



SYLLABUS 2025-2026

Elective: Business in Post-Brexit Europe

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Module Code	2526_RHO_1_EN_019
Campus	Oxford
Department(s)	HR and Organisations
Level / Semester	Undergraduate Year 3 (U3); Equivalent to FHEQ level 6 Semester 06
Language of Instruction	English
Teaching Method	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-person (face-to-face) <input type="checkbox"/> Distance learning (live online) <input type="checkbox"/> e-Learning (asynchronous) <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid: _____
Pre-requisite(s)?	None
ECTS <i>Reminder: 1 ECTS = between 20 and 30hr- student workload</i>	3
Equivalent FHEQ credits	6
Study Hours	60 hours which comprise of 30 directed learning and 30 independent learning/assessment hours

MODULE DESCRIPTION

Module Aims	This module investigates the economic, legal, and strategic challenges UK businesses face in the post-Brexit landscape. Students analyse shifts in trade, regulation, and employment, and assess business responses to evolving conditions. Emphasis is on developing informed strategies to navigate uncertainty and change.
Teaching Arrangement	The module builds on a blended approach including lectures and readings, group work, and presentations.

Learning Outcomes	<p>By the end of this module, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critically assess the fundamental changes imposed by Brexit on UK businesses, including supply chain management, operations, and regulation. 2. Evaluate the economic and business impact of Brexit on production, costs, employment, and trade with EU and non-EU countries. 3. Analyse the post-Brexit regulatory framework, identifying key changes in taxation, duties, tariffs, and trade agreements. 4. Develop strategic responses for businesses to navigate challenges and opportunities in the evolving post-Brexit trade landscape.
Competency Goals <i>(Knowledge, expertise and interpersonal skills)</i>	<p>PGE_U_CG01 - Manage teams</p> <hr/> <p>PGE_U_CG02 - Steer economic performance</p> <hr/> <p>PGE_U_CG06 - Evolve in a globalised world</p>
Alignment with Programme Learning Goals	<p>PGE_U_CG01_LO01 - Identify opportunities, analyse situations, co-create solutions and achieve collective performance</p> <hr/> <p>PGE_U_CG02_LO01 - Monitor the company's financial performance and anticipate financial risks</p> <hr/> <p>PGE_U_CG06_LO01 - Work in a multicultural team and/or environment</p> <hr/> <p>PGE_U_CG06_LO02 - Address the economic challenges of your organisation within a globalised world</p>

SESSION TOPICS / MODULE SCHEDULE

(Please note, a session/sequence may be more than one scheduled class)

<p><u>Session 1: Introduction to UK Business</u></p> <p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK economy, political structure and society <p>Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the current view of French political parties on membership of the EU and its direction. For discussion.
<p><u>Session 2: A History of Brexit</u></p> <p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and why it happened: 'Project Fear' and the 'Big Red Bus', immigration and immigrants, sovereignty • 'It's the economy, stupid' (Nigel Farage) <p>Assignments:</p>

Last reviewed: 05/08/2025

- Complete research on French political parties' views of EU membership.

Session 3: The Issues & Consequences

Content:

- Where are we today: border with the Irish Sea, Northern Ireland Protocol and the Good Friday Agreement, fishing rights, HGV drivers, employment, fruit pickers, the NHS and care homes, hospitality, asylum seekers
- The impact of Covid on Brexit

Assignments:

- Read articles on EU trade deals

Session 4: Global Britain: Myth or Possibility?

Content:

- The UK in the 21st century: trade deals, alliances, and status
- G7 and Climate Change Conference COP 26
- Playing to our strengths

Assignments:

- Read given articles on UK trade deals

Session 5: The Impact of Brexit on Big Business

Content:

- Forms, freedom and the future; impact of the end of freedom of movement; delays; additional costs; supply chains; investment decisions

Assignments:

- What's in the news this week? Discuss at the next lecture.

Session 6: Regulations

Content:

- What happens now? UK Government advice
- Taxes, tariffs, and transportation; law and the European Court of Justice – who decides?
- New rules with the EU
- Which rules should businesses follow in global markets?
- A look at the automotive industry

Assignments:

- What's in the news this week? Discuss at the next lecture.

Session 7: Finance and the UK Economy

Content:

- The City of London: will it maintain its pre-eminence?
- Foreign direct investment
- The Balance of Trade
- Consumer confidence

Assignments:

- Preparation for the Business Game

Session 8: Data, Telecoms & Power

Content:

- How much does the UK still rely on the EU? And vice-versa. Brief for assessment.

Session 9: The Future of the UK Union and the Future of the EU

Content:

- Overview of: Scottish independence, Irish union, re-join movement, a business view, closer political union, two-tier system, and relationships within the UK

Assignments:

- Revision for exam

Session 10: Business Game

Content:

- Assessment (40%)

Assignments:

- Revision for exam

KEY TEXTS

1. Bulmer, S. and Quaglia, L. (2018) 'The politics and economics of Brexit', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 25(8), pp. 1089-1098. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2018.1467957>.
2. Tombs, R. (2021) *This sovereign isle: Britain in and out of Europe*. London: Allen Lane.

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

1. N/A

MODES OF ASSESSMENT

Continuous Assessment (40%)	Group presentation	20%
	Reflective essay	20%
Final Exam (60%)	Case study	

MODULE DESIGN TEAM

- Author: *Marian Eabrasu*
- Reviewer: *Bernard Carey*
- External Reviewer: *Andreia Guerra Areal*