BIC6020-B module descriptor	
Module Title	Postgraduate Research Project (1 Term)
Credit Level	20 credits (FHEQ Level 6)
Session	2026/7 academic year
BDA occurrence	Semester 1 available at University of Bradford
BDA occurrence	Semester 2 available at University of Bradford
BDA occurrence	Semester 3 available at University of Bradford

Transparency notice

This specification for module code BIC6020-B has been generated automatically in advance of the academic year 2026/7. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes permitted by our Student Contract Terms and Conditions could be made in the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching; where changes impact the terms and conditions of an applicant's or student's offer, these are communicated to them as soon as possible.

BIC6020-B module aims

This module consists of two strands:

The first strand provides you with an introduction to the theory and practice of academic research at postgraduate level (Level 7).

The second strand requires you to put learning from the first strand into practice by planning and presenting an academic research project based on a question/topic related to your chosen postgraduate degree course.

BIC6020-B module learning outcomes

No.	Students completing the module will be able to:
01	Critically reflect on literature and research supporting the chosen topic.
02	Identify and apply appropriate data collection and data analysis methods.
03	Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of ethics in academic research.
04	Present and defend the research proposal.

BIC6020-B module outline syllabus

On this module, students will reflect on their experience of research as undergraduate students and/or in a professional context and cover the following topics:
* identifying and formulating an appropriate research question
* identifying an appropriate research method (desk research, quantitative, qualitative research)
* identifying and evaluating appropriate sources (primary, secondary) carrying out a literature review
* designing questionnaires/surveys and running focus groups
* collecting, analysing and presenting data
* reporting findings and making recommendations
* considering ethical issues when planning and executing a research project.

Over a period of ten weeks, students will plan an academic research project with a view to submitting and defending their research proposal at the end of the module.

This will require students to come up with a suitable research question, develop an appropriate research method, plan and carry out an initial literature review and consider the way(s) in which they will collect, collate, present and analyse data and or their research findings, as well as identifying solutions to possible problems they may face.

Students will be provided with individual tutorials to support them in planning the project, which will demonstrate their academic, research and communication skills. Where appropriate, students may also receive input or advice from staff with a relevant subject specialism (UBIC Subject Tutor, Faculty staff, Link Tutor)

For more information, visit the VLE (**Canvas**) page, go to our **Reading Lists webpage for this module** or search **https://bradford.rl.talis.com** for this module.

BIC6020-B module notional learning hours

- 40 hours Lectures
- 160 hours Directed Study

The overall expected hours may include contact time, scheduled learning activity, directed and independent study and any minimum expectations for placement learning. Most learning at the University of Bradford has some online content and sessions which are delivered fully by virtual means are labelled as "online".

BIC6020-B module learning, teaching and assessment

Groups are small and classes are student-centred and interactive.

The classroom approach is explicitly designed to help international students acquire new knowledge and skills, to build their confidence and enable them to become more independent learners. By doing this consistently and across all modules, the programme provides them with a strong foundation for further study in their chosen subject area.

The approach is inclusive and recognises that students come from different backgrounds with a range of previous learning experiences and associated expectations, beliefs and behaviours. Teaching and learning methods are clearly explained so students understand why (where appropriate) they need to engage in new ways of learning and why those they have used or relied on up to this point may be less suited to supporting their ongoing development and their chances of success in UK Higher Education.

Formative work is an integral part of the approach. In class, students are set tasks that require them to apply their knowledge and skills, to think critically and solve problems. The level of challenge is gradually increased as the students grow in confidence and Tutors help them to see that experimentation, trial and error are central to the learning process, providing constructive feedback on both what has been achieved and how.

All IIM students take this module, and the focus of individual research projects/proposals will reflect their academic interests and choice of progression degree/ pathway.

Formative skills development tasks specific to this module include the drafting and peer review of research questions, collaborative development of surveys and/or questionnaires and work on paraphrasing and integrating source material as students carry out their initial literature review to identify the scope of their project

The module provides students with opportunities to develop and apply a range of academic research skills, which will be fostered through seminars and one-to-one Tutorial support. Students will be able to evaluate their progress through feedback from their peers and Tutor as they develop their research proposal.

Students are prompted to consider diverse cultural and socio-economic perspectives and to reflect on their own values and personal experience. They will also engage with the innovations and research within their field, and are encouraged to attend faculty conferences, and workshops aimed at the postgraduate research community.

Students are also expected to engage in independent study, to reflect on their own performance and to discuss this with their module tutor or personal academic tutor, who will provide support and advice and, when necessary, draw the attention of Module and Programme Leads to a struggling student using the ‘Students of concern’ process.

Summative assessment is in the form of a coursework assignment (research proposal) and a presentation of this.

BIC6020-B mode of assessment			
Type	**Mode**	**Assessment description**	**Weight**
Summative	Coursework - Written	Written assignment (proposal) presenting the project (LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4) (1500 words)	60%
Summative	Presentation	Individual presentation of the coursework project (LO4) (10-15 mins)	40%

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