

Faculty of Social Sciences and Law  
Professional Liaison Network

## Management Consultancy Unit overview for students 2020/21

The Management Consultancy unit provides a great opportunity for you both to learn about consultancy research and see how your academic studies can be brought to life in a real-world setting through the completion of a group consultancy project. This unit aims to bridge the gap between academic research and the world of work, helping you develop a critical understanding of key concepts, reflect upon your own learning and employability, and gain a range of relevant skills and experience.

This unit is designed to be mutually beneficial for both you and your group, as students, and your project provider – usually a charity - who will benefit from your group presentation and report.

### How the Management Consultancy unit works

- You will be asked to complete an online form, indicating what type of management work you are hoping to do in your group project (e.g. HR/finance/marketing) and what skills you wish to gain from this. Please note that we will aim to source all projects from not for profit sector organisations such as charities.
- Based on your response, we will, as much as is possible, try to match you with a suitable project. The details of which will be shared with you in the first few weeks of term 2. You will then work on this project in assigned groups until May 2021 when you will present your key findings. The project provider will also be invited to attend this final group presentation and will be provided with the consultancy report at the end of the unit.
- Once the group project is agreed, a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) will be signed by the project provider, Unit Director and your Group.
- When all parties have signed the NDA, please decide on a group representative to send the signed form to the Unit Director and the Professional Liaison Network (PLN). You will not be able to complete the unit without this.
- Whilst undertaking the project, your contact with the project provider will mainly involve an initial introductory email at the beginning of the unit where you will introduce yourself and the group and request any further information required to start the project. You may also need to contact them via email with additional questions during the unit.
- The PLN will also check in with the provider at key points to keep them updated on the unit timeline.
- If you have any issues or concerns with the unit in general, please raise this with the Unit Director.

### What is expected of you?

- When completing the online form, please answer the questions with as much detail as possible. The more information you give the more likely it is that we will be able to match you to a suitable project. Please be as specific as you can about the type of work you are hoping to do in your project in as well as the skills you wish to develop.
- To complete the required assessments – these are split 50/50 between the group project and academic work - details of which will be shared with you by the Unit Director.
- To refer to the Management Consultancy handbook for further details of the unit structure - you will be provided with this at the beginning of the unit.

### FAQs

***What happens if the group project I am offered is not what I expected?***



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We take into consideration your preferences and try to source projects based on student requests; however, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to find projects exactly matching all students' wishes. Indeed, in real world consulting, people are mostly assigned to projects. We encourage you to think about the transferable skills and experience that this project could offer and the opportunities this could lead to in the future.

**Your consultancy project may be your first experience of working with professionals;** always remember that you are a representative of the University of Bristol and, as such, must behave in a professional and courteous manner.

**If you have any further questions, please contact Laura Dudman, Professional Liaison Assistant – [fssl-pln@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:fssl-pln@bristol.ac.uk) (0117 33 10702).**