

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	BSc (Hons) Finance and Investment
2	Course Code	US1226
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)	CISI (Chartered Institute of Securities and Investment)

6	Course Description
	<p>Want to study investment finance in the UK, and take the first step towards a career in investment banking? Our BSc (Hons) Finance and Investment course with its robust content and unique features allows you to stand out from the crowd when you graduate. Our course is focused on practical applications of financial skills in the investing world, qualities that are in high demand in modern finance and investment management sectors.</p> <p>The course will develop your transferrable skills embedded across different modules on the course as well as your engagement with our Graduate+ employability programme. The course is also accredited by Chartered Institute for Securities and Investments (CISI). Designed to equip you with technical knowledge and skills in line with the curriculums of professional bodies such as the CFA Society UK, CFA Institute USA and CISI UK, as well as a range of employability attributes, the course will develop you as a work-ready graduate for careers in Finance and Investment across different industries.</p> <p>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 internationally. The modules are designed to enhance and develop your theoretical understanding from an academic perspective but also to apply acquired knowledge to the finance and investment sector. The course is designed with some mandatory subject areas which provide the key underpinning knowledge for the course however allows you an opportunity to select some subjects based on your specific areas of interest. Therefore, during the second and final year 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 path.</p> <p>The course also has the option of a sandwich year, wherein you'll get to go on a year-long industry placement, giving you invaluable real-world employment experience.</p> <p>The international focus of the course is derived from the diversity of the student body and the teaching team, plus the use of international teaching materials. Moreover, students can choose to spend a year or a full semester studying their modules overseas at a partner institution. While doing this course, you will have wide variety of opportunities to compliment your studies.</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>

7 Course Awards			
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Finance and Investment	Level 6	360
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Finance and Investment With a Professional Placement Year	Level 6	480
7b Exit Awards and Credits Awarded			
	Certificate of Higher Education Finance	Level 4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Finance and Investment	Level 5	240
	Bachelor of Science Finance and Investment	Level 6	300
	Bachelor of Science Finance and Investment with Professional Placement Year	Level 6	420

8 Derogation from the University Regulations	
	None

9 Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study	Location	Duration of Study	Code
Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US1226
Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre (and placement provider)	4 years	US1228
Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US1227

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/, or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.</p>

11 Course Learning Outcomes	
	<p><u>Knowledge & Understanding:</u></p> <p>On successful completion of the BSc (Hons) Finance & Investment course you will be able to:</p>
K1	Exhibit 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.
K2	Elucidate knowledge of the major theoretical tools and theories of finance, and their relevance and application to theoretical and practical problems for financial investments.
K3	Analyse the relationship between financial theory and empirical testing.
K4	Investigate the financing arrangements and governance mechanisms and structures of business entities.
K5	Identify the factors influencing the investment behaviour and opportunities of private individuals.
K6	Apply investment decision-making techniques to a range of investment criteria.
K7	Conduct applications of mathematical techniques for financial decision-making.
K8	Exhibit understanding of financial services activities in the economy, and the factors that are changing these activities over time.
K9	Exemplify an awareness of ethical and sustainability issues within the field of finance and investment
K10	Illustrate an awareness of wider social and management issues and cultural diversity within a global context
	<p><u>Skills and Other Attributes:</u></p> <p>On successful completion of the BSc (Hons) Finance & Investment course, you will have acquired skills and abilities in the following areas:</p>
T1	Critical evaluation of arguments and evidence
T2	Independent and self-managed learning
T3	Information literacy including searching, retrieving and critically evaluating information from a range of appropriate resources
T4	Location, extraction and analysis of data from multiple sources, including acknowledging and referencing sources
T5	Numeracy, including the processing and analysis of financial and other numerical data and the appreciation of statistical concepts at an appropriate level
T6	Using contemporary information and communications technology for the acquisition, analysis and communication of information
T7	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
T8	Working with others (such as through small group projects)

12	Course Requirements																																																																			
12a	<p>Level 4:</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 border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FIN4009</td> <td>Introduction to Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC4032</td> <td>Professional Development for Accounting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>QME4018</td> <td>Principles of Economics</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN4010</td> <td>Quantitative Methods for Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC4033</td> <td>Introduction to Financial Accounting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN4008</td> <td>Data Intelligence</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 5:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FIN5021</td> <td>Financial Analysis for Investment</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN5019</td> <td>Corporate Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN5020</td> <td>Risk Management</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN5022</td> <td>Financial Modelling</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACC5032</td> <td>Financial Reporting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN5023</td> <td>Principles of Islamic Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN5025</td> <td>Entrepreneurial Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC5035</td> <td>Principles of Taxation</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN5026</td> <td>Personal Wealth Planning and Management</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>QME5024</td> <td>Intermediate Macroeconomics</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>QME5021</td> <td>Economics for Sustainable Development</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>If you choose to study abroad for a semester you will substitute the BCU semester modules with the equivalent of 60 credits of study from the host University course. If you are unable to cover all 60 credits with the host University modules you may need to choose and complete the 20 credit BCU Study Abroad option module ACC5029.</p> <p><i>In order to qualify for the award of BSc (Hons) Finance and Investment with Professional Placement Year a student must successfully complete the following module:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PPY5001</td> <td>Professional Placement Year</td> <td>120</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	FIN4009	Introduction to Finance	20	ACC4032	Professional Development for Accounting	20	QME4018	Principles of Economics	20	FIN4010	Quantitative Methods for Finance	20	ACC4033	Introduction to Financial Accounting	20	FIN4008	Data Intelligence	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	FIN5021	Financial Analysis for Investment	20	FIN5019	Corporate Finance	20	FIN5020	Risk Management	20	FIN5022	Financial Modelling	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACC5032	Financial Reporting	20	FIN5023	Principles of Islamic Finance	20	FIN5025	Entrepreneurial Finance	20	ACC5035	Principles of Taxation	20	FIN5026	Personal Wealth Planning and Management	20	QME5024	Intermediate Macroeconomics	20	QME5021	Economics for Sustainable Development	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	PPY5001	Professional Placement Year	120
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Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
FIN6034	Current Issues and Trends in Finance	20
FIN6028	Financial Derivatives	20
FIN6029	Equity and Fixed Income Securities	20
FIN6030	Investment and Portfolio Management	20

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
FIN6039	Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions	20
FIN6041	International Finance	20
FIN6035	Financial Technology	20
FIN6XXX	Alternative Investments	20
BUS6XXX	Business Research Methodology and Practice	20
BUS6XXX	Business Research Project	20

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

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Introduction to Finance (20 credits) Professional Development for Accounting (20 credits) Principles of Economics (20 credits)	Core Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits) Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 5

Core Financial Analysis for Investment (20 credits) Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Core Risk Management (20 credits) Financial Modelling (20 credits)
Optional – 20 credits from: Financial Reporting (20 credits) Entrepreneurial Finance (20 credit) Economics for Sustainable Development (20 credits) Study Abroad (20 credits) – only available if studying a semester abroad (not required if studying entire 60 credits abroad)	Optional – 20 credits from: Principles of Taxation (20 credits) Personal Wealth Planning and Management (20 credits) Intermediate Macroeconomics (20 credits) Principles of Islamic Finance (20 credits) Study Abroad (20 credits) – only available if studying a semester abroad (not required if studying entire 60 credits abroad)

Level 6

Core Current Issues and Trends in Finance (20 credits) Equity and Fixed Income Securities (20 credits)	Core Investment and Portfolio Management (20 credits) Financial Derivatives (20 credits)
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<p>Optional – 20 credits from: Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) International Finance (20 credits) Business Research Methodology and Practice* (20 credits)</p>	<p>Optional – 20 credits from: Financial Technology (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Alternative Investments (20 credits) Business Research Project (20 credits)*</p>
<p>* Business Research Methodology and Practice is a prerequisite for the 20 credit project option module</p>	

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Introduction to Finance (20 credits) Professional Development for Accounting (20 credits) Principles of Economics (20 credits)	Core Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits) Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 5

Core Financial Analysis for Investment (20 credits) Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Core Risk Management (20 credits) Financial Modelling (20 credits)
Optional – 20 credits from: Financial Reporting (20 credits) Principles of Islamic Finance (20 credits) Entrepreneurial Finance (20 credit) Study Abroad (20 credits) – only available if studying a semester abroad (not required if studying entire 60 credits abroad)	Optional – 20 credits from: Principles of Taxation (20 credits) Personal Wealth Planning and Management (20 credits) Intermediate Macroeconomics (20 credits) Study Abroad (20 credits) – only available if studying a semester abroad (not required if studying entire 60 credits abroad)
Core: Professional Placement Year (120 credits)	

Level 6

Core Current Issues and Trends in Finance (20 credits) Equity and Fixed Income Securities (20 credits)	Core Investment and Portfolio Management (20 credits) Financial Derivatives (20 credits)
Optional – 20 credits from: Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) International Finance (20 credits)	Optional – 20 credits from: Financial Technology (20 credits) Alternative Investments (20 credits)

Business Research Methodology and Practice* (20 credits)	Business Research Project (20 credits)
*Business Research Methodology and Practice is a prerequisite for the 20 credit project option module.	

Part Time Course Structure

Level 4 – Year 1

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core: Professional Development for Accounting (20 credits) Introduction to Finance (20 credits)	Core: Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 4/5 – Year 2

Principles of Economics (20 credits) Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits) Financial Modelling (20 credits)
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Level 5 – Year 3

Core: Financial Analysis for investment (20 credits)	Core: Risk Management (20 credits)
Optional - 20 credits from: Financial Reporting (20 credits) Principles of Islamic Finance (20 credits) Entrepreneurial Finance (20 credit)	Optional – 20 credits from: Principles of Taxation (20 credits) Personal Wealth Planning and Management (20 credits) Intermediate Macroeconomics (20 credits)

Level 6 – Year 4

Core: Current Issues and Trends in Finance (20 credits) Equity and Fixed Income Securities (20 credits)	Core: Investment and Portfolio Management (20 credits) Financial Derivatives (20 credits)
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Level 6 – Year 5

Optional – 20 credits from: Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) International Finance (20 credits) Business Research Methodology and Practice* (20 credits)	Optional – 20 credits from: Financial Technology (20 credits) Alternative Investments (20 credits)
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	Business Research Project (20 credits)
* Business Research Methodology and Practice is a prerequisite for the 20 credit project option 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 4

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	216 (9 hours per week x 24 weeks)
Directed Learning	360
Private Study	624
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	71
Exam	29
In-Person	0

Level 5

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	216 (9 hours per week x 24 weeks)
Directed Learning	360
Private Study	624
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	61
Exam	34
In-Person	05

Level 6

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	216 (9 hours per week x 24 weeks)
Directed Learning	360
Private Study	624
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	81
Exam	9
In-Person	10