



## Programme Specification

### Banking and Finance {Top-Up} [Frenchay]

Version: 2027-28, v2.0, Validated

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## Section 1: Key Programme Details

### Part A: Programme Information

**Programme title:** Banking and Finance {Top-Up} [Frenchay]

**Highest award:** BSc (Hons) Banking and Finance

**Awarding institution:** UWE Bristol

**Teaching institutions:** UWE Bristol

**Study abroad:** No

**Year abroad:** No

**Sandwich year:** No

**Credit recognition:** No

**School responsible for the programme:** CBL Bristol Business School, College of Business and Law

**Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:** Not applicable

**Modes of delivery:** Full-time

**Entry requirements:** For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

**For implementation from:** 01 September 2027

**Programme code:** N30Q13

## Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

### Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

**Overview:** The BSc Banking and Finance (Top-Up) programme provides an advanced, industry-focused curriculum designed to prepare students for careers in

the dynamic finance sector. Entering at Level 6, students engage with specialist topics such as investment management, financial institutions and markets, governance, and financialisation. The programme combines theoretical knowledge with practical application, ensuring graduates can analyse complex financial issues and make informed, ethical decisions.

A distinctive feature is its research-led approach, incorporating themes of sustainability, digital innovation, and social responsibility. Students develop technical expertise using industry-standard tools, alongside critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for modern finance roles.

Professional development is embedded in the Academic and Professional Development module.

As a practice-focused programme, students engage with authentic learning, teaching and assessment approaches throughout the year. This final year programme consists of real-world practice modules including a capstone module which draws together learning into practice with direct emphasis on student centred practice-led activity which is CV enhancing and “real world”.

Working in mentor groups alongside their Group Mentor and Personal Tutor, students are supported to develop a portfolio of practice, completing activities; identifying their skills, developing action plans, and reflecting on how their degree, and other activities, are helping them to gain the skills they need for their personal and professional development.

By the end of the programme, graduates are equipped with advanced knowledge, digital literacy, and a strong ethical foundation, ready to succeed in banking, investment, and broader financial services.

### **Features of the programme:**

**Educational Aims:** This programme aims to prepare students for diverse careers in finance by providing excellent knowledge and technical proficiency in financial institutions, markets, investment banking, and related fields. The programme philosophy emphasises the development of critical thinking, enterprising mindset, digital literacy, effective communication abilities essential for navigating the

complexities of the contemporary banking and finance sector. The programme instils graduates with a strong sense of social responsibility and ethical awareness, ensuring they prioritise sustainability and understand the role of ethics and regulation in the financial system. Moreover, it fosters analytical and critical thinking skills to enable graduates to solve problems creatively.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:**

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**Programme Learning Outcomes**

- PO1. Critically understand financial and economic theories, and globally integrated financial systems.
- PO2. Critically apply knowledge and quantitative skills to research, and propose solutions to challenging problems in banking and finance.
- PO3. Communicate effectively in a variety of media.
- PO4. Collaborate effectively in a team setting.
- PO5. Apply reflective skills to be professionals who can develop their own professional persona.
- PO6. Apply ethical judgement in the banking and finance field to encourage sustainability and to reflect on individual social responsibilities as part of a sustainable global future.

**Assessment strategy:** Assessment in the BSc Banking and Finance programme is designed to evaluate students' ability to integrate concepts, apply knowledge, and develop professional skills. The approach prioritises authentic assessments such as reports and practice-based projects, ensuring relevance to real-world scenarios.

Professional competencies—communication, teamwork, and problem-solving—are assessed through case studies, group work, and presentations.

Assessments are programmatically structured to balance workload, measure technical knowledge, and build transferable skills. Formative feedback and early interventions support individual needs, creating a personalised learning experience. This comprehensive approach ensures graduates are equipped with technical

expertise, employability skills, and the adaptability required for success in the finance industry.

**Student support: Learning Resources:**

Student learning is fully supported by UWE Library Services through extensive print and electronic resources and a variety of learning spaces. Additional support is provided through the library by means of information and academic skills sessions and self-directed online tutorials available via the University Study Skills website, supported by the online library enquiry service. There is excellent access to electronic resources both on and off campus, facilitated by the extensive student computing network and Wi-Fi.

All modules make use of (VLE) Virtual Learning Environment for web-enhanced delivery to at least the recommended minimum standard and for communications with students. All modules have teaching/learning resource booklets and most have set texts in accordance with the University's Reading Strategy. Additional support is provided through the library and an extensive student computing network.

Students are directed towards the University Library online 'University Study Skills web pages' resources for the development of skills appropriate to the level and style of each module. Students will be directed on how the resources on this site should be used to develop the skills that will underpin their studies in module handbooks and/or via (VLE) Virtual Learning Environment .

**Student Support and Guidance:**

Student support for all issues relating to the content, delivery and assessment of modules is provided by Module Leaders, and for more general academic and professional concerns, by Programme Leaders.

**Mentor Groups and Personal Tutors**

As part of the programmatic design the year-long academic and professional development module students are allocated to mentor groups. It is intended that

students remain in their mentor groups on the module throughout the duration of the programme, creating peer to peer understanding and support. This integrates the personal tutors as group mentor within a taught and portfolio assessed module strand. The Personal Tutor, is an academic member of staff who will have access to information on the performance and profile of the student, allowing them to effectively support students' personal and academic development. This embedded relational approach to student support enables wellbeing to be addressed through the curriculum, and students direct academic personal support at the individual and group level.

At each level students are supported by Personal Tutors, an academic member of staff who will have access to information on the performance and profile of the student, allowing them to effectively support students' personal and academic development. This is an academic role and where students have problems of a personal nature they are to be referred as appropriate to UWE Student Services Student Advisors and to UWE Careers regarding employability issues. In addition, students can seek academic support through one-to-one appointments to discuss individual learning issues and workshops covering a range of topics relevant to learning.

These Student Services Student Advisors provide timely, accurate and confidential advice where necessary on all aspects of the provision, for example coursework and examination arrangements, extenuating circumstances procedures, progression counselling, as well as personal issues such as problems with studying or meeting deadlines, financial matters, ill health and so on, including when relevant how to access the wider support provided by the University. This service is supported by extensive online resources.

The UWE Careers Placement Support Team provides extensive support for students in preparation for their placement period and acts as a recruitment service for employers.

Students and graduates are also supported by UWE Careers who help them to access skills, experience and knowledge to improve their employability prospects.

The service provides high quality and professional advice and guidance focusing on enabling them to take control of and responsibility for their own career planning and progression/development. They can access support around finding vacancies for work experience, volunteering, part time work and internships, as well as events and workshops. UWE Careers provides recruiter facing services including advertising graduate job vacancies, work experience and volunteering opportunities, and running both undergraduate and graduate internship schemes. There are also part time jobs advertised by the Student Union Jobshop. There is specialist support for international students including specific resources developed for a range of countries where students are recruited from. Students are introduced to the service during the induction to the course and are encouraged to use the service all through their undergraduate programme and for three years after graduation.

All students take part in an Induction programme at the start of their studies. Separate induction events are arranged for students who arrive as direct entrants at Levels 5 and 6. All new students are provided with a short Student Handbook to help them through their first weeks at university and to act as a guide to the complex information environment in which they now find themselves. Together with the student portal my UWE, the University's Essential Student Information web pages provide support and more detailed and up to date information to students.

An important part of the programme is the involvement of students. Two or three student representatives are elected to serve on the Student Representatives and Staff Forum meetings that are held each term to discuss issues raised by students in relation to their experience of studying at UWE and on the programme. The meetings are arranged by cluster group and are chaired by programme managers. The aim of the meetings is to discuss issues raised by students in an open and friendly atmosphere so that students feel able to contribute openly and honestly about their experiences. Any issues raised are taken forward by Programme Leaders.

Support to students with disabilities is coordinated centrally through Disability Services. This acts as a holistic service for disabled students and applicants to the University but also supports the academic and administrative staff who work with

disabled students.

In addition to the above the University's Student Services offers a range of services to support students during their time at university and beyond.

## Part B: Programme Structure

### Year 1

Students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

#### Year 1 Compulsory Modules

Students must take 105 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

| Module Code | Module Title                                                          | Credit |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| UMATHV-30-3 | Academic and Professional Development:<br>Banking and Finance 2027-28 | 30     |
| UMETHQ-15-3 | Portfolio Management 2027-28                                          | 15     |
| UMEDVG-30-3 | Top Up Contemporary Issues in Banking<br>and Finance 2027-28          | 30     |
| UMETAJ-30-3 | Global Finance and Banking 2027-28                                    | 30     |

#### Year 1 Optional Modules

Students must take 15 credits from the modules in Optional Modules.

| Module Code | Module Title                            | Credit |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|--------|
| UMETH7-15-3 | Behavioural Finance 2027-28             | 15     |
| UMETAG-15-3 | Risk Management and Derivatives 2027-28 | 15     |

## Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

The programme prepares students for successful careers in the finance industry. Cutting-edge teaching from our research-active experts and practical training

modules using the industry standard financial trading room ensure that the students are up-to-date and well-connected with industry. Engagement with a real world applied context is key to success and underpinned with social responsibility and ethical standards which are embedded in core studies. Graduates are able to demonstrate excellent technical competence, apply their knowledge to new and unfamiliar contexts and conduct independent research in resolving challenging business and financial problems.

#### **Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks**

The programme has been designed to align with the FHEQ benchmark statements for Economics and Finance, prioritising knowledge acquisition, application, and the holistic development of skills. Its learning outcomes are shaped by graduate attributes and categorized into technical competencies, professional skills, and ethical responsibility.

Furthermore, the programme's content has been carefully tailored to reflect and embody the UWE 2030 strategy. Rooted in the graduate attributes of a work-ready graduate, it emphasises core technical competencies in banking and finance, alongside essential professional skills like digital capability, effective communication, teamwork, social responsibility, and career readiness.

Additionally, the programme design incorporates key "golden threads," including Enterprise and Employability, Research-Informed Teaching, Sustainability and Social Responsibility, and Inclusivity.

#### **Part E: Regulations**

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.