Specification:

About CIM

For over 100 years, CIM has supported, represented and developed marketers, teams, leaders and the profession. We are the world's leading professional marketing body with over 28,000 members worldwide. We believe marketing is the critical factor in driving long term organisational performance. Our mission is to create marketing advantage for the benefit of professionals, business and society. In a world of increasing competition, transparency and change, finding a valued business advantage has never been as challenging. CIM strives for business leaders and opinion formers to recognise the positive contribution professional marketing can bring to their organisations, the economy and wider society. With 120 CIM study centres, in 36 countries, delivering our world-renowned qualifications and over 80 training courses, we're uniquely able to improve marketing capability at an individual and business level.

Specialist Awards

The CIM Level 6 Specialist Awards have been developed for Marketing managers and marketers working in operational and supervisory roles, who are looking to progress their strategic and management skills. Successful completion of a Specialist Award will equip the student with the knowledge, skills and understanding to support decision making within a digital context at an operational level and carry out an essential and successful professional marketing role within the workplace. These Specialist awards provide marketers with focused knowledge and expertise in specific areas of digital marketing while at the same time fitting in with either current carer goals, CPD or areas of interest within the Digital marketing sphere. These qualifications are designed to enhance skills, improve career prospects, and demonstrate a high level of proficiency in a particular marketing area.

CIM Level 6 Specialist Awards:



Specialist Awards Specification: Social Media Management \tilde{C} CIM May 2023 V1 – 23.05.23



Specialist Award in Social Media Management

Aim:

Social media usage continues to grow with the proliferation of new platforms and tools. This Specialist Award provides strategic insights into how social media can enable an organisation to reach, nurture, and engage with its target audience. It provides the knowledge and skills to create an effective social media strategy, alongside successful management of social media platforms to drive audience engagement.

Specialist Award Content: Social Media Management

Level 6	Credit value: 9	Total Qualification Time: 90 hours
		Guided Learning Hours: 70 hours

Purpose Statement

This Specialist Award covers the strategic management of social media. It covers three key areas: the first area develops the necessary knowledge and skills to create an integrated social media strategy, the second area develops skills in effective social media management; and the third area covers application of measures and tools to assess performance of social media activities.

Assessment

Learning Objective Weighting

Multiple Choice Test (MCT)	
	LO 1 - 40% weighting
	LO 2 – 40% weighting
	LO 3 – 20% weighting

Learning Outcomes	Assessment criteria	Indicative content
The learner will:	The learner can:	
1. Develop an integrated social media strategy	1.1 Describe research techniques to understand social media audiences	Social media listening, internal and external data sources customer journey, personas, changing
	1.2 Undertake a social media audit	customer behaviour, social media audit, setting social media objectives content
	1.3 Create a Social Media Strategy	strategy, integration of paid and organic social media activities. Management and engagement of communities
2. Know how to manage social media	 2.1 Apply a range of techniques to manage a brand and its reputation on social media platforms 2.2 Recommend suitable ways to manage influencers and social media communities 2.3 Determine the resources required to successfully manage social media activities 	Content planning and management, brand tone and identity, reputation management, crisis management, social media management tools, influencers and community management, budgeting, timelines, legal aspects
3. Apply key measures and tools to analyse social media activities	 3.1 Recommend appropriate KPIs and metrics to monitor and measure social media activities 3.2 Evaluate the criteria for social media tool selection 	KPIs and metrics, reporting, testing, optimisation, tool selection, organisational risks, resources

Assessment

The assessment methodology for the CIM Level 6 Specialist Awards are assessed via onscreen Multiple Choice Test (MCT). The MCT will utilise a variety of Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) Types allowing for the assessment of higher order thinking and different levels of cognitive demand.

When are results issued?

Results will be issued within 12 weeks of assessment sitting/submission. Results are made available to learners via e-mail and online via MyCIM portal. Certificates will be issued for each Specialist Award achieved.

Grading

Distinction (D) (80%+) 40-50 Marks Merit (M) (70-79%) 35-39 Marks Pass (P) (60-69%) 30-34 Marks Fail (F) (0-59%) 0-29 Marks

Modes of study

Enrolment at a CIM Accredited Study Centre is required to study a CIM Specialist Award. The following modes of study are available:

- Face to face
- Blended
- Online
- Revision Support

Please visit http://www.cim.co.uk/study-centres for more information on which centres offer CIM qualifications and mode of study.

Specialist Awards Glossary

Level – this positions the level of the Specialist Award within the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

Credit value – each Specialist Award has a credit value which indicates how many credits are awarded when completed. The credit value also gives an indication of how long it will normally take to achieve a qualification. One credit usually equates to 10 hours of learning.

Total Qualification Time – this is the average amount of time it will take to complete the Specialist Award. This includes guided learning hours, practical and work-based learning, assessment preparation time and assessment time.

Purpose statement – gives a summary of the purpose of the Specialist Award. Assessment – gives the assessment methodology for the Specialist Award.

Weighting – outlines the weighting for each of the Specialist Award learning outcomes.
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Learning outcome – the learning outcomes of the Specialist Award sets out what a learner will know, understand or be able to do as a result of successful completion.

Assessment criteria – specify the standard required to achieve each of the learning outcomes.

Indicative content – provides guidance on what is required to achieve the assessment criteria and related learning outcomes, however it is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

What do we mean by Command Words

Command words are used in every question/task/sub-task and are designed to inform the approach to the assessment. The list of command words below enables a clear indication of what is required at Level 6.

Level 6 Command Words

Command word, outlined explanation	Interpretation of command word
Analyse	Analyse new and/or abstract data and
Examine a topic together with thoughts and	schools of thought and consider alternative
judgements about it	solutions and outcomes independently,
	using a range of appropriate models,
	principles and definitions. Compare and
	analyse alternative models using
	appropriate rationale and criteria.
Appraise	Provide a comprehensive and detailed
Evaluate, judge or assess	critique of the subject area demonstrating
	an in-depth understanding and awareness.
Argue	Engage in debate in a professional manner
Provide reasoned arguments for or against	evidencing a comprehensive understanding
a point and arrive at an appropriate	and application of key principles.
conclusion	
Assess	Synthesise and assess new and/or abstract
Evaluate or judge the importance of	information and data in the context of a
something, referring to appropriate schools	broad range of problems, using a range of
of thought	techniques.
Collect	Systematically gather a series of items over
Systematically gather a series of items over	a period of time which demonstrate a
a period of time	critical understanding of the principal
	theories and concepts of the marketing
	discipline.

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Compare and contrast Look for similarities and differences between two or more factors leading to an informed conclusion	Synthesise and analyse the similarities and differences between two or more contexts.
Create Bring something into existence for the first time	Create a range of products of work relevant to marketing that demonstrate originality and creativity. Use a few skills that are specialised, advanced or at the forefront of marketing.
Define Write the precise meaning of a word or phrase. Quote a source if possible.	Define key words and terminology relevant to one or more specialisms some of which is informed by or at the forefront of the marketing discipline.
Demonstrate Explain using examples	Explain a broad range of ideas persuasively and with originality, using a wide variety of illustrative examples to underpin findings and exemplify points.
Describe Give a detailed account of something	Synthesise and analyse new and/or abstract ideas and information and present a clear description and account of the findings.
Determine Use research to check or establish something	Execute a defined project of research, development or investigation to identify evidence to support a course of action. Make judgements where data/information is limited.
Develop Take forward or build on given information	Build on detailed knowledge of marketing principles, theories and concepts using originality, creativity and insight. Use a combination of routine and advanced/specialist skills to develop complex ideas.
Discuss Investigate or examine by argument and debate, giving reasons for and against	Produce detailed and coherent arguments in response to well-defined and abstract problems using relevant marketing language.
Evaluate Make an appraisal of the worth (or not) of something, its validity, reliability, effectiveness, applicability	Select from a range of techniques to critically evaluate complex, contradictory information to support conclusions and recommendations and in the process review its reliability, validity and applicability.
Explain Make plain, interpret and account for, enlighten, give reasons for	Present complex information evidencing comprehensive knowledge, understanding and application of key principles.

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Identify	Critically identify elements of complex
List the main points or characteristics of a	marketing problems and issues.
given item	
Illustrate	Apply a wide variety of illustrative examples
Give examples to make points clear and	to underpin findings supported by
explicit	references to wider reading to make points
	clear and explicit.
Justify	Communicate well-structured and coherent
Support recommendations, explanations or	arguments relevant to marketing.
arguments, with valid reasons for and	6
against	
Outline	Selectively identify valid and relevant
Set out main characteristics or general	information from a range of sources,
principles, ignoring minor details	making judgements where
	data/information is limited.
Plan	Produce a structured proposal for planned
Put forward a proposal for a course of	stages to achieve a goal in professional
action, usually to achieve a goal	contexts that include a degree of
	unpredictability. Interpret, use and evaluate
	numerical/financial data to achieve the end
	goal.
Present	Make formal presentations about
Exhibit something to others	specialised topics to informed audiences
Exhibit something to others	
	that include professional peers, senior
Decommond	colleagues and specialists. Produce reliable and valid conclusions and
Recommend	
Put forward proposals, supported by a clear	proposals based on abstract data and
rationale	situation, appropriately contextualised to a
	marketing context.
Reflect	Review and critically analyse a range of
Think carefully about something; consider	complex issues in order to assess reasons
something; review something that has	for an item's success or failure and/or to
happened or has been done	identify improvements that can be made.

For further information about all CIM qualifications please visit: www.cim.co.uk