

Partnering success with WMG, University of Warwick at SIM Global Education

Dr Stuart Barnes and Michael Newton, staff members of WMG at the University of Warwick talk about the outcomes of a WMG Masters qualification. They explain how keeping up to date with the latest technology and management theories can enhance the career of a good manager and contribute to the success of their companies.



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What is WMG, (formally known as Warwick Manufacturing Group), at the University of Warwick's learning philosophy?

WMG, University of Warwick is renowned for the development and delivery of educational programmes that contain "academic excellence with industrial (business) relevance". This ensures that the knowledge students gain from our programmes is directly beneficial to their careers as well as beneficial to their companies (who now have a more capable employee). The two aspects work very well together.

What are the strengths of WMG, at the University of Warwick?

Our academic excellence and industrial relevance are achieved by WMG working with a very large and diverse range of companies globally. We are constantly feeding our research into our teaching programmes to ensure the latest thinking is being taught. And all our teaching staff have a significant amount of industrial experience which allows them to relate the academic theory to the real world environment.

How will these WMG programmes benefit students in their careers?

Students who graduate from the programme do well in terms of promotion within their companies – their dissertation project is a very good "show case" of their capability. Also, when looking for new jobs, an MSc obtained from WMG is attractive to an employer due to the relevance of the modules and the high-level capability of our graduates. Some of our past graduates hold very senior roles in companies world-wide.

How does WMG work with SIMTech to benefit students?

As part of the MSc programme, each student undertakes a significant "real world" project, either within their company or within SIMTech. The supervision and management of these projects is carried out by experienced and well qualified SIMTech staff. This allows the students to examine in-depth, one aspect of the MSc which is of particular interest to them (and their organisation) with support and guidance from SIMTech. This is an excellent opportunity to do some innovative work.

Why should a student choose WMG, at the University of Warwick programmes?

Warwick is a leading UK University. Within the University, WMG has developed and run MSc courses with major companies in the UK and the Far East since 1981, and in Singapore since 2006. Modules cover a wide range of subjects for engineering and technology lead businesses and are taught face to face by Warwick staff. They consist of a well-designed mix of learning activities and teaching styles and aim to challenge current thinking, enhance individual understanding, and improve organisational performance.

What does WMG's teaching bring to the students?

WMG teaching staff are experienced industrial practitioners with a track-record of supporting organisations and individuals on their improvement journey. They come from a wide range of company backgrounds in many different industries and draw on their experience to illustrate and support module learning. Most have travelled widely in the ASEAN region and can relate module learning to local events.

Share on how organisations can also benefit from the transfer of knowledge when the students are back on-the-job.

WMG modules consist of face-to-face teaching and an assignment that applies the theory and practice of the module back into the participant's organisation. The participant demonstrates an ability to apply the module material and the company benefits from the learning and the organisational improvement. The dissertation project involves six months of effort and is usually targeted at a significant opportunity or performance issue for the participating companies. Many partner companies quote substantial financial performance improvement as a result of the WMG programme.

For more information, visit www.simge.edu.sg