

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MSc Accounting and Finance
2	BCU Course Code	PT1195
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)	Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

6	Course Description
	<p>Looking to study a postgraduate accounting and finance course in Birmingham? Our MSc Accounting and Finance degree is accredited by Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA).</p> <p>Taught by professionally qualified academics with a wealth of industrial and professional experience, this CIMA accredited Master's course focuses on the practical application of accountancy in the real world and theoretical aspects of related research with a clear objective of preparing you for a career in accountancy, finance or management. You can maximise your CIMA exemptions by choosing particular modules, and get prepared for the remaining final (external) CIMA exam(s) at the end of the course.</p> <p>You can study ACCA with us (full or part-time) and then take the final, 60 credit dissertation module to gain the MSc award. Our status as a Platinum Approved Learning Partner reflects the quality of our course provision and teaching.</p> <p>If you are already a CCAB or CIMA qualified accountant you have the option of seeking accreditation for prior learning experience (APLE) or simply topping up with the final, 60 credit dissertation module to gain the MSc award with our Masters Stage course.</p> <p>Based at the University's new campus in the UK's second city, you'll live and study in an exciting, vibrant environment and engage with local, national and international businesses.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>The course is highly flexible, allowing you to customise your degree to align more closely with a particular professional body or specialise in particular areas of accounting or finance. The flexible course explores a range of business disciplines, offers real world examples and case studies and is recognised by the major global professional bodies enabling fast track progression to internationally recognised professional accounting qualifications upon completion.</p>

7 Course Awards			
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Masters of Science Accounting and Finance	7	180
	Masters of Science Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement	7	240
7b Exit Awards and Credits Awarded			
	Postgraduate Certificate Accounting and Finance	7	120
	Postgraduate Diploma Accounting and Finance	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 plus six weeks CIMA case study exam preparation at end	PT1195
Full Time with Professional Placement September	City Centre (and placement provider)	18 months	PT1392
Masters Stage top up (ACC7031 only)	City Centre	One semester	PT1213

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

11 Course Learning Outcomes	
1	Demonstrate critical awareness of the contexts in which accounting operates, a systematic understanding of organisations, their external context and how they are managed and an ability to critically apply relevant knowledge to complex issues.
2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of, and an ability to use current technical language and alternative technical language to describe practices of accounting and an ability to apply them in structured and unstructured situations.
3	Record and summarise transactions and other economic events, prepare financial statements complying with relevant regulatory requirements and demonstrate critical awareness of such techniques.
4	Critically analyse the operations of a business and perform financial analyses and projections; and demonstrate awareness of the contexts in which accounting data and information is processed and provided within a variety of organisational environments, and the relationships with other systems providing information in organisations.
5	Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and a critical appreciation of theories and empirical evidence concerning the effects of accounting.
6	Demonstrate critical awareness of issues of financial management, risk and the operation of capital markets and make appropriate recommendations.
Generic Skills, Abilities and Attributes	
7	Critical evaluation of arguments and evidence.
8	Independent and self-managed learning.
9	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.
10	Location, extraction and analysis of data from multiple sources, including acknowledging and referencing sources.
11	Numeracy, including the processing and analysis of financial and other numerical data and the appreciation of statistical concepts at an appropriate level.
12	Using contemporary information and communications technology for the acquisition, analysis and communication of information.
13	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.
14	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 one of the following CORE modules (totalling 60 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACC7034</td> <td>Integrated Strategic Case Study</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC7031</td> <td>Research Skills and Dissertation/Project</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete six of the following OPTIONAL modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>ACC7030</td><td>Project and Relationship Management</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7029</td><td>Advanced Management Accounting</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7028</td><td>Corporate Reporting</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7035</td><td>International Tax Planning</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7024</td><td>Audit Theory and Practice</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>MAN7062</td><td>Security Analysis and Portfolio Management</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7023</td><td>Strategic Management</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>FIN7021</td><td>Strategic Risk Management</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>FIN7015</td><td>Financial Strategy</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7026</td><td>Public Sector Financial Management</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>ACC7033</td><td>Global Finance</td><td>20</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 6:</p> <p><i>In order to qualify for the award of MSc Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement, a student must successfully complete all of the Level 7 modules listed above as well as the following Level 6 module:</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PLA6001</td> <td>Professional Placement</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACC7034	Integrated Strategic Case Study	60	OR			ACC7031	Research Skills and Dissertation/Project	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACC7030	Project and Relationship Management	20	ACC7029	Advanced Management Accounting	20	ACC7028	Corporate Reporting	20	ACC7035	International Tax Planning	20	ACC7024	Audit Theory and Practice	20	MAN7062	Security Analysis and Portfolio Management	20	ACC7023	Strategic Management	20	FIN7021	Strategic Risk Management	20	FIN7015	Financial Strategy	20	ACC7026	Public Sector Financial Management	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.

Level 7 – September Intake

SEMESTER ONE: Certificate Stage	SEMESTER TWO: Diploma Stage
Optional ACC7024: Audit Theory and Practice (20 credits) ACC7029: Advanced Management Accounting* (20 credits) ACC7030: Project and Relationship Management* (20 credits) ACC7028 Corporate Reporting* (20 credits) ACC7035 International Tax (20 credits) MAN7062 Security Analysis and Portfolio Management (20 credits) *modules carry CIMA exemption for the matching professional paper	Optional FIN7021: Strategic Risk Management* (20 credits) ACC7023: Strategic Management* (20 credits) FIN7015: Financial Strategy* (20 credits) ACC7033: Global Finance (20 credits) ACC7026: Public Sector Financial Management (20 credits) *modules carry CIMA exemption for the matching professional paper
SEMESTER THREE: Masters Stage	
Core Either: ACC7034: Integrated Strategic Case Study** (60 credits) Or: ACC7031: Research Skills and Dissertation (60 credits) ** Passing this module is a requirement for students to sit the CIMA Strategic Case Study.	
Post course external professional exam preparation: Intensive 6 week preparation course offered to enable suitably qualified students to sit the CIMA Strategic Case Study in November following the end of the academic year.	

With Professional Placement

Year 2

Semester One PLA6001: Professional Placement (60 credits)

Structure
Level 7 - January Intake

SEMESTER ONE: Certificate Stage	SEMESTER TWO: Diploma Stage
FIN7021: Strategic Risk Management* (20 credits) ACC7023: Strategic Management* (20 credits) FIN7015: Financial Strategy* (20 credits) *modules carry CIMA exemption for the matching professional paper	ACC7029: Advanced Management Accounting* (20 credits) ACC7030: Project and Relationship Management* (20 credits) ACC7035 International Tax (20 credits) *modules carry CIMA exemption for the matching professional paper
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With Professional Placement

Year 2

Semester One PLA6001: Professional Placement (60 credits)

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	432
Directed Learning	432
Private Study	936
Total Hours	1800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage (approximate)
Coursework	50% to 55% depending on options chosen
Exam	40% to 50% depending on options chosen
In-Person	Up to 5% depending on options chosen