

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MSc Finance and Investment
2	BCU Course Code	PT0775
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	The Chartered Financial Analyst Institute (CFA) The Chartered Institute of Management Accounting (CIMA)

6	Course Description
	<p>Looking for a Masters in finance and investment? Work towards a career in the finance and investment industry with our MSc Finance and Investment course that is focused on the practical application of finance in the investment world.</p> <p>Designed to equip you with technical knowledge and skills in line with the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute* qualification, as well as a range of employability attributes, the course will encourage your development and commitment in becoming an investment professional. As you progress, you will become more effective and creative in problem solving, as well as being able to critically advise individuals and companies in the UK and abroad.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>The first semester of the course will provide a solid grounding in finance and supporting practices and its importance in business, ensuring you are fully prepared to make informed decisions as your study route in semester two and three.</p> <p>During the second semester of the course, there will be more flexible learning opportunities that will enable you to specialise in particular subject areas, as well as allowing you to tailor your course to a specific career aim.</p> <p>Based at the University's new campus in the UK's second city, you'll live and study in a vibrant environment and engage with local, national and international businesses. You will be taught by highly-qualified academics with industrial and professional experience.</p> <p>*Trademark Disclaimer: CFA Institute does not endorse, promote or warrant the accuracy or quality of the products or services offered by Birmingham City University. CFA® and Chartered Financial Analyst® are registered trademarks owned by CFA Institute.</p>

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Masters of Science Finance and Investment	7	180
	Masters of Science Finance and Investment with Professional Placement	7	240
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Diploma Finance and Investment	7	120
	Postgraduate Certificate Finance and Investment	7	60

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not applicable

9	Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study		Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
Full Time		City Centre	1 year	PT0775
Full Time with Professional Placement		City Centre (and placement provider)	18 months	PT1392

10	Entry Requirements
<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/.</p>	

11	Course Learning Outcomes
Knowledge and Skills	
1	An appreciation of the nature of the contexts in which finance can be seen as operating, including knowledge of the institutional framework necessary for understanding the role, operation and function of markets and financial institutions.
2	An understanding of the major theoretical tools and theories of investment finance, with the ability to critically appraise their relevance and application to theoretical and practical problems for financial investments.
3	An understanding of the relationship between financial theory and empirical testing.
4	An understanding of the financing arrangements and governance mechanisms and structures of business entities in an international context.
5	An understanding of the factors influencing the investment behaviour and opportunities of private individuals.
6	An understanding of mathematical and econometric techniques and their application to the solving of financial decisions and problems.
7	An understanding of advanced investment decision-making techniques and their application to a range of investment criteria.
8	An understanding of financial investment activity in the economy, and the factors that are changing these activities over time.
Cognitive abilities and generic skills	
9	Critical evaluation of arguments and evidence.
10	Independent and self-managed learning.
11	Analysis, filtering and evaluation of data, and drawing reasoned conclusions concerning structured and, to a more limited extent, unstructured problems from a given set of data and from data acquired by the student.
12	Location, extraction and analysis of data from multiple sources, including acknowledging and referencing of sources.
13	Numeracy, including the processing and analysis of financial and other numerical data and the appreciation of statistical concepts at an appropriate level.
14	Using contemporary information and communications technology for the acquisition, analysis and communication of financial information.
15	Communication, including presenting quantitative and qualitative information, together with analysis, argument and commentary, in a form appropriate to the intended audience, and oral as well as written presentation.
16	Working with others (such as through small group projects).

12	Course Requirements																																							
12a	<p>Level 7:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>FIN7016</td><td>Applied Financial Econometrics</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>FIN7018</td><td>Portfolio Management and Analysis</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>FIN7026</td><td>Advanced Corporate Finance</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ACC7031</td><td>Research Skills and Dissertation/Project</td><td>60</td></tr></table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 60 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules:</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>FIN7020</td><td>Derivative Investment</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>FIN7021</td><td>Strategic Risk Management</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>FIN7022</td><td>Behavioural Finance</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>FIN7017</td><td>Investigating Finance Practice</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ACC7033</td><td>Global Finance</td><td>20</td></tr></table> <p>Level 6:</p> <p>In order to qualify for the award of MSc Finance and Investment with Professional Placement, a student must successfully complete all of the Level 7 modules listed above as well as the following Level 6 module:</p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>PLA6001</td><td>Professional Placement</td><td>60</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	FIN7016	Applied Financial Econometrics	20	FIN7018	Portfolio Management and Analysis	20	FIN7026	Advanced Corporate Finance	20	ACC7031	Research Skills and Dissertation/Project	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	FIN7020	Derivative Investment	20	FIN7021	Strategic Risk Management	20	FIN7022	Behavioural Finance	20	FIN7017	Investigating Finance Practice	20	ACC7033	Global Finance	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	PLA6001	Professional Placement	60
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12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Full Time Course Structure – September Intake

Level 7	Level 7 Induction – 1 week			
	S1	Applied Financial Econometrics (20 credit core module)	Portfolio Management and Analysis (20 credit core module)	Advanced Corporate Finance (20 credit core module)
	S2	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
	S3	Research Skills & Dissertation/Project (60 credits)		

Options

- Semester 2:
 - Investigating Finance Practice
 - Strategic Risk Management*
 - Derivative Investments*
 - Behavioural Finance*
 - Global Finance*

* No prior knowledge is required for studying the module.

Full Time with Professional Placement Course Structure – September Intake

Level 7	Level 7 Induction – 1 week			
	S1	Applied Financial Econometrics (20 credit core module)	Portfolio Management and Analysis (20 credit core module)	Advanced Corporate Finance (20 credit core module)
	S2	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
	S3	Research Skills & Dissertation/Project (60 credits)		
	PLA6001: Professional Placement (60 Credits)			

Options

- Semester 1:
 - Investigating Finance Practice
 - Strategic Risk Management*
 - Derivative Investments*
 - Behavioural Finance*
 - Global Finance*

* No prior knowledge is required for studying the module.

Full Time Course Structure – January Intake

Level	Level 7 Induction – 1 week			
	S1	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
	S2	Applied Financial Econometrics (20 credit core module)	Portfolio Management and Analysis (20 credit core module)	Advanced Corporate Finance (20 credit core module)
	S3	Research Skills & Dissertation/Project (60 credits)		

Options

- Semester 1:
 - Strategic Risk Management*
 - Derivative Investments*
 - Behavioural Finance*
 - Global Finance*

*** No prior knowledge is required for studying the module.**

Full Time with Professional Placement – January Intake

Level 7	Level 7 Induction – 1 week			
	S1	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)	Option (20 credits)
	S2	Applied Financial Econometrics (20 credit core module)	Portfolio Management and Analysis (20 credit core module)	Advanced Corporate Finance (20 credit core module)
	S3	Research Skills & Dissertation/Project (60 credits)		
	PLA6001: Professional Placement (60 credits)			

Options

- Semester 1:
 - Investigating Finance Practice
 - Strategic Risk Management*
 - Derivative Investments*
 - Behavioural Finance*
 - Global Finance*

*** No prior knowledge is required for studying the module.**

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

24% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	336
Directed Learning	432
Private Study	936
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	86%
Exam	14%