



Strategic quality management at Portsmouth Business School



An academic and standards practitioner

I've been a practitioner and academic in the field of quality, excellence and organisational learning for almost 20 years, including as an ISO 9001 lead auditor and EFQM Assessor and Investors in People specialist. I'm also involved in standards development through membership of technical committee HCS/1 on human capital and as a former member of the UK mirror committee for the development of ISO 26001.

MSc Strategic Quality Management

Almost all of our SQM students - drawn from right around the world - come to us from industry and so have some existing knowledge and experience of quality management and standards. Through our course they're looking to both deepen this knowledge and acquire new skills in using quality methods and strategizing quality at executive level. Graduates of this course can be eligible to the Chartered Quality Institute Fellowship.

Our MSc is strongly linked with international standards and standardization, which is embedded in the majority of the modules and the final dissertation. We showcase individual standards such as ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45000, ISO 27001 and ISO 31001, as well as wider concepts such as BSI's work on organizational resilience. Modules with a particularly high level of standards content include business transformation, business operations and strategic organizational excellence. Students also explore the role of standards and standardization throughout their coursework.

Importance of standards education

Standards are important because they are everywhere, playing a vital role in the economy - facilitating business interactions, enabling companies to comply with relevant laws and regulations, speeding up the introduction of innovative products to market, and supporting interoperability between new and existing products, services and processes.

And because standards provide people and organizations with a basis for mutual understanding and are used as tools to facilitate communication, measurement, commerce and manufacturing, I firmly believe standards should play a prominent role in Business School programmes.

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Tools and resources

We make extensive use of BSI's British Standards Online (BSOL) database, giving students access to the individual standards. We also invite guest speakers from industry – including from BSI – we host forums and open evenings, and encourage students to attend conferences and events organised by BSI and other organizations involved in quality management.

Learning outcomes

Through our course, students develop high-level knowledge and a critical awareness of current SQM issues in a multidisciplinary context and develop a critical appreciation of the current issues at the forefront of the quality management profession.

They also have the opportunity to gather the necessary knowledge and develop the right skills to deal with complex quality management issues as leaders and practitioners. This is important, as the majority of our graduates will go onto to secure successful quality management and leadership roles.



Learn more at: www.port.ac.uk/portsmouth-business-school/



Dr Alaa Garad

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Portsmouth Business School

About BSI Education

Universities make a significant contribution to standardization by teaching about standards, contributing academic research, and being standards-makers. BSI Education builds relationships and creates programmes with universities to help raise awareness of the benefits of standards to society and the economy and to encourage and increase participation in standards-making.



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