Module description:
The Director’s Workshops will address a wide range of current and critical management issues, including: local and national industrial figures discussing their current issues; academics discussing their current research and how it is impacting business; student led discussions on business issues specific to their own industry or geography; writing workshops and other research and reporting techniques.

This module aims to:
- provide online MBA students with an opportunity to reflect on current business issues, academic writing and global developments, as well as tie together learning from across other MBA modules
- help students select and address a suitable sustainable management topic for their MBA Projects
- provide online MBA students with an opportunity to reflect on how these workshops and their independent research for their MBA Projects will affect their future approach to business and management.

The workshops will provide opportunities for students to demonstrate skills in:
- Group work
- Presentation
- Time management and working to deadlines
- Peer Review and feedback
- Distillation of current information

Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
- show an appreciation of current business and global issues,
- articulate a business issue and develop and articulate and execute a plan to address it,
- identify and understand ethical issues in management research,
- synthesise and apply knowledge from multiple course modules to a business problem.

Syllabus
The syllabus will include topics such as:
- Business Simulation/Game
- Case Studies: Devised and led by existing tutors/external speakers/University of Essex Online tutors
  - Employability and Recruitment skills
  - Sustainability
  - Demographics
  - Cloud computing
  - Innovation
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Online Marketing campaign
  - Starting a business/developing a business idea (Dragons Den)
  - Leadership/Conflict management
  - Crisis Management
  - Corruption and Business ethics
- Global Business (EIS style case studies)
  - China
  - India
  - Latin America
- Industry Sector Studies
  - Primary
  - Secondary
  - Tertiary
- Employment and Recruitment skills
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Learning and teaching methods
The Directors Workshops will take place quarterly through the two years of the standard study period for part-time students during the inter-module break.

Each workshop will take place over the period of a week:
- Monday: Introductory session
  - Guest speaker/subject expert including Q&A – 1 hour (synchronous, but also recorded)
  - Tutor led task explanation and allocation of students to groups, arrange meeting schedule for the remainder of the week – 1 hour (synchronous, but also recorded)
- Monday – Thursday: Student led groupwork
  - Facilitated by tutor available at fixed times throughout the week – 6 hours
    - Synchronous – Zoom
    - Asynchronous threaded discussion
- Friday: Group presentations with tutor-led Q&A – 2 hours (recorded)

Description of unit of assessment
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of unit of assessment</th>
<th>Length/Duration</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will be required to take part in 6 Director’s Workshops throughout the 2 years and submit a portfolio of their contributions to the group activities</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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