



Programme Specification

Accounting and Finance {Foundation}[Frenchay]

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, 01 Apr 2025

Contents

Programme Specification.....	1
Section 1: Key Programme Details.....	2
Part A: Programme Information	2
Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes	3
Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes	3
Part B: Programme Structure.....	9
Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis	13
Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks	14
Part E: Regulations	14

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Accounting and Finance {Foundation}[Frenchay]

Highest award: BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

Interim award: BA Accounting and Finance

Interim award: DipHE Accounting and Finance

Interim award: CertHE Accounting and Finance

Awarding institution: UWE

Teaching institutions: UWE

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: Yes

Credit recognition: No

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

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Association of International Accountants (AIA)

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Sandwich

Entry requirements:

For implementation from: 01 September 2025

Programme code: N40U13

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The programme is designed to prepare students for successful careers in the fast-paced and dynamic global accounting and financial industries, all while encouraging a sense of social responsibility. Grounded in the principles of a ready and able graduate, encompassing technical competencies, digital capability, critical thinking, ethical values, and communication skills, it focuses on developing a diversified skill set that not only fosters personal professional ambition but also contributes positively to society.

With a curriculum centred on a practice-led approach, integrating cutting-edge research from governance, accountability, and sustainability within the University scholars' areas of research, students gain practical insights and skills vital to the financial industry. Employability is prioritised through a professional development thread at all programme levels, fostering essential skills such as effective communication, critical thinking, and an enterprising mindset indispensable for thriving in the fast-moving global financial landscape.

Digital capability is recognised as crucial, with robust components integrated into teaching to empower students in employing digital tools effectively. Developed collaboratively and rigorously evaluated in partnership with stakeholders, the programme ensures relevance and responsiveness to evolving needs.

Through real-world case studies, students are challenged to consider their role in shaping a sustainable future while developing as strategic decision-makers capable of driving business performance and resolving financial challenges in diverse, multicultural environments.

The programme's scope includes various career paths, from professional accounting and financial management roles to portfolio and wealth management, and financial start-ups using disruptive technologies. Engaging closely with employers, entrepreneurs, and professional bodies, students are encouraged to explore diverse applications of acquired skills. Integrated activities, such as industry leading financial databases and industry guest lectures, enrich the learning experience, offering

networking opportunities and practical insights into real-world financial practices.

With professional qualification exemptions, use of a variety of authentic assessments, simulations and a practice-led approach, the programme is designed to empower the future workforce in the Accounting and Finance field.

Our distinctive feature is the professional development stream which cuts across multiple levels of the programme. The creation of a portfolio documenting graduates' developmental journey will serve as a distinctive feature, offering learners a consistent narrative of their educational journey.

The foundation year provides students with a springboard from which to succeed in the rest of their programme. It develops confidence, learning mindsets, foundational knowledge, scholarly skills, and a community and sense of belonging.

Features of the programme: This programme has the following distinctive features:

A confidence-building, scaffolded, programmatic foundation year: This makes students feel part of the university, whilst developing the key scholarly and professional development skills that give them a good start for the rest of their degree.

Diversified employable skills: The programme focuses on developing a diversified skill set, including technical competencies, digital literacy, critical thinking, ethical values, and communication skills. This approach aims to produce graduates who are work-ready and able to succeed and flourish.

Practice-Led: Grounded in a practice-led approach, the curriculum integrates cutting-edge research from governance, accountability, and sustainability. This provides students with practical insights.

Digital Capability: The programme recognises the importance of digital literacy and integrates digital technologies into teaching to empower students in using digital tools effectively.

Sustainability: Through real-world case studies, students are challenged to consider their role in shaping a sustainable future.

Engagement with Industry: Engaging closely with employers, entrepreneurs, and professional bodies, students are encouraged to explore diverse applications of acquired skills. Integrated activities, such as industry leading financial databases and industry guest lectures, enrich the learning experience and offer networking opportunities.

Professional Qualification Exemptions: With professional qualification exemptions and a variety of authentic assessments and simulations, the programme is designed to empower the future workforce in the Accounting and Finance field.

Professional Development Stream: A distinctive feature of the programme is the professional development stream, which cuts across multiple levels of the programme. This stream aims to document graduates' developmental journey, offering learners a consistent narrative of their educational journey to present to potential employers.

Educational Aims: The programme aims to foster proficient graduates equipped with excellent technical and professional competencies, empowering them to excel in diverse professional settings in the accounting and finance field. Emphasising the development of strategic decision-making skills, the programme enables students to integrate technical and theoretical knowledge, effectively leveraging their expertise to enhance business performance, tackle real-world challenges in accounting and finance, and thrive in collaborative, multicultural environments. Additionally, the programme strives to equip graduates with highly desirable professional skills, such as ability to use digital technologies to enhance adaptability in a rapidly evolving economic landscape, fostering effective communication, and fostering collaborative teamwork. Moreover, it aims to foster social awareness, promoting sustainable and socially responsible corporate practices. A central objective of the programme is to optimise employability by developing graduates' self-reflective abilities to inform and advance their career aspirations.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Programme Learning Outcomes

- PO1. Apply systematic and critical understanding of accounting and finance principles and theories.
- PO2. Apply professional technical competencies and practices employed within organisations in the current accounting and finance context.
- PO3. Apply their competencies to formulate evidence-informed solutions to resolve complex problems in challenging accounting and finance contexts.
- PO4. Demonstrate professional communication skills in a variety of media.
- PO5. Collaborate effectively in a team environment.
- PO6. Be reflective practitioners able to plan and develop their own professional futures.
- PO7. Understand the professional ethical standards and responsibilities in their discipline and will engage with their broader social responsibilities as part of a global community.

Assessment strategy: The programme is designed to enhance students' employability by developing both professional skills and technical competencies necessary for success in the real world. The main aim is the application of technical knowledge to real-world scenarios, fostering problem-solving abilities among financial decision-makers. Consequently, our assessment approach emphasises authentic assessments to promote engagement, participation and learning through assessment. Additionally, the programme emphasises the development of professional skills such as effective communication and teamwork, which are assessed through case studies, group work, presentations, and professional reports in both formative and summative assessments.

The foundation year is designed to support students in getting ready for the rest of their programme, and to start the exploration of their professional identities and development plans. It focusses on supporting students to celebrate their strengths and plan for improvement in areas that need attention. In so doing, it gives students

the opportunity to focus on development in a confidence-building setting.

Assessment is principally through portfolio assessments, giving students the space to demonstrate their learning and development over time.

In the later years, exams are deployed to evidence knowledge and competencies required for professional body exemptions (ICAEW, CIMA, and ACCA). Principles for inclusive learning and assessment underpin our assessment design.

A programmatic approach is particularly emphasised in professional development, though an assessed e-portfolio documenting graduates' developmental journey throughout their programme. This serves as a unique feature, providing learners with a consistent narrative of their educational journey and valuable evidence for potential employers.

Formative support is embedded throughout the programme, with continuous feedback provided through various channels such as in-class activities, peer evaluations, mentor meetings, interactive platforms, and early "touch points" to identify and address students requiring additional support.

Our assessment and evaluation approach is centred on the concept of assessment as learning, emphasising continuous learning and growth rather than just evaluating outcomes. Through this blend of assessments coherently displayed across the programme with a holistic and programmatic view, we aim to personalise the student experience and equip future accounting and finance professionals with a diverse set of technical and professional competencies.

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.

At each level students are supported by Progress Coaches, 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.

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.

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. They can access support around finding vacancies for work experience, volunteering, part time work and internships, as well as events and workshops. 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 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

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMCTEB-90-0	Foundational Concepts in Business and Law 2025-26	90
UMCTEC-30-0	Foundations in Professional and Personal Development Planning 2025-26	30

Year 2

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMADYG-15-1	Business Law 2026-27	15
UMADY4-30-1	Fundamentals of Financial Accounting 2026-27	30
UMADY5-30-1	Fundamentals of Management Accounting 2026-27	30
UMADY3-15-1	Principles of Economics 2026-27	15
UMADY6-30-1	Statistics, Information Skills and Professional Development 2026-27	30

Year 3

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory modules (Full Time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 90 credits from the Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMADY9-30-2	Applied Financial Accounting and Reporting 2027-28	30
UMADY8-30-2	Applied Management Accounting and Corporate Finance 2027-28	30
UMADYF-30-2	Data Analytics, Research and Professional Advancement 2027-28	30

Year 3 Optional modules (Full Time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the Optional Modules (Full time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMAD5N-15-2		15
UMADYH-15-2	Financial Crime 2027-28	15
UMADYL-15-2	Further Tax Theory and Practice 2027-28	15
UMAD5M-15-2	Market Analysis for Private Investors 2027-28	15
UMAD5G-15-2	Principles of Taxation 2027-28	15

Year 4

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 4.
Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Full time)

Full time students must select 90 credits from the Compulsory Modules (Full time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMADYD-30-3	Corporate Financial and Sustainability Reporting 2028-29	30
UMADYC-30-3	Strategic Management Accounting and Financial Management 2028-29	30

UMADYE-30-3	Work Integrated Business Strategy 2028-29	30
-------------	---	----

Year 4 Optional Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must select 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (full time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMADHW-15-3	Audit and Assurance 2028-29	15
UMAD5W-15-3	Credit Risk Analysis and Management 2028-29	15
UMADYA-15-3	Financial Technology 2028-29	15
UMADYB-15-3	International Finance 2028-29	15
UMAD5X-15-3	Investment Management 2028-29	15
UMAD5R-15-3	Personal Financial Planning 2028-29	15

Year 4 Optional Modules Placement (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the Optional Modules Placement (Sandwich).

To be eligible for either the Placement or Study Year Abroad module, students would normally be expected to have passed a minimum of 330 credits.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMAT9D-15-3	Learning and Development on Study Year Abroad (Accounting, Economics and Finance) 2028-29	15
UMAT9C-15-3	Placement Learning (Accounting, Economics and Finance) 2028-29	15

Year 5

Sandwich students must select 105 credits from the modules in year 5 (Sandwich).

Year 5 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must select 90 credits from the Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMADYD-30-3	Corporate Financial and Sustainability Reporting 2029-30	30
UMADYC-30-3	Strategic Management Accounting and Financial Management 2029-30	30
UMADYE-30-3	Work Integrated Business Strategy 2029-30	30

Year 5 Optional Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the Optional Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMADHW-15-3	Audit and Assurance 2029-30	15
UMAD5W-15-3	Credit Risk Analysis and Management 2029-30	15
UMADYA-15-3	Financial Technology 2029-30	15
UMADYB-15-3	International Finance 2029-30	15
UMAD5X-15-3	Investment Management 2029-30	15
UMAD5R-15-3	Personal Financial Planning 2029-30	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

The programme empowers students with a diverse skill set, fostering personal professional ambition and societal contribution. It focuses on both technical competencies and professional skills, preparing students for accounting and finance careers with excellent core accounting and finance skills balanced with a range of broader finance interests available through option choices. Emphasising real-world application and problem solving, it maximises employability through professional

development. Professional skills such as communication, critical thinking, sustainability and ethical values are embedded, along with digital literacy. Students also gain professional exemptions. Experiential learning opportunities including simulations, teamwork, and work integrated learning, enhance students' readiness for future careers.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme has been carefully designed in alignment with the FHEQ benchmark statements for Accounting and Finance, with a specific focus on fostering knowledge acquisition, application, and the development of comprehensive skills.

Our programme's learning outcomes have been shaped by graduate attributes, which embody the essence of our programme design vision. These learning outcomes encompass three key categories: technical competencies and application of knowledge, professional skills, and professional responsibility.

Moreover, the programme and its content have been tailored to embrace and reflect the UWE 2030 strategy.

As an accredited programme by ICAEW, CIMA, and ACCA, our curriculum aligns with the syllabus required by professional bodies, with assessment strategies designed to meet their standards.

Part E: Regulations

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

It is the Award Board's responsibility to determine whether the student's attainment at FHEQ Level 3 is sufficient to progress to Level 4.