition-management