



Course Specification

Part A

MBus Finance

FBLU069

Faculty of Business and Law

School of Economics, Finance and Accounting

Academic Year 2021/22

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

We regularly review our course content, to make it relevant and current for the benefit of our students. For these reasons, course modules may be updated.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the Module Information Directory (MID), student module guide(s) and the course handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

PART A Course Specification

MBus Finance

1. Introduction

The Master of Business in Finance (MBus Finance) is an integrated and accelerated top-up course designed to provide an opportunity for students to enter their studies as an undergraduate student, and leave the University with an integrated Master's degree, after four continuous semesters of full-time study. The course aims to attract international students who have already completed two years of their undergraduate studies in finance or a finance related subject.

The global financial sector has developed rapidly in recent years. This continuous growth and increased academic recognition of the finance industry (public, private and voluntary) has led to a growing demand from the industry for finance graduates. This MBus Finance course will equip students with the tools and analytical capabilities to identify and resolve complex problems in a strategic way. Moreover, this course will provide students with highly transferable skills as well as a deep knowledge of a broad range of financial tools. As the finance sector increasingly finds itself competing in a global market, companies are looking to employ graduates who possess knowledge and experience of financial markets. The course thus focuses on developing forward-thinking graduates with the contemporary knowledge and skill-set required to successfully solve complex problems in a rapidly changing global financial market. Furthermore, students will be supported throughout their course with their academic English and communication skills, with a focus on financial report writing and presentation proficiencies.

The key aim of the MBus Finance is to help and enhance students' understanding of corporate finance and in particular, the development and importance of financial institutions within the global economic environment. The course is designed in two distinct, but inter-related stages: Level 6 seeks to enhance the student's understanding of finance theory (6021FIN-Financial Theory, 6025FIN-Analysis of Investments) and financial institutions (6026FIN-International Banking and Financial Institutions) whilst at the same time developing both academic and employability skills. The course also explores specialist areas such as corporate reporting and financial technologies (6010ACC-Corporate Reporting and Analysis, 6024FIN-Financial Technology). At Level 7, students will develop specialist skills such as econometrics (7005EFA-Quantitative Methods) and risk management (7026EFA-Derivatives, 7039EFA-International Risk Management) as well as studying the wider business and ethical context in which financial managers operate (7032EFA-Business Strategy, 7029EFA-Governance, Accountability and Ethics). Students will also be required to undertake a 30 credit project module. The course is thus designed to enhance the ability of students to apply finance theories and techniques in different contexts and does so by employing a range of teaching, learning and assessment approaches to deliver an authentic and transformational learning experience.

Distinctive Features:

- Access to a state-of-the-art Trading Floor and market leading databases such as Thomson Reuters Eikon, Bloomberg, Fitch Connect and Datastream;
- Embedded employability, achieved via the Employability Skills in Finance module, Trading Floor training and the dedicated support of the Talent Team;
- The potential for optional international trips both at a School and University (through the Global Leaders Programme) level. Note that these trips are often subsidised but will incur an additional cost;
- Teaching that benefits from collaborative research and insight from our Research Centre Financial and Corporate Integrity to provide research informed teaching in finance;
- An interactive and internationally diverse learning environment;
- Strong focus on key, current issues facing the global finance sector.

2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study

Title of Award	Mode of attendance	UCAS Code	FHEQ Level
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Master of Business in Finance	4 semesters full time (Level 6 entry)	n/a	7
BSc (Hons) Financial Studies			6
BSc Financial Studies			6
Certificate of Higher Education in Financial Studies			4
3 Awarding Institution/Body	Coventry University		
4 Collaboration	n/a		
5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery	Coventry University		
6 Internal Approval/Review Dates	Date of Approval: May 2020 Date of next review: 2029-30		
7 Course Accredited by	n/a		
8 Accreditation Date and Duration	n/a		
9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors	<p>2019 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Finance (Bachelor).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-finance.pdf?sfvrsn=f8f3c881_7 <p>QAA Master Level Characteristics (2015)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/master's-degree-characteristics-statement.pdf?sfvrsn=6ca2f981_10 <p>There are no specific QAA postgraduate Subject Benchmark statements relating to Finance. However there are generic benchmark statements relating to Business and Management which have been developed in collaboration with the Association of Business Schools and these have been incorporated into the design, assessment and delivery of this course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Postgraduate Business and Management Subject Benchmark Statements (i.e., 2015 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement, Master's Degrees in Business and Management) can be found at https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-business-and-management-15.pdf?sfvrsn=1997f681_14 		
10 Date of Course Specification	May 2020		
11 Course Director	McFoster Tembo		

12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The MBus Finance course provides students with an opportunity to develop their studies in the area of finance from an applied perspective. The emphasis of the course is upon interpreting, evaluating and communicating financial information for strategic and managerial purposes. At Level 6, students will have the opportunity to further develop their understanding of finance theory and financial institutions whilst at the same time developing both academic and

employability skills. Students will also explore specialist areas such as corporate reporting and financial technologies. At Level 7, students will add additional specialist areas such as derivatives, institutional investments and business strategies, whilst at the same time developing both quantitative data analysis skills and ethical accountability.

This course seeks to enhance students' knowledge and skills of critical analysis through an in-depth study of key issues relating to the subject matter of the course, for example, international risk management, governance, accountability and ethics. Investment software and databases (e.g. Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters Eikon and Datastream) are also used to expose students to real world financial practices and techniques. By utilising these technologies during their studies, students will have the opportunity to acquire relevant, practical skills that could be of great value when seeking future employment.

The course also provides students with a range of modules with an international focus, taught within an international and inter-culturally diverse learning environment. The course seeks to produce autonomous learners, able to work with self-direction and originality, with the ability to blend theory and practice in complex situations, and have an appreciation of how properly conducted research can enhance their performance as financial managers.

Educational Aims

The Educational Aims of the MBus Finance course are to:

- Develop in graduates a critical in-depth understanding of both established and emerging financial principles, models, quantitative methods and theories;
- Provide students with research-inspired, industry-driven and internationally relevant learning experiences to develop scholarship and employment competencies and foster a culture of continuous professional development;
- Develop graduates who can successfully demonstrate creative leadership, analytical capabilities, innovative risk management and strategic decision-making for the increasingly complex and diverse financial sector;
- Encourage in each graduate a commitment to ethical and professional accountability, sound corporate governance and civic contribution;
- Equip students with the ability to locate, extract and interpret finance-related data and be able to apply appropriate financial, theoretical, quantitative and evaluation techniques to analyse a range of banking and finance related issues;
- Create independent and self-directed learners with key competencies in numeracy, communication, information literacy, independent thought, creative problem-solving, analysis and sustainable conduct.

The aforementioned Educational Aims align well with the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications descriptors at Level 7 whereby students are required to have a systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of contemporary issues. In addition, students will develop originality in the application of knowledge and develop conceptual understanding enabling them to critically evaluate current research, as well as develop a range of transferable skills necessary for employment.

13 Course Learning Outcomes

The Course Learning Outcomes are derived from the course aims, and are appropriately aligned with the relevant Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ), QAA Subject Benchmark statements and Coventry University's corporate and education strategy.

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical understanding of financial theories and principles, and the ability to constructively challenge their assumptions.

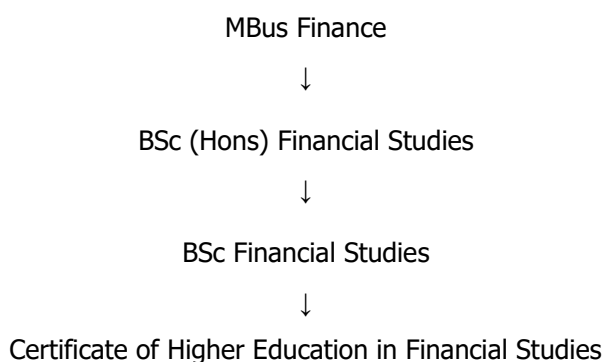
2. Critique, interpret and apply financial frameworks and models to real-world and unstructured scenarios in global finance.
3. Effectively extract, manipulate and evaluate financial data from multiple sources and apply advanced mathematical and statistical methods to financial data to develop reasoned conclusions.
4. Exhibit a critical awareness of the role and importance of good corporate governance, ethical responsibility, professional accountability and civic contribution.
5. Execute research using critical judgement in the selection of methodological approaches, research techniques and tools.
6. Effectively communicate financial issues and solutions, both orally and written, to diverse audiences.
7. Critically examine the operation, function of international financial markets and institutions, and assess the significance of contemporary and innovative developments in finance.
8. Evidence a critical understanding of financial risk and associated risk management strategies, including the appropriate application and limitations of portfolios and derivative instruments to manage risk exposure.
9. Exploit diagnostic skills in dealing with financial and investment complexities to produce viable solutions, and utilise a variety of methods to communicate conclusions from both quantitative and qualitative analysis.
10. Demonstrate digital fluency by using information, software, and digital technologies in solving different financial problems.

14 Course Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards

The MBus Finance has been designed primarily as a 4-semester accelerated (Level 6 direct entry) full time course. A student must satisfy the University progression requirements as detailed in the University Academic Regulations.

The course may provide students with the opportunity of engaging and participating in Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) projects and/or to attend optional Faculty and School field trips to both local and international organisations (this may involve additional costs to be paid by the student). In the first semester students are offered optional non-credit bearing Study Skills sessions to provide additional support.

Cascade of Awards:



Modules within the course, their status (whether mandatory or optional), the levels at which they are studied, and their credit value are identified in the Table 1 below. Students will study a maximum of 60 credits per semester. This is indicative pattern of delivery.

Table 1: MBus Finance Course Structure

Credit Level	Module Code	Title	Credit Value	Mandatory or Optional	Course Learning Outcome
6	6026FIN	International Banking and Financial Institutions	20	M	1,2,4,7
6	6021FIN	Financial Theory	20	M	1,2,7
6	6014FIN	Employability Skills in Finance	10	M	2,5,6
6	6078HUM	Academic English for Finance	10	M	2,5,6
6	6010ACC	Corporate Reporting and Analysis	20	M	1,2,3,5
6	6025FIN	Analysis of Investments	20	M	1,2,3,9
6	6024FIN	Financial Technology	20	M	1,2,4,10
7	7032EFA	Business Strategy	15	M	2,3,6,9
7	7026EFA	Derivatives	15	M	1,3,6,8
7	7005EFA	Quantitative Methods	15	M	3,5,9,10
7	7029EFA	Governance, Accountability and Ethics	15	M	2,4,6
7	7039EFA	International Risk Management	15	M	1,3,8,9
7	7047EFA	Institutional Investments	15	M	1,7,8,9
7	7074EFA	Project in Finance	30	M	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10

15 Criteria for Admission and Selection Procedure

The course is subject to the general University admission procedures and access policies. To be accepted for the course students must possess as a minimum of 240 credits (RPL with 120 credits at Level 4 and 120 credits at Level 5) obtained in a finance-related area. An HND (Higher National Diploma) in a finance-related area with 240 credits awarded may also be considered for entry onto the course, subject to approval from the Course Director.

Where there is agreed progression from a partner these will be mapped in line with University processes and retained by the Academic Partnership Unit (APU).

Additionally, applications will be carefully monitored to ensure that applicants are suited to the course in line with University policy. Where necessary, applicants are interviewed, especially those who do not appear to meet standard admissions criteria. Where deemed appropriate, a written exercise is administered to establish suitability.

- In the case of applicants whose first language is not English, an adequate proficiency in English must be demonstrated. This would normally be a minimum IELTS score of 6.0 or its equivalent.
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) which is the identification, assessment and formal acknowledgement of learning and achievement that occurred at some time in the past will be considered in accordance with University regulations when admitting students.

16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This course conforms to the standard [University Regulations undergraduate Mode E](#).

17 Indicators of Quality Enhancement

The course is managed by the School of Economics, Finance and Accounting (EFA) Board of Study of the Faculty of Business and Law (FBL).

The Progression and Awards Board (PAB) for the Faculty of Business and Law is responsible for considering the progress of all students and making awards in accordance with both the University and course-specific regulations.

The assurance of the quality of modules is the responsibility of the Boards of Study which contribute modules to the course.

External Examiners have the opportunity to moderate all assessment tasks and a sample of assessed work for each module. They will report annually on the course and/or constituent modules and their views are considered as part of the Course Quality Enhancement Monitoring (CQEM). Details of the CQEM process can be found on the Registry's web site.

Students are represented on the Student Forum, Boards of Study and Faculty/School Board, all of which normally meet two or three times per year

Student views are also sought through module and course evaluation questionnaires.

The following are key indicators of quality and standards:

- The School of Economics, Finance and Accounting has excellent links with employers and regularly meets its Business Advisory Group to seek guidance and to help ensure the relevance and validity of our courses.
- Coventry Business School is a signatory to 'The Principles for Responsible Management Education' (PRME) initiative <http://www.unprme.org/>. PRME has 6 principles, including; Purpose, Values, Method, Research, Partnership and Dialogue. These key principles of PRME are addressed in the course.
- The University adopts a Course Quality Enhancement and Monitoring (CQEM) process which is an annual review of all courses to ensure quality and continuous improvement of all its courses.
- The Guardian University Guide ranks the University in the top 15 in the UK (in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020).
- University of the Year for Student Experience (The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019).
- Gold for outstanding teaching (Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2017).

Student feedback is constantly collected and acted upon through module evaluations surveys, student forums and the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey.

The Course Team will meet regularly as part of the University's Course Quality Enhancement and Monitoring (CQEM) process to discuss the course in the context of the QAA Code for Teaching and Learning and the University's Education Strategy.

The report of QAA's Higher Education Review undertaken in February 2015 confirmed that Coventry University meets the UK expectations regarding the:

- Setting and maintenance of the academic standards of awards;
- Quality of student learning opportunities;
- Quality of the information about learning opportunities;
- Enhancement of students learning opportunities

18 Additional Information

Enrolled students have access to additional, key sources of information about the course and student support.

Key sources of information about the course and student support can be found in the following places:

Course Aula page which will contain:

- The Student Handbook
- A link to the FBL Student Portal where students may access all Registry documents

Module Aula pages will contain:

- Detailed teaching and learning information
- Module Guides
- Coursework marks

- Assessment briefs

In addition, the following resources are available:

- Student Portal <https://share.coventry.ac.uk/students/Pages/Index.aspx>
- Health and Welfare: <https://students.coventry.ac.uk/Medical/Pages/Home.aspx>
- Module Information Directory (<https://webapp.coventry.ac.uk/MidWebNext/Main.aspx>)
- FBL 'Student Link': <https://staff.coventry.ac.uk/sites/adhoc/besstudentlink/default.aspx>
- CUSU Advice <http://www.cusu.org/support/advice/>
- Student Centre <https://students.coventry.ac.uk/StudentCentre/Pages/Home.aspx>
- Coventry Academic Skills Programme <https://students.coventry.ac.uk/CASP/Pages/default.aspx>

Study Support information is accessible via the Student Portal and Faculty of Business and Law portal.
