



## **Module Specification**

### Understanding Business Finance

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Understanding Business Finance

**Module code:** UMADL8-15-1

**Level:** Level 4

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Business & Law

**Department:** FBL Dept of Accounting Economics & Finance

**Partner institutions:** None

**Delivery locations:** Not in use for Modules

**Field:** Accounting and Finance

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This is an introductory accounting module for business studies students. It is designed to inform students of the type and validity of financial information currently produced in the UK and its relevance in relation to the wider business environment.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The overarching aim of this module is to introduce students to the basic concepts of accounting and financial reporting. Within this context the module aims to enable students to read, prepare and evaluate financial information, to introduce students to the motivations for generating this information in relation to the needs of a variety of user groups and to encourage students to be aware of and to question current practice in financial reporting.

In addition the educational experience may explore, develop and practice but not formally assess the following:

Research appropriate information sources

Work effectively in a team

Present, discuss and defend ideas effectively through formal and informal written and spoken language

**Outline syllabus:** The syllabus includes:

The role of accounting and the accountant in a variety of different organisations.

Users of accounting information; their needs and responsibilities and how accounting information aims to address these issues.

The statement of financial position with particular reference to the concepts of capital, liabilities and assets.

The income statement with particular reference to the concept of profit, its significance and value.

Comparisons of profit to cash flow.

Extending the cash flow forecast to produce forecast income statement and forecast statement of financial position.

Interpreting and evaluating financial statements including ratio and trend analysis.

Further extensions to corporate reporting that aim to improve user information and understanding.

Cash flow forecasts.

Sources of finance for a variety of business organisations.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Extensive use will be made of Blackboard to support students' learning; to facilitate interactions between students e.g. for group project work and to provide access to course materials, lecture slides, useful research links, formative tests, case studies, announcements and discussion boards. Tutors in tutorials will support and advise students as they prepare the coursework for the module.

Students will also be directed towards the University Library online Study Skills resources for the development of skills appropriate to the level and style of the module. In addition a number of e-learning resources will also be used.

**Learning and teaching methods** There will be 36 hours scheduled teaching time (3 hours a week for 12 weeks). In addition students will be expected to spend a further two hours a week in independent study reviewing lecture notes and suggested reading and preparing for day release workshops. The assessments will require a further 42 hours for group and individual work on coursework and revision for the final examination

Scheduled learning activities:

Day release workshops 12 weeks x three hours

Total hours: 36

Independent Study hours engaged with essential reading, question preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Essential reading and preparation for seminars 72 hours

Assignment preparation and completion 11 hours

Revision and preparation for final examination 31 hours

Total hours: 114

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Identify, apply and explain the basic concepts of accounting and finance that underpin the preparation of financial information

**MO2** Describe the role of the accounting function in a variety of business organisations

**MO3** Identify the principal users of financial information, together with their respective interests and demonstrate how accounting information aims to meet the needs and interests of these users

**MO4** Evaluate company performance using financial ratios and trend analysis

**MO5** Describe the key features of financial statements, explain their interrelationships, understand the difference between cash and profit, expenses and payments, and evaluate business performance using financial ratios and trend analysis

**MO6** Prepare simple income statements, statement of financial position and cash flow forecasts for non-complex organisations

**MO7** Identify how organisations are financed and evaluate the most appropriate financing options for different business organisations

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Written exam as 75% of total assessment of module  
Coursework as 25% of total assessment of module

The assessment methods are chosen to assess the full range of students' skills and knowledge based on the learning outcomes above. Formative assessment and

feedback opportunities are built into module delivery and in the form of tests provided for individual work on Blackboard.

Coursework: The coursework will require students to compile basic financial statements based on unique data for each student.

Exam: The end of module (2 hour) exam will include questions to test the student's knowledge and understanding and evaluative skills of topics covered in the module.

**Assessment components:**

**Case Study (First Sit)**

Description: Individual coursework, preparation of financial statements based on unique student data electronically generated.

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO5, MO6

**Examination (First Sit)**

Description: Examination (2 hours)

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO7

**Case Study (Resit)**

Description: Individual coursework, preparation of financial statements based on unique student data electronically generated.

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO5, MO6

**Examination (Resit)**

Description: Examination (2 hours)

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO7

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Leadership and Management Practice {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay] BA (Hons)  
2023-24