

BCS Business Analysis Practice

Course Overview

This course covers the syllabus and exam for the BCS practitioner level certificate of Business Analysis Practice.

This certificate is concerned with some of the strategic aspects of business analysis. Its focus is on using a holistic approach to the investigation and improvement of business situations with a view to developing effective, feasible business solutions.

Business Analysis Practice investigates the 'Business System' comprising elements of organisation, process, people and Information & Technology. This certificate teaches theoretical techniques for understanding business strategy and driving out strategic change within an organisation.

Business Analysis Practice is a core (mandatory) module for those who would like to achieve the BCS International Diploma in Business Analysis.

Please note that the focus of this course is on using 'strategic analysis' techniques to develop an organisation's strategy and then determining strategic change for the organisation. It does not cover project-based business analysis techniques such as process modelling, elicitation and documentation of requirements. This course is therefore **not** recommended as a 'starter' Business Analysis training course. Instead, we recommend our 'Fundamentals of Business Analysis' course which includes the BCS Requirements Engineering exam.

Intended Audience

This course is aimed at individuals who would like to achieve the BCS Certificate in Business Analysis Practice, one of the core modules required for the BCS International Diploma in Business Analysis.

It is particularly useful for Business Analysts that may be working in a strategic role, sometimes referred to as 'Business Architecture' because of its focus on strategic analysis techniques.

Learning Outcomes

Candidates should be able to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and application of Business Analysis Practice principles and techniques in the following areas:

- The breadth of the role of a Business Analyst (BA), the value of the role to organisations and the skills required of a BA to support successful business change.
- The processes and techniques of strategy analysis.
- Investigation of an organisation's business systems in order to uncover the problems and issues occurring within them.
- The importance of, and techniques used within, stakeholder management and the need for analysing perspectives.

- Conceptual modelling through the use of business activity models.
- Recommendations for business improvements and how they may be identified through gap analysis between desired and current business models.
- The role of a business case within the business change lifecycle, including the contents of a business case for the development and implementation of business changes.

Course Syllabus

The course covers the BCS Syllabus for Business Analysis Practice which is divided into the following seven areas:

1. Rational for Business Analysis (5%)
2. Understanding the Strategic Context (15%)
3. Understanding the Current Situation (15%)
4. Stakeholder Analysis and Management (20%)
5. Analysing and Modelling Business Activities (25%)
6. Identifying Potential Solutions (10%)
7. Building the Business Case (10%)

Course Preparation

Delegates will be supplied with pre-reading information prior to attending the course. Pre-reading is based on the BCS publication 'Business Analysis'. Delegates are required to purchase a copy of this publication, it is not included in the course fee.

Course Delivery

Business Analysis Practice is available as a 3-day course, or an intensive 2-day course.

All BA Training Solutions course tutors have worked in business change projects for at least 10 years.

Delegates are encouraged to learn through group exercises including a case study as well as exam-based exercises.

The BCS exam in Business Analysis Practice is taken at the end of the course.

As this is an exam-based course, attendees will be given the option to complete around 1 hour of homework each evening. This is intended to prepare delegates for the exam.

Examination & Accreditation Details

The format for the examination is a one-hour multiple-choice examination. The examination is closed book (no materials can be referred to during the exam). Candidates need to achieve a minimum of 26 marks out of 40 to pass.

Candidates who gain a pass for the examination are awarded the BCS Certificate in Business Analysis Practice.