

Unit 2: Marketing Processes and Planning

Unit code A/618/5033

Unit type Core

Unit level 4

Credit value 15

Introduction

Large-, medium- and small businesses that operate globally, internationally or locally have at least one thing in common – they all use marketing to influence us to engage with their products and/or services. Whether this means becoming a loyal customer buying a product and service or donating to a charity, organisations use a range of marketing techniques and tools to inform and influence us.

This unit is designed to introduce students to the dynamic world of the marketing sector and the wealth of exciting career opportunities available to support their decision making in their career choices. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the competencies and behaviours required by employers to work in the marketing sector. They will be introduced to the key principles of marketing, enabling them to develop a marketing plan and to employ elements of the marketing mix to achieve results. They will study the underpinning theories and frameworks of marketing while relating them to real-world examples, including products/services that they encounter in their daily lives.

The knowledge, understanding and skill sets that students will gain on successfully completing this unit will enhance their career opportunities; whether this is setting up their own business or employment in an organisation.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit a student will be able to:

- LO1 Explain the role of marketing and how it interrelates with other business units of an organisation
- LO2 Compare ways in which organisations use elements of the marketing mix to achieve overall business objectives
- LO3 Produce a marketing plan for an organisation that meets marketing objectives
- LO4 Develop a media plan to support a marketing campaign for an organisation.

Essential Content

LO1 **Explain the role of marketing and how it interrelates with other business units of an organisation**

The marketing concept:

The development of the marketing concept, including current and future trends.

The concepts of brand positioning and management and implementing process to support corporate reputation.

The external environmental influences that impact on marketing activity.

The role of marketing:

The structure and operations of marketing departments:

- market research
- advertising
- direct marketing
- integrated communications
- brand management
- partnership marketing
- Public Relations (PR).

The roles, responsibilities and competencies required in marketing, e.g. marketing executive, marketing and communications officer, digital marketer.

Overview of marketing processes that include market research, data analysis, strategic planning and conducting marketing campaigns.

The integration of AI into marketing planning to enhance efficiency, improve data analysis, and personalise strategies.

The role of digital marketing as a core driver of marketing strategy, including Search Engine Optimisation (SEO), use of web analytics, social media marketing, mobile marketing, pay-per-click marketing.

Sector specific legal, regulatory and compliance frameworks, including current data protection regulations.

The interrelationships of business units:

Marketing as a business function.

The different roles of business units and the interrelationships between these functional areas and marketing.

The principles of stakeholder management and customer relationship management (CRM) to facilitate effective cross-functional relationships internally.

LO2 **Compare ways in which organisations use elements of the marketing mix to achieve overall business objectives**

The 7Ps marketing mix:

Creating a unique selling proposition for products and services.

Product portfolios analysis (Boston Consulting Group Matrix and GE McKinsey Matrix) to identify new product development and planning for the different stages of the product lifecycle.

Reviewing **pricing** models in view of established price points and sensitivity to competitors' pricing and consumers.

Different pricing strategies and tactics.

Place strategies and channel distribution for expanding access and reach to specific market segments.

Promotion to stay ahead of the competition, including integrated communication mix, cross-communication solutions and digital promotional tools and strategies.

The different roles of **'people'** in marketing, including customer interfacing and support personnel to deliver both customer value and added value.

Physical evidence and the tangible aspects of service delivery – visual, aural and olfactory elements.

Systems and **processes** involved in delivering a consistent service. The different types of processes used to expedite the marketing function

Achieving overall business objectives:

Marketing mix tactics for building and maintaining stakeholder relationships, penetrating markets, expanding reach to new market segments and developing new products.

Adapting and integrating the marketing mix to meet organisational objectives and changes in a competitive environment.

Measuring the effectiveness of the marketing mix using metrics, e.g. market share, sales, number of new products, repeat purchases, discount levels and margins, customer satisfaction rates.

Use of online metrics including cost per rating point (CPP) and click to conversion (CTC).

LO3 **Produce a marketing plan for an organisation that meets marketing objectives**

Tactical market planning:

The purpose of marketing planning and implementing marketing plans.

The benefits of marketing plans.

The links between marketing plans, marketing objectives and marketing strategy and alignment to overall organisation objectives.

Types of marketing objectives, e.g. increase market share, promote new product/service.

Marketing planning process:

Defining the company mission statement and corporate objectives.

The marketing audit, applying analytical tools, e.g. SWOT, PESTLE, 5C analysis.

Competitive analysis using analytical tools, e.g. Boston Consulting Group Matrix (BCG).

Market segmentation and target market selection and profiling.

Setting goals and SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely) objectives.

Creating marketing strategies applied to the marketing mix.

Tactics to execute marketing strategies.

Allocation of resources and implementation.

Monitoring and control measures.

Strategic marketing planning:

Extended market research and auditing.

Target market profiling, including buyer personas, identifying influencers and early adopters.

Value positioning.

Marketing strategies that apply to the extended marketing mix and tactical planning.

Measurements of success, e.g. Return on Marketing Investment (ROMI), Customer Lifetime Value (CLV), Net Promoter Score (NPS).

Evaluating and monitoring marketing plans using appropriate control and evaluation techniques such as sales analysis, market-share analysis, efficiency ratios and cost-profitability analysis.

LO4 Develop a media plan to support a marketing campaign for an organisation.

Marketing campaigns:

The purpose of marketing campaigns.

Different types of marketing campaigns.

The role of the creative brief.

Setting campaign objectives and parameters, e.g. for brand awareness, changing attitudes, increasing sales.

Different communication, messaging and positioning strategies.

Campaign tactics that are SMART.

Metrics for measuring success.

Setting timelines and action plans.

The media plan:

Consumer level targeting to establish customer value proposition, key messaging and platform preference.

Different digital platforms and offline tools for communication.

Features and benefits of integrated multimedia channels.

Different approaches to frequency and reach.

Setting quantitative and qualitative criteria, e.g. speed of reach, frequency, message life, image-building capability and emotional impact.

Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria

Pass	Merit	Distinction
LO1 Explain the role of marketing and how it interrelates with other business units of an organisation		D1 Critically analyse the external and internal environment in which the marketing function operates.
P1 Explain the concept of marketing and marketing operations including the different areas and role of marketing. P2 Explain how the marketing function relates to the wider organisational context.	M1 Analyse the role of marketing in the context of the marketing environment. M2 Analyse the significance of interrelationships between marketing and other functional units of an organisation.	
LO2 Compare ways in which organisations use elements of the marketing mix to achieve overall business objectives		D2 Evaluate strategies and tactical approaches to the marketing mix in achieving overall business objectives.
P3 Compare the ways in which different organisations apply the marketing mix to the marketing planning process to achieve business objectives.	M3 Review strategies and tactical approaches applied by organisations to demonstrate how business objectives can be achieved successfully.	
LO3 Produce a marketing plan for an organisation that meets marketing objectives		D3 Produce a strategic marketing plan for an organisation that measures achievement of marketing objectives within key performance metrics.
P4 Develop a marketing plan that includes key elements of marketing planning for an organisation to achieve marketing objectives.	M4 Produce a detailed tactical marketing plan that integrates the extended marketing mix to achieve marketing objectives.	
LO4 Develop a media plan to support a marketing campaign for an organisation.		D4 Provide a justified integrated multimedia plan based on quantitative and qualitative criteria.
P5 Produce a media plan that includes recommendations and rationale for selected media activities that meet budgetary requirements and objectives of a marketing campaign brief.	M5 Devise an integrated multimedia plan, selecting appropriate digital, offline and social media channels for communication.	

Recommended Resources

Textbooks

GROUCUTT, J. and HOPKINS, C. (2015) *Marketing* (Business Briefings). London: Palgrave Macmillan.

JOBBER, D. and CHADWICK, F. (2019) *Principles and Practice of Marketing*. 9th Ed. Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill.

KOTLER, P. and ARMSTRONG, G. (2016) *Principles of Marketing*. 7th Ed London: Pearson.

MCDONALD, M. and WILSON, H. (2016) *Marketing Plans: How to Prepare Them, How to Use Them*. 8th Ed. Chichester: John Wiley and Sons.

Websites

www.cim.co.uk	Chartered Institute of Marketing (General reference)
www.marketingdonut.co.uk	Marketing Donut (General reference)
www.marketingteacher.com	<i>Marketing Teacher</i> All sections (General reference)
www.marketingweek.com	<i>Marketing Week</i> New and industry articles (General reference)

Links

This unit links to the following related units:

Unit 1: The Contemporary Business Environment

Unit 33: Marketing Insights and Analytics

Unit 34: Digital Marketing

Unit 35: Integrated Marketing Communications