

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	MSc Accounting and Finance (Level 7)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	PG Diploma (passing 120 credits) PG Cert (passing 60 credits)
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home school/other teaching departments	Birkbeck Business School
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Full-time (1 year) Part-time (2 years) September
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	Part of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute University Affiliation Programme with limited number of CFA scholarships available.
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	N/A
Birkbeck Course Code	TMSACFIN_C
HECoS Code	100105 100832
Start date of programme	Autumn 2011/2
Date of programme approval	Summer 2011
Date of last programme amendment approval	February 2023
Valid for academic entry year	2025-26
Programme Director	Emmanuel Mamatzakis
Date of last revision to document	21/02/2023

Admissions requirements

Usually, a second-class honours degree in a subject related to accounting, finance or business related studies. We also welcome students from any quantitative background.

We also welcome professional or other qualifications obtained by written examinations approved by the College. Relevant experience, supporting statements and references may be taken into consideration, especially in the case of non-standard applications.

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

International entry requirements:

If English is not your first language or you have not previously studied in English, our usual requirement is the equivalent of an International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic Test) score of 6.5, with not less than 6.0 in each of the sub-tests.

If you don't meet the minimum IELTS requirement, we offer pre-sessional English courses, foundation programmes and language support services to help you improve your English language skills and get your place at Birkbeck.

Course aims

MSc Accounting and Finance aims to equip students with the required knowledge and skills in accounting and finance. In addition, students will be able to improve their skills in using the required techniques to solve problems related to accounting and finance.

Course structure

Students take eight compulsory modules plus a 12,000-word dissertation on any area of accounting and finance

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year					
7	BUMN072H7	Sustainable Investment	15	Compulsory	T1
7	BUMN186H7	Principles of Accounting	15	Compulsory	T1
7	BUMN071H7	Quantitative Methods for Finance and Business	15	Compulsory	T1
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory	T2
7	BUMN074H7	Multinational Financial Management	15	Compulsory	T2
7	BUMN041H7	Applied Financial Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory	T2
7	BUMN073H7	Portfolio and Market Analysis	15	Compulsory	T3
7	BUMN044H7	Valuation Analysis and Risk Management	15	Compulsory	T3
7	BUMN184Z7	PG Dissertation Preparation	0	Compulsory	
7	BUMN061D7	MSc Dissertation	60	Core	

Part-time - 2 Years					
Year 1					
7	BUMN072H7	Sustainable Investment	15	Compulsory	T1
7	BUMN186H7	Principles of Accounting	15	Compulsory	T1
7	BUMN041H7	Applied Financial Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory	T2
7	BUMN073H7	Portfolio and Market Analysis	15	Compulsory	T3
7	BUMN044H7	Valuation Analysis and Risk Management	15	Compulsory	T3
Year 2					
7	BUMN071H7	Quantitative Methods for Finance and Business	15	Compulsory	T1
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Compulsory	T2
7	BUMN074H7	Multinational Financial Management	15	Compulsory	T2
7	BUMN184Z7	PG Dissertation Preparation	0	Compulsory	
7	BUMN061D7	MSc Dissertation	60	Core	

Core: *Module must be taken and passed by student*

Compulsory: *Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)*

Option: *Student can choose to take this module*

How you will learn

A 3-hour lecture each week aims to introduce students to the particular topic as well as to encourage them to get the required knowledge of the specific finance/investment area.

Consistent with the higher education at postgraduate level, lectures introduce and highlight the material but are not aimed to cover all the aspects related to the topic. Students are expected to read and prepare for lectures and to discuss whatever is necessary in the class.

The second part of the lecture is a seminar designated to solve questions or discuss cases or empirical studies related to the area of interest. Students are asked to prepare for these materials so they can engage with lecturer.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. We use a variety of assessment methods. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be through the following types of assessment.

Short written exercises, essays which will develop in length and expected complexity as you progress through your studies, quizzes and multiple-choice questionnaires, practical assessments (of your work in a lab/studio), case studies, problems to solve.

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

'Learning outcomes' indicate what you should be able to know or do at the end of your course. Providing them helps you to understand what your teachers will expect and also the learning requirements upon which you will be assessed.

Knowledge and understanding:

Provides a thorough understanding of the key areas of accounting and finance for non-accounting graduates.

Upon completion, this programme aims to:

1. Students will be able to understand, apply and critically assess a wide range of accounting and financial theories.
2. Students will learn and apply the relevant techniques in accounting and finance.
3. Strong emphasis will be placed on accounting and financial analysis and interpretation using case study and live company analysis.
4. Understand the applied accounting and finance tools used by firms and financial markets participants.

Intellectual, practical, and transferable skills:

Students will gain the following skills upon completing this programme:

1. The required the skills to critically analyse contemporary issues of accounting and finance.
2. The required skills to analyse financial data using the specialized accounting and financial modelling techniques will be developed.

Careers and further study

You will find MSc Accounting and Finance graduates in the following kinds of roles:

Accounting and finance professionals in all businesses, including the financial industry.

Birkbeck's MSc Accounting and Finance graduates will complete with a set of valuable attributes, for example:

- The ability to work as part of a team of accounting and finance professionals
- High-level oral and written communication skills in English
- Research skills in accounting and finance
- Skills in evaluating and assessing accounting and financial information
- The ability to present yourself and argue in terms of accounting and finance knowledge.

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations](#) and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle

module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

[Please check our website for more information about student support services.](#) This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is [available online](#).

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