

Course Specification Part A

BSc Accounting and Finance for International Business

Course Code FBLU029

Faculty of Business and Law School of Economics, Finance and Accounting Academic Year 2020/21

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.

Revised November 2018

1. Introduction

BSc (Hons) Accounting & Finance for International Business (hereafter AFIB) is part of the suite of undergraduate Accounting & Finance courses offered by the School of Economics, Finance & Accounting within the Faculty of Business and Law. The course is designed with a specific focus on accounting and finance in an international context and incorporates the study of academic English and intercultural communication skills. It provides students with the opportunity to draw together previous studies and experience in order to develop their knowledge, understanding, critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in areas required by modern international accounting and finance organisations. In addition, it will enable them to improve their communication, language, interpersonal and life-long learning skills.

This course allows direct entry to Level 5 and Level 6 undergraduate degree programme of study. Most students enrolled to this course will have previously studied at university partner institutions, and will have progressed from finance and accounting related areas of study. This course allows international students to undertake an in-depth course of study in accounting and finance, in a bespoke learning environment.

This course aims to provide graduates with the skills, knowledge and understanding needed for a career in accounting, other financial institutions and wider finance-related fields. The main focus of BSc in Accounting and Finance for International Business at Coventry Business School is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire comprehensive knowledge of the accounting function and financial markets in context of a global economy, while learning about major theories of accounting and finance, and their application in resolving practical problems.

A distinctive feature of the course is its applied nature which includes studying core accounting modules along with the relevant finance modules. The modules are developed by academic staff with experience in accounting and finance industries. At Level 5, Business Accounting for Decision Making (5016ACC) equips students with knowledge of basic accounting skills necessary for decision making in the accounting and finance industries. Principles of Finance (5015FIN) and Governance and Ethics in Finance (5012ACC) will cover a broad range of finance topics to provide an understanding of the structure, operation and functions of the finance industry and the context in which they operate, whilst Employability Skills in Finance (5016FIN), Software Applications in Finance (5019FIN) and Quantitative Analysis (5018FIN) are all aimed at developing practical skills and capabilities. At Level 6, 6010ACC (Corporate Reporting and Analysis) and 6012ACC (Management Accounting for Business Decisions) provide a thorough understanding of financial statements preparation, budgeting, divisional performance and business performance management. Financial understanding is further developed in Finance Theory (6021FIN) and International Financial Management (6027FIN).

Students will have access to a range of resources to enable them to enhance their information technology and communication skills and develop a critical awareness of the integrative nature of finance and banking, and the variety of software applications used in finance and investment analysis. Such resources include a purpose built Financial Trading Floor used to engage students in a range of innovative practical exercises, simulations and career related role play.

Students will also have the opportunity to participate in international activities such as Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) projects designed to allow students on the course to engage with students at other partner institutions on subject specific topics. These projects aim to enable students to become 'global' graduates with an understanding of cultures, languages and belief systems other than their own, so they may make a positive contribution to an increasingly multi-cultural, connected and complex world.

Distinctive Features:

- Hands-on experience of market leading financial databases such as Thomson Reuters Eikon, Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters Datastream, Bureau van Dijk FAME;
- Opportunity for professional certification of key financial database skills (Thomson Reuters, Bloomberg);

An interactive and internationally diverse learning environment, relevant to the emerging accounting and finance world and use of technology

- Teaching that benefits from collaborative research and insight from our Research Centre Financial and Corporate Integrity to provide research informed teaching in accounting and finance;
- The development of accounting and finance specific employability skills through activities such as, mock interviews, assessment days, presentations and two bespoke employability modules:
 - Level 5: Employability Skills in Finance focusing on professional skills;
 - Level 6: Intercultural Communication Skills for Accounting and Finance focusing on intercultural communication and employability skills;
- Opportunities for international travel through optional field trips.

2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study							
Title of Award		Mode of attendance	UCAS Code	FHEQ Level			
BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance for International Business		Full time - One Year (Level 6 entry)	NN43	Level 6 – Bachelor Degree with Honours			
Fall back awards:		Or		Level 6 - Unclassified Degree			
BSc Accounting and Finance for International Business		Full time - Two Years		Level 5 - Diploma of Higher Education			
Diploma of Higher Education in International Finance		(Level 5 entry)		Level 4 – Certificate			
Certificate of Higher Education in International Finance				of Higher Education			
3 Awarding Institution/Body	Coventry University						
4 Collaboration	Not Applicable						
5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery	Coventry University						
6 Internal Approval/Review Dates	Date of latest review: May 2020						
	Date for next review: Academic year 2029/2030						
7 Course Accredited by	Not Applicable						
8 Accreditation Date and Duration	Not Applicable						
9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors	produced in Februa	AA Subject Benchmark statements relating to Accounting / Finance were roduced in February 2019 and these have been incorporated into the course. he QAA subject benchmark statements can be found at:					
	Accounting (2019): <u>https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-</u> <u>statements/subject-benchmark-statement-accounting.pdf?sfvrsn=da39c881_7</u>						
	Finance (2019): <u>https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-</u> statements/subject-benchmark-statement-finance.pdf?sfvrsn=f8f3c881						
10 Date of Course Specification	May 2020						
11 Course Director	McFoster Tembo						

12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The Educational Aims of this degree are to:

- 1. Enhance business communication skills, allowing students to become effective professionals in the global Accounting and Finance sector.
- 2. Develop in students wider transferable employability skills to enable an effective transition into the professional world or further study.
- 3. Enhance students' critical understanding of finance and investment theory which can be applied confidently to practical decision-making within a global business environment.
- 4. Create an environment that develops students' evaluative capacities regarding the synthesis of finance/accounting theory and evidence to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of financial decisions.
- 5. Build critical skills to enable students to interpret accounting and financial data in order to evaluate key information for the development of business strategies.

The aforementioned Educational Aims of the course are well aligned with the Level 6 qualification descriptors in the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications of Degree-Awarding Bodies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2014) and also the with the Level 6 QAA Subject Benchmark Statements for Accounting (2019) and Finance (2019).

13 Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course a student will be able to:

- 1. Communicate effectively and appropriately using a range of methods, verbal and written, including digital media applied in a global business context.
- 2. Apply the cognitive skills of critical thinking, problem solving, analysis and synthesis to accounting and finance scenarios.
- 3. Effectively interpret major accounting/finance theories and studies, and apply them to international business scenarios.
- 4. Effectively compile, present and communicate corporate and management reports using accounting/financial data.
- 5. Evidence of understanding of the importance of ethical and social responsibilities in accounting/financial decision-making within a global environment.
- 6. Demonstrate a range of intercultural competencies essential to working effectively within diverse teams to enhance opportunities for future careers or further study.
- 7. Apply financial modelling and analytical tools when conducting research using a variety of finance and finance related resources such as relevant databases and literature in order to resolve typical finance issues.

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

Modules within the course, their status (whether mandatory or options), the level at which they are studied, their credit value and pre/co requisites are identified in the table below.

For the BSc Accounting and Finance for International Business, all modules are mandatory and students will study a maximum of 60 credits per semester. This is indicative patter of delivery.

Level	Module Code	Title	Credit Value	Mandatory (M) / Optional (O)	Course Learning Outcomes
5	5015FIN	Principles of Finance	20	М	1, 2, 4
5	5016ACC	Business Accounting for Decision Making	20	М	2, 4
5	5067HUM	English Skills for Finance	10	М	1, 2
5	5016FIN	Employability Skills in Finance	10	М	1, 2, 6
5	5012ACC	Governance and Ethics in Finance	20	м	2, 5, 6
5	5012ACC 5019FIN	Software Applications in Finance	20	M	1, 2, 7
5	5019FIN	Quantitative Analysis	20	M	2, 3, 4
	1				, ,
6	6010ACC	Corporate Reporting and Analysis	20	М	2, 4, 5
6	6021FIN	Financial Theory	20	М	1, 3, 5
6	6043HUM	Academic English for Accounting and Finance	10	М	1, 2, 6
6	6009ACC	Intercultural Communication Skills for Accounting and Finance	10	М	1, 6
6	6027FIN	International Financial Management	20	М	1, 3, 7
6	6012ACC	Management Accounting for Business Decisions	20	М	2, 4, 5
6	6011ACC	Case Studies in Accounting & Finance	20	М	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

14.1 Patterns and Mode of Attendance

The course is available for international students looking to complete their studies in Accounting and Finance. The duration of the course is either one-year (Level 6 entry) or two years (Level 5 entry) full-time basis.

14.2 Cascade of Awards:

The cascade of awards is as follows:

BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance for International Business ↓ BSc Accounting and Finance for International Business ↓ Diploma of Higher Education in International Finance ↓ Certificate of Higher Education in International Finance

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:

- For Level 5 120 credits (APL with 120 credits at Level 4) obtained in a relevant subject area.
- For Level 6 240 credits (APL with 120 credits at Level 4 and 120 credits at Level 5) obtained in a relevant area. An HND in a relevant area with 240 credits awarded may also be considered for entry into the one-year programme, this is subject to approval from the Course Director.
- 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 equivalent. Successful applicants will take a diagnostic test in English during Induction and specialist support will be provided in-house where necessary, e.g. in the form of guidance from specialists from the Centre for Academic Writing.

Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) is in accordance with University Regulations.

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).

All applicants will be considered on an individual basis in respect of the appropriateness of their background in Accounting and Finance. Careful monitoring of applications takes place to ensure that successful applicants are suited to the course. Where necessary, applicants are interviewed, especially those that do not appear to meet standard admissions criteria. Where deemed appropriate, a written exercise may be administered to establish suitability.

The general requirements are in line with University Policy.

16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This Course conforms to the standard <u>University Regulations</u> and Mode E Regulations

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.

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 report annually on the course 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 web site. Students are represented on the Student Forum, Board 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 the quality of courses offered by Coventry University and the School of Economics, Finance and Accounting:

- The course has been designed in accordance with the QAA benchmark statements for Accounting (2019) and Finance (2019).
- Coventry Business School is ranked by EDUNIVERSAL in the 'Excellent Business School' (3 Palme's) worldwide category. EDUNIVERSAL provides a ranking and information system for students in order to help decide which Business School to study at (<u>http://eduniversal-ranking.com/</u>).
- Coventry Business School has signed up to 'The Principles for Responsible Management Education' (PRME) initiative <u>http://www.unprme.org/</u>. PRME has 6 principles, including: Purpose, Values, Method, Research, Partnership and Dialogue. All 6 principles of PRME are practiced in the course.

- The School of Economics, Finance and Accounting has a strong portfolio of active researchers who regularly publish in peer reviewed internationally recognised publications.
- External Examiner reports evidence the quality of BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance for International Business and other courses that are offered within the School of Economics, Finance and Accounting.
- A significant number of professional bodies (e.g. ACCA, CIMA, ICAEW, CPA (Australia), the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment (CISI), the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII) and the Chartered Financial Analyst Society of the UK (CFA UK) have recognised degrees offered by the School of Economics, Finance and Accounting.
- In September 2018 the School of Economics, Finance and Accounting was awarded 'Gold' status by the ACCA.
- The School of EFA has excellent links with professional bodies, for example, ACCA, CIMA, ICAEW, as well as employers including Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC), Grant Thornton, Ernst & Young, IBM and Jaguar Land Rover.
- The Guardian University Guide 2020 ranked the university 15th overall out of 121 universities.
- Top modern university of the year for seven consecutive years (Guardian University Guide 2013-2019).
- Awarded University of the Year for Student Experience in 2019 by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide.
- Ranked 2nd in the UK in 2017 for Teaching Excellence by The Times Higher Education metrics, and achieved Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2017.
- Awarded 5 stars by QS Stars rating in Teaching, Employability, Facilities, Internationalisation and Inclusiveness (QS World University Ranking 2020).
- 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 including:

- Student Handbook and Course Guide
- Module Guide documents produced for all modules
- Module Information Directory (MID)
 - <u>https://webapp.coventry.ac.uk/MidWebNext?Main.aspx</u>
- Study Support information is accessible from the home page of the Coventry University Student Portal

 https://students.coventry.ac.uk/Pages/index.aspx