



Programme Specification

Finance and Investment [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Finance and Investment [Frenchay]

Highest award: MSc Finance and Investment

Interim award: PGCert Finance and Investment

Interim award: PGDip Finance and Investment

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 implementation from: 01 September 2026

Programme code: N39B12

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The MSc Finance and Investment is designed to enhance the financial expertise of students with prior finance education, while also serving as a conversion course for those from quantitative or business backgrounds without formal finance training. Through an integrated curriculum focused on global financial markets and investment, the programme offers a structured yet applied approach to mastering both foundational and advanced financial concepts. With an emphasis on analytical rigor, ethical responsibility, and practical application, the programme prepares students to address real-world challenges across investment management, corporate finance, and financial markets. Graduates will be equipped to lead with innovation, resilience, and a commitment to sustainable finance, driving positive change in businesses, economies, and societies worldwide. They will enter the financial industry ready to meet the challenges of global markets with integrity, responsible investment practices, and forward-thinking solutions.

Features of the programme: The programme is seeking accreditation from the main accounting PSRBs. This aspect of the programme empowers students as they transition into the finance and investment workforce, making them competitive candidates in a challenging job market.

The curriculum emphasises a diversified skill set, covering technical proficiency, digital literacy, critical thinking, ethical values, and communication skills, all essential for developing work-ready graduates. A practice-led approach integrates cutting-edge research, giving students practical insights into finance and financial markets, while digital capability is fostered through training in econometrics software and financial databases, empowering students to effectively navigate the digital demands of the industry.

A valuable aspect of the programme is the professional development stream, designed to document each student's growth and provide a cohesive narrative of their academic and professional journey—valuable for prospective employers.

Educational Aims: The programme's educational aims are designed to reflect finance as both a vocational field and an academic discipline. It offers an intensive, academically rigorous, and applied curriculum that synthesises contemporary theories, concepts, and research to address pressing issues in finance. The

programme encourages an objective understanding of current practices in financial markets and investment, equipping students with specialised analytical skills to navigate and thrive within complex real-world environments.

Key objectives include helping students build a robust “toolbox” of finance techniques and guiding them in applying these tools to real-world data. Through this, students develop deeper, specialised knowledge essential for evaluating and differentiating strategic financial options in practice. A strong focus is placed on problem-solving and decision-making skills, particularly in relation to key investment decisions.

The programme also emphasises lifelong learning and reflective personal development, encouraging students to take a structured approach to their own growth and societal contributions. With an emphasis on sustainable and socially responsible practices, the programme fosters social awareness alongside financial expertise. By cultivating self-reflective skills, the programme aims to enhance students’ employability and empower them to pursue meaningful career aspirations in the finance industry.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Programme Learning Outcomes

- PO1. Demonstrate critical knowledge of financial theories, financial models, and key tools of finance.
- PO2. Critically apply skills of modelling techniques, quantitative methods and risk management.
- PO3. Conduct research into finance issues either individually or as part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting.
- PO4. Express complex ideas and solutions to problems effectively in a manner appropriate to the needs of diverse audiences.
- PO5. Work productively in diverse groups considering problems from different perspectives.

- PO6. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the attributes and skills necessary for the financial profession and being equipped to plan and pursue their professional goals.
- PO7. Understand ethical, environmental, social and sustainable dimensions and choices in finance, the professional code of conduct within their discipline, and demonstrate sensitivity to the complexities of diverse organisational contexts.

Assessment strategy: The programme employs a comprehensive assessment strategy that blends formative and summative approaches to provide students with ongoing feedback and support their development. A diverse range of assessment methods—including exams, case studies, multiple-choice questions, written reports, presentations, and group work—ensures that students can demonstrate their knowledge and skills across various formats.

The programme emphasises authentic, real-world assessments that foster problem-solving abilities essential for financial decision-makers. By focusing on the application of technical knowledge to practical scenarios, assessments help students develop critical employability skills and deepen their technical competencies.

The assessment approach prioritises “assessment as learning,” encouraging continuous growth and active engagement. Through case studies, group work, presentations, and professional reports, students develop vital professional skills, including communication and teamwork, in both formative and summative contexts. This holistic, programmatic approach aims to personalise the student experience, equipping future finance professionals with a versatile blend of technical and interpersonal competencies essential for success in the industry.

Student support: Learning Resources:

Student learning is fully supported by UWE Library Services through 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, and access to accounting and finance database. This supports

students and facilitate their access to digital technologies.

All modules make use of VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) for web-enhanced delivery and for communications with students. All modules have teaching/learning resource booklets.

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.

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.

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.

Students and graduates are also supported by UWE Careers who help them to access skills, experience and knowledge to improve their employability prospects. 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 programme and for three years after graduation.

All students take part in an Induction programme at the start of their studies. All new students are provided with a short Student Handbook to help them through their first weeks at university and to act 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 the 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 leaders. 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 disability 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

The student must take 180 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMATCR-15-M	Career Catalyst: Developing Skills For Long Term Success 2026-27	15
UMATCP-30-M	Principles of Finance and Economics 2026-27	30
UMATDD-30-M	Portfolio Management and Professional Standards 2026-27	30

UMATDE-30-M	Financial Statement Analysis and Equity Investment 2026-27	30
UMATDF-30-M	Derivatives and Risk Management 2026-27	30
UMATDG-45-M	Quantitative Methods and Finance Project 2026-27	45

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

This programme equips students with both foundational and advanced financial expertise, catering to those with or without prior finance education. Its global-focused curriculum emphasises analytical rigor, ethical responsibility, and practical application across investment management, corporate finance, and financial markets. Graduates will be ready to drive sustainable, innovative solutions in finance, fostering positive change in businesses and societies. The programme's alignment with global professional standards ensures robust technical training and readiness for industry-recognised certifications, providing a competitive edge for students entering the global financial sector.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme is designed to meet the requirements and expectations of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) of a level 7.

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)

The programme is aligned to UWE principles and 2030 strategy.

The programme and the module contents are continuously evaluated to reflect current developments in finance, feedback from the PSRBs, feedback from employers and students.

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures: Academic regulations and procedures - Academic information | UWE Bristol