

# YUKTA SOMAN

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## Professional Summary

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Early-career Project Manager with an MSc in Project Management (Distinction) from the University of Southampton, supported by a strong engineering background. Hands-on experience across delivery tracking, quality assurance, stakeholder coordination, and project governance within cross-functional and international teams. Comfortable working in Agile and hybrid environments, taking responsibility for actions through to completion and maintaining agreed quality, compliance, and stakeholder standards. Keen to continue developing as a project professional and seeking entry-level Project Manager, Project Coordinator, or PMO opportunities.

## Skills

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**Project Management:** Agile Scrum, Delivery Planning, WBS, Gantt Charts, Risk Registers, Issue Tracking, Change Control, Stakeholder Engagement, Quality Assurance, Project Governance, Project Documentation

**Tools:** MS Project, ClickUp, Notion, JIRA, MS Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Canva

**Core Competencies:** GDPR Compliance, Requirements Definition and Acceptance Criteria, Usability Testing, Accessibility Standards, Cross-functional Coordination, Conflict Resolution

## Education

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### MSc Project Management - University of Southampton (2024-2025)

- Overall Degree - Distinction
- Dissertation (72%), awarded Deans List for Outstanding Achievement
- Dissertation titled: "Analysis of Critical Procurement-Phase Risks and Development of Mitigation Strategies in Construction Projects". The research analysed procurement-phase risks in construction projects, identifying high-impact issues affecting cost and schedule performance.
- Winner - APM Wessex Region Project Management Challenge 2025 (Quality Assurance Lead, Kultura)
- Student Innovation Project - Exploring Navigation (4 weeks): Delivered an outdoor learning programme with Ufton Court to teach offline navigation skills to school students. Defined objectives, coordinated team tasks, engaged stakeholders, and iterated the solution based on feedback to maximise usability and impact.

### BEng Instrumentation and Control Engineering - AISSMS IOIT, Pune (2018-2022)

- CGPA - 8.72 out of 10 (Distinction)
- Industry-sponsored final year project with B and R Industrial Automation
- Research Publication - Study on Digital Twin and Box Lift Mechanism Using DT

## Work Experience

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### Quality Assurance Lead - Kultura Project, University of Southampton (Oct 2024-May 2025)

- Owned the quality assurance approach for Kultura, defining review checkpoints and acceptance criteria to ensure deliverables met agreed scope and stakeholder expectations.
- Ensured deliverables were accurate, consistent, and GDPR compliant through structured reviews of content, features, and stakeholder data.
- Analysed survey responses and stakeholder feedback, translating insights into prioritised improvements aligned to user needs and project objectives.
- Collaborated with technical and marketing teams to convert requirements into delivery tasks and support iterative improvements across wireframes, content, and functionality.
- Maintained project governance through documentation control, progress tracking in ClickUp and Notion, and clear stakeholder communication.
- Led usability and accessibility checks, identifying gaps and driving improvements to enhance inclusivity and overall prototype quality.

### Brand Development Manager - Borgward Group, Pune (Dec 2022-Mar 2024)

- Led planning and delivery of IT and mechanical projects, coordinating a 32-member cross-functional team across multiple campaigns.
- Acted as a primary coordination point between technical teams, marketing stakeholders, and external partners to manage dependencies and keep delivery on track.
- Contributed to sprint planning, KPI tracking, and quality reviews to improve visibility of progress and align delivery with business objectives.
- Contributed to a 30 percent increase in qualified leads through structured execution and stakeholder alignment.

### Senior Manager - Education Sector - AIESEC in Pune (Aug 2021-Jan 2022)

- Planned and coordinated education exchange projects, managing timelines, deliverables, and volunteer responsibilities.
- Led a 6-member volunteer team and maintained partnerships with universities.

### **International Relations Manager - AIESEC in Pune (Feb 2021-Jul 2021)**

- Managed international stakeholders across Sri Lanka, Egypt, and Turkey.
- Supported project charters, risk tracking, and cross-border collaboration.

### **Projects**

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#### **Kultura - APM Wessex Region Project Management Challenge**

- Delivered a cultural exchange and artisan-support platform through Agile sprint cycles, focusing on responsible project governance and quality assurance.
- Applied MoSCoW prioritisation, usability testing, and stakeholder feedback to ensure the solution was ethical, inclusive, and practically deliverable.

#### **Digital Twin Box Lifting - B and R Industrial Automation**

- Planned and delivered an 8.5-month industry-sponsored engineering project using WBS and Gantt scheduling.
- Developed PLC logic, OPC UA integration, and real-time HMI dashboards.
- Achieved under 5 ms system latency and a 20 percent reduction in commissioning time.

### **Achievements**

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Deans List Award - MSc Dissertation Excellence

Winner - APM Wessex Region Project Management Challenge 2025