

IBS210 Introduction to International Business

School: School of Business and Creative Industries

2026 | Semester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast
UniSC Moreton Bay
UniSC Southbank

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

Managers operating in the international business environment have to make effective business decisions that take into account differences in the economic, cultural, political, legislative and institutional environment of foreign markets. This course provides you with the opportunity to explore the international business environment and understand internationalisation strategies, modes of entry and the operational decisions facing managers of companies that operate beyond their domestic market.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Online – Pre-recorded concept videos and associated activity	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – In-class tutorial	2hrs	Week 2	11 times
ONLINE			
Online – Pre-recorded concept videos and associated activity	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Interactive zoom tutorial	2hrs	Week 2	11 times

1.3. Course Topics

Globalisation, cultural differences, international business strategy, foreign market entry mode, international production, outsourcing and logistics, theories of trade, political economy of trade, foreign exchange, the international monetary system, legal environments, economic business environments

2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES		GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...		Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1	Apply selected international business theory to practical, real life international business situations and identify the drivers for globalisation.	Empowered Sustainability-focussed
2	Identify the forces that influence international business decisions.	Knowledgeable Sustainability-focussed
3	Analyse and apply strategies for foreign market participation.	Creative and critical thinker Sustainability-focussed

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

The first assessment task is due in Week 4 to get early feedback on your progress. Additionally, tutorial activities in all weeks allow for formative feedback on course concepts.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Oral	Individual	25%	5-minute presentation	Week 4	Online Submission
All	2	Portfolio	Individual	25%	1500 words	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Submission
All	3	Report	Individual	50%	2000 words	Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Oral Presentation

GOAL:	To demonstrate understanding and application of international business fundamentals.																						
PRODUCT:	Oral																						
FORMAT:	<p>Acting as top-level management for an international firm, you will give a 5-minute professional presentation on an issue that you consider to be of great importance. The issue will be relevant to the topics covered in weeks 1-3.</p> <p>A detailed task description and rubric is provided on Blackboard.</p>																						
CRITERIA:	<table> <tr> <th>No.</th><th></th><th>Learning Outcome assessed</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Application of international business theories to practical, real life situations</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Analysis and application of strategies for foreign market participation</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Identification of the forces that influence international business decisions</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Use of appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>Use of appropriate visual aids</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>Structure of the presentation</td><td></td></tr> </table>	No.		Learning Outcome assessed	1	Application of international business theories to practical, real life situations	1	2	Analysis and application of strategies for foreign market participation	3	3	Identification of the forces that influence international business decisions	2	4	Use of appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication		5	Use of appropriate visual aids		6	Structure of the presentation		
No.		Learning Outcome assessed																					
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2	Analysis and application of strategies for foreign market participation	3																					
3	Identification of the forces that influence international business decisions	2																					
4	Use of appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication																						
5	Use of appropriate visual aids																						
6	Structure of the presentation																						
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy																						

All - Assessment Task 2: Portfolio

GOAL:	To demonstrate insight and understanding of international business concepts and environmental factors impacting decision making to arrive at a suitable business strategy.	
PRODUCT:	Portfolio	
FORMAT:	During weeks 6 through 10, you will complete a range of activities related to the weekly topics. For each tutorial, you will analyse a real-life business case and conclude with the most suitable strategy for the company. Each activity is due at the end of that weekly tutorial. A detailed task description is provided on Blackboard.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Application of international business theory to real-life business situations 1
	2	Identification of the forces that influence international business decisions 2
	3	Analysis and application of foreign market participation 3
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy	

All - Assessment Task 3: Report

GOAL:	To demonstrate knowledge of international business issues and the ability to conduct in-depth research and analysis of those issues.	
PRODUCT:	Report	
FORMAT:	You will investigate the suitability of a foreign country for international expansion. By following course concepts and conducting extensive research, you will analyse the location and provide recommendations. A detailed description and rubric are provided on Blackboard	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Application of international business theory to real life situations 1
	2	Identification of the forces that influence international business decisions 2
	3	Analysis and application of strategies for foreign market participation 3
	4	Written communication (spelling, grammar, structure, formatting, design, etc.)
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy	

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Hill, Hult, Wickramasekera, Liesch & Mackenzie	2017	Global Business Today: Asia Pacific Edition	4th ed.	McGraw-Hill Education Australia, North Ryde NSW

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au