

## Project topic areas

The potential project topic areas given below are an extract of the Information Pack 2018/ 2019 published by Oxford Brookes University.

Please keep in mind that it might suffer changes depending on the selected application period.

### *Project topic areas*

- 1) An analysis and evaluation of an organisation's budgetary control system and its links with performance management and decision making.
- 2) An evaluation of how the introduction of a new technology can assist an organisation in achieving its business objectives.
- 3) An assessment of the potential impact of an aspect of impending legislation on the operations and financial position of an organisation.
- 4) A review of the business management and accounting issues of environmental costs of an organisation.
- 5) An evaluation of the use of short term and long term Islamic financial instruments and their impact on the financial statements of an organisation.
- 6) A critical review of key factors or indicators in the motivation of employees in an organisation.
- 7) A critical evaluation of the restructuring of an organisation's operational activities and the effect on the organisation's financial performance.
- 8) An analysis and evaluation of the business and financial performance of an organisation over a three year period.
- 9) A critical evaluation of the planning and implementation of an information system in an organisation.
- 10) A review of the effectiveness of the use of costing techniques within an organisation.
- 11) An investigation into the financial and operational costs and benefits of the internal audit / internal review activities within an organisation.
- 12) An investigation into the possible effects of a proposed accounting standard on the financial statements and business activities of an organisation.
- 13) An evaluation of the contribution made by human resource activities to the attainment of business and financial objectives.
- 14) An appraisal of the business and financial objectives of a strategic investment decision made by an organisation and its impact on key stakeholders.
- 15) An analysis and evaluation of the management of an organisation's working capital over a three year period and its impact on the organisation's funding strategies.
- 16) A critical evaluation of the financial and operational risk management within an organisation.
- 17) Select an organisation that has been identified as having weak corporate governance structures within the past 5 years. Critically evaluate their corporate governance practices including an assessment of the origins of the corporate governance issue(s) and the organisation's response.
- 18) A review of the marketing strategy of an organisation and its effectiveness.

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19) An analysis and evaluation of the financial and operational consequences of a merger between two organisations or of the acquisition of one organisation by another.

20) Select an organisation that has been identified as having weak social responsibility practices within the past 5 years. Critically evaluate their social responsibility practices, including an assessment of the origins of the problem(s) and the organisation's response and the impact of this on the organisation's key stakeholders.

For topics 8 and 15, you should ensure you are using the most current 3 years financial statements available at the start of the submission period (if you are submitting for the first time or resubmitting on a new topic).

**Topic 8 and 15 requirements:** November 2018 (Period 37) and May 2019 (Period 38)

All students submitting a project on topic 8 or topic 15 in November 2018 or May 2019 **MUST** use sector specific organisations, based on the Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB):

<http://www.ftse.com/products/downloads/ICBStructure-Eng.pdf>

For November 2018 and May 2019 these sectors are:

**1770 Mining**, including any of the following sub-classifications:

1771 Coal Companies engaged in the exploration for or mining of coal.

1773 Diamonds & Gemstones Companies engaged in the exploration for and production of diamonds and other gemstones.

1775 General Mining Companies engaged in the exploration, extraction or refining of minerals not defined elsewhere within the Mining sector.

1777 Gold Mining Prospectors for and extractors or refiners of gold-bearing ores.

**4533 Health Care Providers**

Owners and operators of health maintenance organizations, hospitals, clinics, dentists, opticians, nursing homes, rehabilitation and retirement centres. Excludes veterinary services, which are classified under Specialized Consumer Services.

**2730 Electronic & Electrical Equipment**, including any of the following subclassifications:

2733 Electrical Components & Equipment Makers and distributors of electrical parts for finished products, such as printed circuit boards for radios, televisions and other consumer electronics. Includes makers of cables, wires, ceramics, transistors, electric adapters and security cameras.

2737 Electronic Equipment Manufacturers and distributors of electronic products used in different industries. Includes makers of lasers, smart cards, bar scanners, fingerprinting equipment and other electronic factory equipment.

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These sectors will apply to students submitting for the first time or for students changing company and/or topic in November 2018 (Period 37) and May 2019 (Period 38).

For all topics other than 8 and 15, please also note the requirement to base your project on recent organisational activity or processes rather than historical events. (For this purpose 'historical' refers to activity that took place more than the three full calendar years preceding the start of the current submission period.)