PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	**BSc Economics and Business** (Level 6)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	Diploma of Higher Education Economics and Business Certificate of Higher Education Economics and Business
Is this programme offered with a Foundation Year?	Yes
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 (3 years) Part-time (4 years) Full-time with foundation year (4 years) Part-time with foundation year (6 years) October
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	Economics
UCAS code	LN11; LN12 (with FY)
Birkbeck Course Code	UUBSECBS_C (full-time, 3 years) UBSECBUS_C (part-time, 4 years) UUBFECBS_C (full-time with FY, 4 years) UBFECBUS_C (part-time with FY, 6 years)
HECoS Code	100449 100079
Start date of programme	April 2010
Date of programme approval	Spring 2009
Date of last programme amendment approval	March 2026
Valid for academic entry	**2026-27**
Date of last revision to document	05/03/2026

Admissions requirements

BSc Economics and Business with Foundation Year

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.

UCAS tariff: 48 points; A-levels DD or equivalent

Applications from students with non-standard qualifications are also welcomed. Acceptance may be subject to an admissions test and/or interview.
Applicants are expected to have GCSE grade C or new grade 4, or equivalent, in English and mathematics.

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.

BSc Economics and Business

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.

UCAS tariff: 112 points (e.g. A-levels BBC)

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.

GCSE grade A*-C in English and mathematics is also required.

Applicants with a lower UCAS score may be considered for the BSc Economics and Business with Foundation Year.

Course aims

Foundation year:

Teaching in the Foundation Year is designed to prepare students for the Year 1 of the BSc, with a particular requirement for an increased emphasis on technical skills required in later years of the programme.

BSc programme:

The programme aims to allow students to develop core skills in economics and business management. The key cross disciplinary knowledge for the two areas is delivered in the compulsory modules in the first year (or first two years for part-time students). With this basic knowledge students can then decide whether they continue on an interdisciplinary mix or take a more specialist route in their choice of options.

Distinctive features of the programme are its inter-disciplinarity, and its degree of guided flexibility. The design allows students to tailor the programme to reflect their aptitudes and interests, but sets parameters on the choice of modules such that the programme always retains coherence.

The Programme objectives are to:

- provide an introduction to economic and business management theory,
- provide an introduction to data analysis and its application to policy issues
- provide courses designed to integrate theory and practice,
- enable students to take specialist options in economics and management,
- enable students to develop generic skills in project and report writing,
- enable students to develop research skills which can be used at a postgraduate level.

Course structure

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time - 3 years					
Year 1					
4	EMEC058S4	IT and Professional Skills	30	Comp	T1
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T2-3
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2
4	BUMN077H4	Understanding Management	15	Comp	T1
4	BUMN078H4	Understanding Organisations	15	Comp	T2
Year 2					
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
Year 3					
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
Part-time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	EMEC058S4	IT and Professional Skills	30	Comp	T1
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T2-3
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2
Year 2					
4	BUMN077H4	Understanding Management	15	Comp	T1
4	BUMN078H4	Understanding Organisations	15	Comp	T2
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	

Year 3					
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
Year 4					
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
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
Year 1					
4	EMEC058S4	IT and Professional Skills	30	Comp	T1
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T2-3
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2
4	BUMN077H4	Understanding Management	15	Comp	T1
4	BUMN078H4	Understanding Organisations	15	Comp	T2
Year 2					
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
Year 3					
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
Part-time with Foundation Year – 6 years					
Year 0a					
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study	30	Core	T1
3	SC07002S3	Introduction to Management	30	Core	T2-3
Year 0b					
3	BUEM112S3	Essential Maths and Data Analysis	30	Core	T1-2
3	BUEM121S3	Economic Principles (Foundation Year)	30	Core	T2-3
Year 1					
4	EMEC058S4	IT and Professional Skills	30	Comp	T1
4	EMEC013S4	Introduction to Economics	30	Comp	T2-3
4	EMEC020S4	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance I	30	Comp	T1-2

Year 2					
4	BUMN077H4	Understanding Management	15	Comp	T1
4	BUMN078H4	Understanding Organisations	15	Comp	T2
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
5		Level 5 Economics Option	30	Option	
Year 3					
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
5		Level 5 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
Year 4					
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
6		Level 6 Option	15/30	Option	
Indicative list of options (subject to timetabling constraints)					
5E	EMEC021S5	Quantitative Techniques for Economics & Finance II	30	Option	T1-2
5E	EMEC012S5	Microeconomic Theory and Policy	30	Option	T1
5E	BUEM107S5	Macroeconomic Theory and Policy	30	Option	T2
5E	BUEM097S5	International Economics	30	Option	T3
5E	EMEC018S5	Principles of Finance	30	Option	T3
5E	POSO029S5	Introduction to International Political Economy	30	Option	T2
5	MOMN019H5	Operations Management	15	Option	T3
5	BUMN150H5	People Management	15	Option	T2
5	BUMN165H5	Managing Digital Transformation	15	Option	T2
5	BUMN151H5	International Business	15	Option	T3
6E	EMEC005S6	Economics of Public Policy	30	Option	T2
6E	EMEC002S6	Applied Statistics & Econometrics	30	Option	T1-2
6E	BUEM070S6	Microeconomics	30	Option	T2
6E	EMEC011S6	Macroeconomics	30	Option	T3
6E	BUEM073S6	Behavioural Economics and Finance	30	Option	T1
6E	BUEM068S6	Financial Markets	30	Option	T2
6E	EMEC003S6	Corporate Finance	30	Option	T1
6E	EMEC028S6	Portfolio Management	30	Option	T2
6E	BUEM117S6	Data Science for Economics and Finance	30	Option	T2
6	BUMN141H6	International Operations	15	Option	T2
6	MOMN069H6	Strategic Management (Undergraduate)	15	Option	T1
6	BUMN136H6	Project Management	15	Option	T3
6	BUMN065H6	Brand Development	15	Option	T2
6	BUMN153H6	Knowledge Management	15	Option	T3

Note: students must take at least 180 credits in Economics modules during the programme at levels 4 to 6.

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.

A mix of lectures, classes, seminars and practical sessions is used. The different approaches are particularly apparent across disciplines, as a result students become aware of different methods of learning, presentation and argument.

Report presentation and transferable skills are emphasised by practical sessions.

The combination of approaches allows development of both directed and independent learning.

In recognition of the often technical subject matter, we do rely on an underlying lecture format. This facilitates a rapid transfer of information, and these well-established methods have proved to be the most efficient way of teaching. However, some modules employ more flexible methods, such as individual and group presentations, case studies and online delivery. Problem solving is a key aspect of learning, especially in more technical modules, and therefore students are encouraged to complete exercises for the problem solving classes.

Lecture notes and problem sets covering lecture material are generally posted on Moodle, to allow students to have access to the material should they unavoidably miss lectures / classes.

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 techniques.

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. The methods of assessment used are:

- Unseen written examinations
- In-class tests
- Online quizzes via Moodle
- Assessed assignments
- Project work

In general 75% or more of the assessment comes from unseen written examinations. This allows time for students to assimilate the material and develop a thorough understanding of the course curriculum. The remainder of the marks come from course assignments, which give staff

an opportunity to assess each student's progress and give relevant feedback. Exceptions to this are the level 4 study modules which often carry a larger coursework component, and statistical/econometric modules that require some project work.

The range of assessments, and the type of questions and problems set within examinations and assignments are structured to balance theory and practice, to address the 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, and 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 all course modules; (iii) give all students the opportunity to demonstrate their strengths and show what they can do well.

Exams and coursework are all marked by the first examiner and moderated by a second internal examiner. All assessment is also 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.

The CAS regulations are followed for rules concerning minimum pass marks, number of resits/re-assessments allowed, barriers to academic progression (in particular, all core modules must be passed before a student is allowed to progress) and the weighting between different levels (i.e. weights 0, 1 and 2 for Levels 4, 5 and 6 modules, respectively).

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 business, 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.

At the end of this course, you should be able to:

Subject Specific:

1. understand and apply simple economic and management concepts

2. understand simple models of behaviour in alternative market structures
3. be able to read and comment on business and economic pages in the popular press
4. be able to locate and analyse business and economic data
5. be aware of management survey approaches and how to use survey evidence

Intellectual:

6. have an ability to approach problems systematically and to present reasoned responses
7. have an ability to read and synthesise literature
8. have an ability to formulate testable hypotheses
9. have an ability to formulate and pursue a small research problem
10. have an ability to adopt a broad and informed approach to a range of policy related problems

Practical:

11. have an ability to read and comment on economic and business pages in the popular press
12. have an ability to use mathematical and statistical methods to analyse problems in business and economics.
13. have general IT skills and an ability to use spreadsheet and statistical/econometric software for presentation and analysis of data
14. have general numeracy, presentation and writing skills
15. be able to produce brief reports
16. have an ability to produce work under time constraints

Personal and Social:

17. have an ability to study and learn from a range of sources
18. have an ability to communicate both socially and academically with tutors and other students
19. have an ability to set up and work in small self-help groups
20. have an ability to transfer knowledge across academic disciplines
21. have developed good self-motivation, time management, and organisation skills.

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.

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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