

PROJECT MANAGEMENT | COURSE BROCHURE

Project Scheduling, Cost Estimation and Control

5 days | Classroom training | English

SMART HORIZON

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Course content

Why attend

This course provides practical skills in project scheduling, cost estimation, and control techniques. Participants will learn to develop accurate project timelines, estimate costs effectively, and implement control measures to ensure project success, enhancing their project management capabilities.

Project managers frequently face challenges in delivering projects on time and within budget. Inaccurate scheduling and cost estimation can lead to project overruns, resource misallocation, and stakeholder dissatisfaction. This course addresses these critical issues by equipping participants with essential skills to create reliable schedules and accurate cost estimates, ensuring better project outcomes. Participants will engage in practical exercises that simulate real-world scenarios, allowing them to apply learned techniques to actual project situations. By mastering these skills, they will enhance their ability to manage project timelines and budgets effectively, ultimately improving their professional performance and career prospects.
Effective project management requires a comprehensive understanding of scheduling, cost estimation, and control measures. Participants will practice developing project schedules using Gantt charts and critical path methods, estimating costs through various techniques, and applying control measures to monitor project performance. They will also learn to communicate project status and financial implications to stakeholders, ensuring transparency and alignment. These practical capabilities will empower participants to make informed decisions, manage resources efficiently, and navigate the complexities of project management with confidence, leading to successful project delivery and stakeholder satisfaction.

Professional Problems This Course Is Designed to Solve

- Schedules that overlook dependencies and resource constraints.
- Cost estimates with inconsistent assumptions.
- Late identification of schedule slippage and cost overruns.

Course methodology

The course employs a blend of case studies, practical exercises, and group workshops to enhance learning. Participants will engage in scenario-based simulations where they will create project schedules and cost estimates. Each session will culminate in a group discussion to analyse outcomes and refine techniques. Participants will produce project schedules, cost estimation reports, and control plans as tangible outputs, demonstrating their understanding and application of the concepts taught. This hands-on approach ensures that participants can directly apply what they learn to their own projects, reinforcing their skills and knowledge in a practical context. This integration of theory and practice is essential for effective learning.



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Course objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:
• Analyse project requirements to develop a comprehensive project schedule that meets stakeholder expectations.
• Calculate project costs using various estimation techniques and tools to ensure budget accuracy.
• Construct a Gantt chart to visually represent project timelines and milestones for effective tracking.
• Assess project performance using earned value management principles to identify variances and trends.
• Prioritise tasks based on critical path analysis to optimise project delivery and resource allocation.
• Justify cost control measures to mitigate budget overruns and resource wastage effectively.
• Develop a project control plan to monitor and manage project performance throughout the project lifecycle.

Target audience

This course is suitable for:
• Project Managers responsible for overseeing project execution and delivery.
• Cost Estimators involved in preparing project budgets and financial forecasts.
• Project Planners tasked with developing and maintaining project schedules.
• Operations Managers who need to align project outcomes with organisational goals.

Target competencies

Participants will develop competencies in:
• Developing detailed project schedules using industry-standard tools and methodologies.
• Estimating project costs accurately using various methodologies and techniques.
• Implementing effective project control measures to track progress and performance.
• Utilising earned value management for performance assessment and reporting.
• Conducting critical path analysis to optimise project timelines and resource allocation.
• Communicating project status and financial implications to stakeholders effectively.
• Creating contingency plans to address potential project risks and challenges.

Course outline

Day 1: Foundations of Project Scheduling

Applied activity: Participants will analyse a fictional project brief to identify key milestones and deliverables. They will create an initial project schedule using a Gantt chart, considering task dependencies and timelines, while discussing potential scheduling challenges.
Output: A Gantt chart outlining the project schedule with identified milestones and dependencies.



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09:00–09:54	Introduction to project scheduling concepts and terminology, including key terms and definitions.
09:54–10:48	Understanding the project life cycle and its phases, from initiation to closure.
10:48–11:00	Identifying key components of a project schedule, such as tasks, milestones, and dependencies.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Identifying key components of a project schedule, such as tasks, milestones, and dependencies. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Exploring different scheduling methodologies and tools, including Agile and Waterfall approaches.
13:06–14:00	Overview of Gantt charts and critical path method, including their applications and benefits.

Day 2: Cost Estimation Techniques

Applied activity: Using a fictional project scenario, participants will apply different cost estimation techniques to develop a comprehensive project budget, considering various cost factors, contingencies, and potential risks associated with the project.
Output: A detailed cost estimation report for the fictional project, including a breakdown of costs and assumptions.

09:00–09:54	Understanding the importance of accurate cost estimation in project management and its impact on project success.
09:54–10:48	Exploring different cost estimation techniques: analogous, parametric, and bottom-up, with practical examples.
10:48–11:00	Identifying direct and indirect costs in project budgeting, including fixed and variable costs.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Identifying direct and indirect costs in project budgeting, including fixed and variable costs. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Utilising software tools for cost estimation, such as Excel and project management software, to enhance accuracy.
13:06–14:00	Developing a cost estimation template for projects, including necessary cost categories and calculations.



Course content

Day 3: Implementing Control Measures

Applied activity: Participants will review a case study of a project facing budget overruns. They will develop a control plan using EVM principles to monitor and report on project performance, including suggested corrective actions based on their analysis.
Output: A project control plan with EVM metrics, identified variances, and proposed corrective actions.

09:00–09:54	Understanding project control and monitoring processes, including the role of project managers in maintaining control.
09:54–10:48	Exploring key performance indicators (KPIs) for project success, including schedule variance and cost variance metrics.
10:48–11:00	Introduction to earned value management (EVM) principles, including how to calculate and interpret EVM metrics.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Introduction to earned value management (EVM) principles, including how to calculate and interpret EVM metrics. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Developing a project control plan to track progress, including reporting mechanisms and frequency.
13:06–14:00	Identifying corrective actions for budget and schedule variances, including strategies for effective communication with stakeholders.

Day 4: Optimising Project Delivery

Applied activity: In teams, participants will analyse a complex project schedule to identify critical paths and potential bottlenecks. They will propose optimisations and contingency plans to enhance project delivery, considering resource availability and project constraints.
Output: An optimised project schedule with identified critical paths, proposed solutions, and contingency plans.

09:00–09:54	Conducting critical path analysis for project optimisation, including identifying critical tasks and their impact on project timelines.
09:54–10:48	Identifying bottlenecks and resource constraints in project schedules, including techniques for resource allocation and management.
10:48–11:00	Utilising scheduling software for advanced project management, including features that enhance scheduling accuracy.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**



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11:30–12:12	Utilising scheduling software for advanced project management, including features that enhance scheduling accuracy. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Implementing risk management strategies in scheduling, including risk identification and mitigation planning.
13:06–14:00	Developing contingency plans for potential project delays, including communication strategies and stakeholder engagement.

Day 5: Integrated Project Management Application

Applied activity: Participants will work in groups to integrate their schedules, cost estimates, and control measures into a comprehensive project management plan for a fictional project. They will present their plans to a panel of stakeholders, addressing potential questions and concerns.
Output: A complete project management plan including schedule, budget, control measures, and a presentation summarising key aspects.

09:00–09:54	Bringing together scheduling, cost estimation, and control measures into a cohesive project management approach.
09:54–10:48	Developing a comprehensive project management plan that integrates all aspects of project execution.
10:48–11:00	Simulating project execution and monitoring in a controlled environment, including real-time decision-making.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Simulating project execution and monitoring in a controlled environment, including real-time decision-making. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Presenting project plans to stakeholders for approval, including effective communication techniques and presentation skills.
13:06–14:00	Reflecting on lessons learned and best practices in project management, including continuous improvement strategies.

The timings provided are estimates and may vary depending on the number of participants and the discussions taking place during the sessions. They are indicative only and do not constitute a binding commitment.



Course content

Dates, venues and fees

Current published course plans. Fees are per participant in GBP, excluding unconfirmed taxes.

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	9 Nov 2026	13 Nov 2026	**£1,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	9 Nov 2026	13 Nov 2026	**£1,250.–**
Barcelona Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**£2,840.–**
Online Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**£1,250.–**
Paris Confirmed dates	23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	**£2,860.–**
Online Confirmed dates	23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	**£1,250.–**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**£2,650.–**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**£1,250.–**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	14 Dec 2026	18 Dec 2026	**£2,540.–**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	14 Dec 2026	18 Dec 2026	**£1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**£2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**£1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	25 Jan 2027	29 Jan 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	25 Jan 2027	29 Jan 2027	**£1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	8 Feb 2027	12 Feb 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Feb 2027	12 Feb 2027	**£1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**£1,250.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	22 Feb 2027	26 Feb 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Feb 2027	26 Feb 2027	**£1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	22 Mar 2027	26 Mar 2027	**£2,860.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Mar 2027	26 Mar 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	12 Apr 2027	16 Apr 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	12 Apr 2027	16 Apr 2027	**£1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**£1,890.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	26 Apr 2027	30 Apr 2027	**£2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	26 Apr 2027	30 Apr 2027	**£1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**£2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**£1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**£1,250.-**
Vienna Confirmed dates	7 Jun 2027	11 Jun 2027	**£2,940.-**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Jun 2027	11 Jun 2027	**£1,250.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Dubai Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**£1,250.-**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	21 Jun 2027	25 Jun 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	21 Jun 2027	25 Jun 2027	**£1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	12 Jul 2027	16 Jul 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	12 Jul 2027	16 Jul 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	26 Jul 2027	30 Jul 2027	**£2,860.-**
Online Confirmed dates	26 Jul 2027	30 Jul 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	9 Aug 2027	13 Aug 2027	**£2,650.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	9 Aug 2027	13 Aug 2027	**£1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	16 Aug 2027	20 Aug 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	16 Aug 2027	20 Aug 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	23 Aug 2027	27 Aug 2027	**£2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	23 Aug 2027	27 Aug 2027	**£1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	13 Sept 2027	17 Sept 2027	**£2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	13 Sept 2027	17 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Dubai Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**£1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	18 Oct 2027	22 Oct 2027	**£1,890.-**
Online Confirmed dates	18 Oct 2027	22 Oct 2027	**£1,250.-**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	25 Oct 2027	29 Oct 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	25 Oct 2027	29 Oct 2027	**£1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	8 Nov 2027	12 Nov 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Nov 2027	12 Nov 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**£2,860.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	13 Dec 2027	17 Dec 2027	**£2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	13 Dec 2027	17 Dec 2027	**£1,250.-**

Plan your next step

Dates, availability, exact venue, taxes, inclusions and payment terms require written confirmation. This brochure is not a quotation, registration, booking confirmation or visa invitation. Participants receive a Smart Horizon UK certificate of attendance; programmes are not externally accredited and do not award a professional qualification or designation. Confirm arrangements before booking travel.

For group or in-house training, contact our learning team to discuss your objectives and delivery arrangements.

Contact Smart Horizon

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View the latest course details online