

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. This is the high level processes of, people within, and context of, an organisation.

There are two key elements to the syllabus,

1. the development of a business strategy and
2. the exploration of a business issue, whether a problem or opportunity.

For the first element, candidates are required to understand a range of strategic analysis and performance management techniques. For the second element, they are required to be able to apply business analysis techniques within a defined framework.

Business Analysis Practice 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.

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 the entire business system.

Please note that the focus of this course is on 'strategic analysis' techniques of entire business systems, **not** project based business analysis. This course is **not** a 'starter' Business Analysis training course and is therefore not recommended as an introduction for inexperienced Business Analysts.

Course Objectives

Holders of the BCS Certificate in Business Analysis Practice should be able to:

- Describe how a business strategy is developed
- Use strategic analysis techniques
- Describe the need for project discipline
- Explain techniques to investigate an organisation's business systems
- Describe an approach to improving business systems
- Explain the importance of stakeholder management and use a stakeholder analysis technique
- Use techniques for the analysis and modelling of business systems
- Describe how recommendations for business improvement may be identified
- Describe the contents of a rigorous business case for the development and implementation of business changes
- Identify costs, benefits, impacts and risks for an option in a business case

Course Structure

The course is available as a 3-day course, or a more intensive 2-day course which requires delegates to complete 7 hours of compulsory pre-reading prior to attending.

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 during the final 1 hour 15 minutes 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.

Course Preparation

Delegates may choose to purchase the BCS Publication 'Business Analysis' (ISBN 9781780172774) to complete pre-reading for this course.

Delegates attending the 2-day version of this course will also be issued with a pre-reading document (supplied by us) and are required to spend around 7 hours completing pre-reading prior to attending the course.

Examination & Accreditation Details

The BCS exam in Business Analysis Practice is taken during the last 1 hour 15 minutes of the course. The format for the examination is a 1 hour written open book examination based on a business scenario with 15 minutes reading time.

Candidates must achieve 50% to be awarded a pass grade.

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