



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information	
Awarding Institution	University of the West of England
Teaching Institution	University of the West of England Banking Academy, Vietnam
Delivery Location	University of the West of England, Frenchay Banking Academy, Vietnam
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	n/a
Faculty responsible for programme	Business and Law
Department responsible for programme	Bristol Business School / Accounting, Economics and Finance
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	n/a
Highest Award Title	MSc Finance
Default Award Title	n/a
Interim Award Titles	PG Diploma Finance PG Certificate Finance
UWE Progression Route	n/a
Mode of Delivery	<i>FT / PT</i>
ISIS code/s	N39012 N39012 (UWE) N39A12 (Banking Academy)
For implementation from	September 2018

Part 2: Description
<p>The programme aims to both build upon the existing educational background of students in finance and to extend upon and deepen their finance skills and knowledge whilst providing a conversion programme to those students with a non-finance background. This is achieved through a highly integrated programme which focuses on the themes of global financial markets and corporate finance in an applied and structured manner, and which enables the study of more advanced topics through the choice of programme options.</p> <p>Finance is both a vocational discipline and a subject of academic study. The programme seeks to reflect this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing an intensive, academically demanding and applied programme that both critically evaluates and synthesises current academic concepts, theories and research to address key issues in finance Engendering in students an objective appreciation of current practice in the fields of financial markets and corporate finance, and equipping them with specialist analytical skills and knowledge in finance to take advantage of opportunities and minimise threats within the complex real world environment Enabling students to develop purposefully and refine their own comprehensive 'toolbox' of finance techniques and encouraging them to practice the application of such tools to real world financial data Facilitating students in the development of the deeper subject specific knowledge and skills essential to differentiate and evaluate strategic financial options in an applied setting Developing students' problem-solving and decision-making skills and judgement in the context of the key investment decisions in financial markets and the key strategic decisions in corporate finance Setting in place an approach to life-long learning and the acquisition of skills which will enable them to apply a structured and reflective approach to both their personal development and their contribution to society <p>The programme includes Risk Management as a core module and an intentionally important element given international financial market instability in recent years. The programme is designed as a true finance specialist programme. It approaches accounting from an investment perspective rather than from an advanced financial accounting or corporate financial reporting perspective. The economics elements of the programme are designed with a view to underpinning finance and investment elements</p> <p>The module Fundamentals of Finance provides the context within which the other modules are then placed; it introduces students to the scope of the wider programme; it emphasises the importance of intra-programme progression within the student mindset; and it provides a firm theoretical foundation and for many of the more advanced topics which appear later in the programme. Financial Instruments in the first term sets the asset pricing frameworks in place which are then developed in Fund Management in the second term. Financial Statement Analysis complements the other first term modules to provide a real-world financial analyst perspective on the underlying instruments and strategies of investment analysis.</p> <p>Research ethics training will be undertaken on the Quantitative Research Methods module and is also an identified learning outcome of the Finance Dissertation. All dissertation topics will be carefully scrutinised by the Faculty with regard to the university's ethics guidelines.</p>
<p>Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)</p>
<p>The programme aims to prepare the finance professionals with practical, comprehensive and academically rigorous grounding in finance to cope with the demands of the changing world of finance. Aligning with the UWE Bristol 2020 Strategy, the programme aims to integrate theory and practice, developing students both academically and professionally. As well as learning about current practice in the fields of financial markets and corporate finance students will be equipped with specialist skills, knowledge and a toolbox of finance techniques they will be able to apply in their workplace when they graduate</p>
<p>Regulations</p>
<p>Approved to University Regulations and Procedures</p>

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	UMACTA-30-M	UMACRJ-15-M	UMACLK-15-M	UMACRN-15-M	UMECRK-15-M:	UMACTF-15-M	UMEDBK-15-M	UMADBL-45-M
A) Knowledge and understanding of:								
Global financial markets – the global institutional context of all financial decisions	√	√						
Corporate finance – the application of financial tools to finance issues within the company	√				√	√		
Financial intermediation – the nature and operation of all agents involved in the relationship between investors and those raising finance	√	√			√			√
Strategic financial decision-making – the use of finance tools to achieve strategies such as return maximisation or risk minimization	√			√		√		√
Mathematical and statistical methods – the application of tools of a mathematical or statistical nature to solve finance problems				√			√	√
Financial accounting and other financial information – the interpretation of financial statements and other relevant financial information to support investment and corporate finance decisions			√			√		√
Risk management – the identification of risk within the company and within financial markets and strategies for its management		√		√	√	√		
Economic context of finance – the understanding of the economic context and key economic variables for better finance decision-making and strategy formulation	√	√	√	√	√			√
Fund management – the combination of financial assets into portfolios for the purposes of risk diversification and investor wealth maximization	√	√		√	√			

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	UMACTA-30-M	UMACRJ-15-M	UMACLK-15-M	UMACRN-15-M	UMECRK-15-M:	UMACTF-15-M	UMEDBK-15-M	UMADBL-45-M
(B) Intellectual Skills								
The ability to learn effectively, including the ability to define, describe, recognise, and select relevant knowledge	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
The ability to demonstrate comprehension skills such as explanation, identification of inter-relationships, interpretation, extension and illustration with examples	√	√		√	√	√	√	√
Application skills such as organisation, generalisation and problem solving.	√	√						
Analytical skills involving the ability to compare, classify, differentiate, prioritise and provide inference			√				√	√
Synthesis skills, particularly the ability to hypothesise, combine concepts, and plan strategies			√				√	√
Evaluation skills, involving critical thinking, relating concepts, critical appraisal of theories and strategies, and providing recommendations on a course of action	√		√			√		√
Numeracy and quantitative skills including the development and use of models and the testing of hypotheses		√		√			√	√
The ability to select and analyse the financial market, corporate finance and financial accounting data appropriate to addressing a given issue or problem			√					
The ability to apply techniques of a mathematical or statistical nature to augment the analysis of financial data		√	√	√	√		√	√

Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	UMACTA-30-M	UMACRJ-15-M	UMACLK-15-M	UMACRN-15-M	UMECRK-15-M	UMACTF-15-M	UMEDBK-15-M	UMADBL-45-M
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills								
The ability to conduct research into finance issues either individually or as part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting.	√	√		√	√		√	√
The ability to develop and test hypotheses arising from the finance literature using techniques of data collection, empirical analysis and inference		√		√	√	√	√	√
The ability to provide practical investment and or financial management advice on the basis of an understanding of key finance concepts and the analysis of salient data	√	√	√	√	√	√		√
Effective two-way communication: listening, effective oral and written communication of complex ideas and arguments, using a range of media, including the preparation of business and analyst reports	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
The acquisition of a range of analytical and problem-solving tools, some of which make use of ICT	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
(D) Transferable skills and other attributes								
Ability to analyse complex problems and develop appropriate practical strategies.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Objective analysis of information presented in a subjective fashion.			√				√	√
Selection of salient data from a data rich environment.			√				√	√
Analytical and numeracy skills.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
An appreciation of corporate social responsibility and the ethical context of financial markets.	√			√		√		
Time management skills.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

Part 4: Programme Structure

MSc Finance

UWE delivery

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including:
 level and credit requirements
 interim award requirements
 module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

ENTRY		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
	M Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamentals of Finance UMACTA-30-M • Financial Instruments UMACRJ-15-M • Financial Statement Analysis UMACLK-15-M • Fund Management UMACRN-15-M • Risk Management UMECRK-15-M • Corporate Financial Strategy UMACTF-15-M • Quantitative Research Methods UMEDBK-15-M • Finance Dissertation UMADBL-45-M 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Corporate Reporting UMACTT-15-M • Financial Engineering UMADHY-15-M • Principles of Financial Intermediation UMECRM-15-M • Financial Investments in Practice UMADEQ-15-M 	<p>Interim Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PG Certificate Finance 60 credits • PG Diploma Finance 120 credits <p>Target Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc Finance 180 credits

Part 4: Programme Structure
 Banking Academy, Vietnam delivery

MSc Finance

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including:
 level and credit requirements
 interim award requirements
 module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

ENTRY		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
	Masters Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamentals of Finance UMACTA-30-M • Financial Instruments UMACRJ-15-M • Financial Statement Analysis UMACLK-15-M • Fund Management UMACRN-15-M • Risk Management UMECRK-15-M • Corporate Financial Strategy UMACTF-15-M • Quantitative Research Methods UMEDBK-15-M • Finance Dissertation UMADBL-45-M 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Engineering UMADHY-15-M • Principles of Financial Intermediation UMECRM-15-M 	<p>Interim Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PG Certificate Finance 60 credits • PG Diploma Finance 120 credits <p>Target Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc Finance 180 credits

GRADUATION

Part time mode of delivery provide a diagram to demonstrate the student journey from entry to graduation for a typical part time student.

MSc Finance (part-time) UWE Delivery		
Year 1:		
Semester 1:		
Fundamentals of Finance (UMACTA-30-M) 30 credits	and	Financial Instruments (UMACRJ-15-M) 15 credits
Semester 2:		
Corporate Financial Strategy (UMACTF-15-M) 15 credits	and	Fund Management (UMACRN-15-M) 15 credits
Year 2:		
Semester 1:		
Quantitative Research Methods (UMEDBK-15-M) 15 credits	and	Financial Statement Analysis (UMACLK-15-M) 15 credits
Semester 2:		
Risk Management (UMACRK-15-M) 15 credits	and	Option* 15 credits
<p>* Year 2, Semester 2 option modules will include, but will not be restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Engineering UMADHY-15-M (15 credits) • Principles of Financial Intermediation UMECRM-15-M (15 credits) • Advanced Corporate Reporting UMACTT-15-M (15 credits) • Financial Investment in Practice UMADEQ-15-M (15 credits) 		
Year 3:		
Finance Dissertation (UMADBL-45-M) 45 credits		
Important points to accompany the suggested route map for MSc Finance (part-time):		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The choice of order in which modules are taught reflects the increasing complexity of subjects studied on the course. 2. In the spirit of student experience integration, it is intended that part-time students will be expected to attend the same lectures and workshops as the full-time students on the course. The interaction between the two cohorts is expected to benefit both parties in a variety of ways and add value to the overall student experience of both cohorts. 3. Every effort will be made to accommodate the needs of part-time students in terms of timetabling and scheduling of module delivery, in an attempt to minimise any absence from work that attending the course entails. 		

Part time mode of delivery provide a diagram to demonstrate the student journey from entry to graduation for a typical part time student.

MSc Finance (part-time) Delivered at Banking Academy, Vietnam		
Year 1:		
Semester 1:		
Fundamentals of Finance (UMACTA-30-M) 30 credits	and	Financial Instruments (UMACRJ-15-M) 15 credits
Semester 2:		
Corporate Financial Strategy (UMACTF-15-M) 15 credits	and	Fund Management (UMACRN-15-M) 15 credits
Year 2:		
Semester 1:		
Quantitative Research Methods (UMEDBK-15-M) 15 credits	and	Financial Statement Analysis (UMACLK-15-M) 15 credits
Semester 2:		
Risk Management (UMACRK-15-M) 15 credits	and	Option* 15 credits
<p>* Year 2, Semester 2 option modules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Engineering UMADHY-15-M (15 credits) • Principles of Financial Intermediation UMECRM-15-M (15 credits) 		
Year 3:		
Finance Dissertation (UMADBL-45-M) 45 credits		
Important points to accompany the suggested route map for MSc Finance (part-time):		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The choice of order in which modules are taught reflects the increasing complexity of subjects studied on the course. 5. In the spirit of student experience integration, it is intended that part-time students will be expected to attend the same lectures and workshops as the full-time students on the course. The interaction between the two cohorts is expected to benefit both parties in a variety of ways and add value to the overall student experience of both cohorts. 6. Every effort will be made to accommodate the needs of part-time students in terms of timetabling and scheduling of module delivery, in an attempt to minimise any absence from work that attending the course entails. 		

Part 5: Entry Requirements

The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions.

An honours degree (minimum 2.2) in a business, business related or quantitative discipline (that is, a degree showing significant evidence in numerical subjects) from a recognised UK Higher Education institution or equivalent from a recognised overseas institution.

Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to demonstrate appropriate English language proficiency, by having either:

A minimum grade of 6.5 overall on the British Council International English Language Test (IELTS), or
A TOEFL score of at least 600 (written scale) or 250 (computer scale)

Where applicants do not hold a first degree, we would normally require either:

To have completed parts 1 and 2 of the ACCA syllabus, or the SII diploma, plus two years relevant work experience, or

A minimum of two years relevant work experience plus take a written test before being accepted

Part 6: Reference Points and Benchmarks[QAA UK Quality Code for HE](#)

- Framework for higher education qualifications (FHEQ)
- Subject benchmark statements (*Please note that there is currently no QAA subject benchmark for Finance at the postgraduate level, and therefore the programme is benchmarked to similar programmes which exist within other UK institutions*)
- Qualification characteristics for [Foundation degrees](#) and [Master's degrees](#)

[Strategy 2020](#)[University policies](#)

Staff research projects

Any relevant PSRB requirements

Any occupational standards

The programme and the module contents are continuously evaluated to reflect current developments in finance, feedback from the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment which the programme is designated as Centre of Excellence, feedback from employers and students.

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First CAP Approval Date	September 2012			
Revision ASQC Approval Date <i>Update this row each time a change goes to CAP</i>	31 May 2018	Version	3	link to RIA
Next Periodic Curriculum Review due date	<i>Academic year in which next Periodic Curriculum Review due (6 years from initial approval or last Periodic Curriculum Review)</i>			
Date of last Periodic Curriculum Review				