PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	**BSc Accounting and Economics** **BSc Accounting and Economics with Placement** (Level 6)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	Diploma of Higher Education Certificate of Higher Education Certificate of Continuing Education
Is the programme offered with a Foundation Year?	Yes for BSc Accounting and Economics No for BSc Accounting and Economics with Placement
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	BSc Accounting and Economics: Full-time (3 years) Part-time (4 years) Full-time with Foundation Year (4 years) Part-time with Foundation Year (6 years) BSc Accounting and Economics with Placement: Full-time (4 years) Note: BSc Accountancy and Economics with Placement is only available full-time for home students and not with Foundation Year October
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	Accounting; Economics
UCAS code	N404; N405 (with FY); N406 (with Placement)
Birkbeck Course Code	UUBSACCE_C - 3-year, full-time UBSACCEC_C - 4-year, part-time UUBFACCE_C - 4-year, full-time with FY UBFACCEC_C - 6-year, part-time with FY UUBSACEP_C - 4-year, full-time with Placement
HECoS Code	100105 Accounting 100450 Economics
Start date of programme	Autumn 2026
Date of programme approval	Autumn 2025
Date of last programme amendment approval	N/A
Valid for academic entry year	**2026-27**
Programme Director	TBC
Date of last revision to document	29/9/2025

Admissions requirements

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.

BSc Accounting and Economics and BSc Accounting and Economics with Placement: UCAS tariff: 112 points, e.g. A-levels: BBC (with A-level in mathematics preferred)

BSc Accounting and Economics with Foundation Year: UCAS tariff: 48 points

The UCAS tariff score is applicable to you if you have recently studied a qualification that has a UCAS tariff equivalence. UCAS provides a tariff calculator for you to work out what your qualification is worth within the UCAS tariff.

Students without an adequate background in Accounting, Finance, Economics or quantitative methods are encouraged to apply for BSc Accounting and Economics with Foundation Year.

Course aims

This programme will provide rigorous, technically demanding yet applications-oriented training in Accounting and Economics. Students exiting the degree will have acquired the knowledge and skills for professions that require a broad Accounting background and an extensive knowledge of the Economics of companies, and its concerns.

Students have choices in the modules in Accounting, Economics and Finance to suit their goals: those looking for a conventional blend of training in financial economic theory and policy, and hoping to continue to graduate studies in Accounting, Economics or Finance, and those wanting to specialise in more application-focused training, suitable for practitioner roles in the industry.

BSc Accounting and Economics with Placement:

As above. In addition, the placement in year three aims to provide students with an opportunity to develop a range of business and transferable skills and to apply learning from their degree studies in a professional setting in order to increase their employability.

Foundation Year Aims:

- To enable students to develop the foundational knowledge and skills required for successful completion of a degree in a range of accounting and economic-related disciplines.
- Provide support to those students who do not meet the formal entry requirements for direct entry to the degree, but who can demonstrate ability for degree level study.

Course structure

The BSc Accounting and Economics can be studied: full-time over 3 years or part-time over 4 years (equivalent to 75% intensity of full time). Two sets of degree structures, 3- and 4-year structures are provided below.

The BSc Accounting and Economics with Foundation Year provides students with the opportunity to fully develop foundation skills before starting the main BSc programme, and can be studied full time over 4 years or part time over 6 years. Two sets of ‘with Foundation Year’ degree structures, for 4 and 6 years are provided below.

The BSc Accounting and Economics with Placement can be studied full-time over four years.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 3 years					
Year 1					
4	BUEM110H4	Study techniques	15	Comp	T1
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T1-2
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2
4	BUMN131H4	Introduction to Accounting	15	Comp	T2
4	BUEM109S4	UK Financial Institutions and Markets	30	Comp	T3
Year 2					
5	EMEC021S5	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance II	30	Comp	T1-2
5	BUMN133S5	Financial Reporting	30	Comp	T1-2
5	BUMN134S5	Management Accounting	30	Comp	T2-3
5	BUEM097S5	International Economics	30	Comp	T3
Year 3					
6	EMEC002S6	Applied Statistics and Econometrics	30	Comp	T1-2
6	MOMN040H6	Taxation	15	Comp	T2
6	MOMN042H6	Auditing	15	Comp	T3
6		Options totalling 60 credits	60	Option	T1, 2 or 3
Full-time with foundation year – 4 years					
Foundation year (year 0)					
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study	30	Core	T1
3	BUEM112S3	Essential Maths and Data Analysis	30	Core	T1-2
3	SC07002S3	Introduction to Management	30	Core	T2-3
3	BUEM121S3	Economic Principles (Foundation Year)	30	Core	T2-3
Years 1-3 as full time route shown above					
Part-time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	BUEM110H4	Study techniques	15	Comp	T1
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2
4	BUMN131H4	Introduction to Accounting	15	Comp	T2
4	BUEM109S4	UK Financial Institutions and Markets	30	Comp	T3
Year 2					
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T1-2
5	BUMN134S5	Management Accounting	30	Comp	T2-3
5	BUEM097S5	International Economics	30	Comp	T3
Year 3					
5	BUMN133S5	Financial Reporting	30	Comp	T1-2
5	EMEC021S5	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance II	30	Comp	T1-2
6	MOMN040H6	Taxation	15	Comp	T2
6	MOMN042H6	Auditing	15	Comp	T3

Year 4					
6	EMEC002S6	Applied Statistics and Econometrics	30	Comp	T1-2
6		Options totalling 60 credits	60		T1, 2 or 3
Part-time with foundation year – 6 years					
Foundation year (year 0a)					
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study	30	Core	T1
3	SC07002S3	Introduction to Management	30	Core	T2-3
Foundation year (year 0b)					
3	BUEM112S3	Essential Maths and Data Analysis	30	Core	T1-2
3	BUEM121S3	Economic Principles (Foundation Year)	30	Core	T2-3
Years 1-4 as part-time route shown above					
Full-time with Placement – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	BUEM110H4	Study techniques	15	Comp	T1
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T1-2
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2
4	BUMN131H4	Introduction to Accounting	15	Comp	T2
4	BUEM109S4	UK Financial Institutions and Markets	30	Comp	T3
Year 2					
5	EMEC021S5	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance II	30	Comp	T1-2
5	BUMN133S5	Financial Reporting	30	Comp	T1-2
5	BUMN134S5	Management Accounting	30	Comp	T2-3
5	BUEM097S5	International Economics	30	Comp	T3
5	SC07007Z5	Preparing for Work	0	Comp	T1
Year 3					
5	SC07008Q5	Work Placement Year	120	Comp	T1-3
Year 4					
6	EMEC002S6	Applied Statistics and Econometrics	30	Comp	T1-2
6	MOMN040H6	Taxation	15	Comp	T2
6	MOMN042H6	Auditing	15	Comp	T3
6		Options totalling 60 credits		Option	T1, 2 or 3
Indicative List of Options					
6	BUEM073S6	Behavioural Economics and Finance	30	Option	T1
6	EMEC003S6	Corporate Finance	30	Option	T1
6	BUEM068S6	Financial Markets	30	Option	T2
6	BUMN111S6	International Financial Management	30	Option	T1-2
6	EMEC028S6	Portfolio Management	30	Option	T3
6	EMEC014S6	Issues in Development Economics	30	Option	TBC

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

Your learning and teaching are organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Your learning for this course will be organised around the activities outlined below.

Although some modules are delivered in distance learning or blended learning formats, teaching is typically via the traditional route of lectures and problem-solving classes. The nature of the subjects means that it requires rapid transfer of vast amount of information, and these well-established methods have proved to be the most efficient way of teaching. However individual lecturers may choose to employ more flexible methods, such as individual and group presentations or case studies. Problem solving is a key aspect of learning, especially in more technical modules, and therefore students will be encouraged to complete exercises in preparation for the problem-solving classes.

Lecture notes and problem sets covering lecture material are generally posted on Moodle, to allow student to have access to the material should they unavoidably miss lectures/classes. Increasingly students may have access to audio and video archives of lectures, as a tool to reinforce learning.

An important ingredient of learning is the ability to pursue private study. The programme requires students to produce independent work, aiding development of analytical, quantitative and written communication skills.

Learning is further assisted by revision lectures, which provide guidance on examination preparation.

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:

- Unseen two-hour or three-hour examinations
- In-class tests
- Assessed take-home assignments
- Project work
- Class-room presentation and group discussion

For most modules, though not all, 75% or more of the assessment comes from unseen examinations. This allows time for students to assimilate the material and develop a thorough understanding of the course curriculum. The rest of the marks come from course assignments, which give lecturers the opportunity to assess each student’s progress and provide constructive feedback.

The range of assessments, and the type of questions and problems set within examinations and assignments are structured to balance theory and applications, to address individual learning outcomes and to discriminate between different levels of achievement. However, the assessment strategy recognises that students may exhibit very different aptitudes and abilities

in different aspects of the course and in different forms of assessment. This is particularly relevant to Birkbeck students who vary considerably in terms of academic background, prior work experience, current career and future career plans.

The assessment strategy is therefore designed to:

(i) ensure a good coverage of the curriculum and address the range of learning outcomes;
(ii) perform an on-going formative function via the theoretical and practical assignments associated with most course modules;
(iii) give all students the opportunity to demonstrate their strengths and show what they can do well.

Both the second internal and the external examiners scrutinise all examination papers before they are finalised. Exams are all double marked, and are moderated by an external examiner, who is invited to comment on the suitability of the assessment methods, criteria and procedures. These comments influence any changes that are recommended at the programme review meeting. Coursework is marked by the first examiner and moderated by a second internal examiner. For these, feedback is provided, and those with failed marks are asked to meet with the lecturer.

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.

Successful completion of the Foundation Year will enable students to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the foundational concepts and principles associated with economics and accounting, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the relevant areas of study;
- Present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument;
- Make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of the subjects under study;
- Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to their proposed area of study and/or work;
- Communicate the results of their study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments;
- Undertake further study at undergraduate level and develop new skills.

Successful completion of the BSc programme will enable students to:

Subject Specific:

1. understand and apply simple concepts in accounting and economics
2. understand the standard methods and analytical tools of accounting
3. understand the standard methods and analytical tools of economics

Intellectual:

4. formulate testable hypotheses
5. formulate and pursue a small research problem

Practical:

6. read and comment on the accounting, financial and economic pages in the popular press
7. demonstrate general numeracy, writing skills
8. write brief reports
9. produce work under time constraints
10. acquire IT skills, particularly for presentation and analysis of data
11. use a number of specialised statistical packages

Personal and Social:

12. communicate both socially and academically with tutors and other students
13. learn to set up and work in small self-help groups
14. learn to plan time carefully in order to combine work personal and college commitments

Learning outcomes for the degree with Placement

As above and in addition:

1. demonstrate a strong grasp of working practices in the business workplace
2. develop skills via hands-on practical experience of using business knowledge in the workplace.

Careers and further study

Our students go on to build successful careers with a variety of employers in a range of sectors, including government departments, the Bank of England, UK regulatory bodies, commercial banks and teaching, as well as continuing to graduate studies in financial economics.

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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