

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance with a Foundation Year
2	Course Code	US1222F
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)	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) Chartered Institute of Public Financial Accountants (CIPFA)

6 Course Description	
	<p>Looking for a foundation course in accounting in Birmingham? Our BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance with a Foundation Year course has lower entry requirements and can lead to a full undergraduate qualification.</p> <p>This course has been specifically designed to allow home and EU students, who do not initially meet the Birmingham City University entry requirements for our standard Accounting and Finance degree, to undertake additional level 3 study designed to ensure they are successful on their chosen degree course. The foundation year itself will equip you with the required knowledge and skills to proceed on to any of our undergraduate degree courses offered within Birmingham City Business School.</p> <p>Delivery of the course is flexible and includes a blend of lectures, workshops, field trips and online learning. The modules, which feed into the course are broad and cover key current topics, such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and help you to appreciate accounting and finance from a range of perspectives. Ultimately, decision making in this field, calls for one to exercise judgement and intuition and this course helps you to strengthen that judgement.</p> <p>This course has been designed to be accredited by the major professional accounting bodies, including the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), offering significant exemptions from their professional qualifications.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>The BSc (Honours) Accounting and Finance degree at Birmingham City Business School provides a valuable insight into the worlds of accountancy practice, commerce, industry and finance. We create graduates who possess a global outlook, with the conceptual and applied knowledge in the fields of accounting and finance that will enable them to make a positive impact on society.</p>

This course offers an accounting and finance curriculum that is up to date, vocationally relevant, challenging and reflects the complex and challenging nature of the accounting and business environment.

You will gain expertise in areas including financial and management accounting, corporate finance, international accounting and finance issues, data analysis and business technology. You will have the opportunity to use software relevant to the modern business environment, equipping you with the skills and experience sought by employers.

You will develop scholarly attributes, becoming an independent learner with the ability to critically evaluate data and evidence, draw reasoned conclusions and communicate effectively in a professional manner.

With our practice-based approach to teaching, you will learn from professionally qualified academics with a wealth of industry experience, and research active academics whose research underpins and informs our approach to teaching

You will be actively supported and encouraged to undertake an additional professional placement year, providing the opportunity to improve your employability skills. Our students have worked for industry leading accountancy practices including PwC and EY, as well as for organisations such as the NHS, IBM and Vodafone.

The international focus of the course is derived through a variety of means including the study of international accounting standards, student body, the teaching team and the use of international teaching materials. Moreover, students can choose to spend a full semester studying their modules overseas at a partner institution.

This course shares a common level 4 with other accounting courses within the Business School with full transferability between courses at the end of the year.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Accounting and Finance	Level 6	480
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement Year	Level 6	600
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Foundation Certificate in Accounting and Finance	Level 3	120
	Certificate of Higher Education Business Accounting and Finance	Level 4	240
	Diploma of Higher Education Accounting	Level 5	360
	Bachelor of Science Accounting and Finance	Level 6	420
	Bachelor of Science Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement Year	Level 6	540

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	None

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	Full Time	City Centre	4 years	US1222F
	Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre (and placement provider)	5 years	US1222F S

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

11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding:
	On successful completion of the BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance degree course you will be able to:
K1	Discuss the contexts in which accounting operates, why accounting is valuable in these contexts, and analyse global issues relating to accounting.
K2	Use both current and alternative technical language to describe practices of accounting.
K3	Record and summarise transactions and other economic events and prepare financial statements complying with relevant UK and international reporting requirements.
K4	Analyse the operations of a business and perform financial analysis and projections; and possess an 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.
K5	Apply theories and empirical evidence concerning the operation and effects of accounting, and critically evaluate such theories and evidence.
K6	Evaluate issues of financial management, risk and the operation of capital markets.
K7	Assess the need for individuals and organisations to manage responsibly and behave ethically in relation to social, cultural, economic and environmental issues.
	Skills and Other Attributes:
	On successful completion of the BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance degree course, you will have acquired skills and abilities in the following areas:
T1	Critical evaluation of arguments and evidence.

T2	Independent and self-managed learning, as well as working with others.
T3	Location, extraction and analysis of data from multiple sources, including acknowledging and referencing sources, and evaluation of data drawing reasoned conclusions.
T4	Numeracy, including the processing and analysis of financial and other numerical data and the appreciation of statistical concepts.
T5	Professional communication, including presenting quantitative and qualitative information, together with analysis, argument and commentary, using oral and written means.
T6	Using contemporary information and communication technology for the acquisition, analysis and communication of information.

12	Course Requirements																																										
12a	<p>Level 3:</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>BUS3001</td> <td>Business in Context</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUS3002</td> <td>Developing Academic Skills for Success</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUS3003</td> <td>Developing Interpersonal Skills for Success</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC3001</td> <td>Fundamentals of Accounting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUS3006</td> <td>Foundation Practice Project</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FIN3000</td> <td>Fundamentals of Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <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>ACC4031</td> <td>Governance, Ethics and Law</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC4032</td> <td>Professional Development in Accounting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>QME4015</td> <td>Introduction to Economics and Finance</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC4033</td> <td>Introduction to Financial Accounting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACC4029</td> <td>Introduction to Management 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>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	BUS3001	Business in Context	20	BUS3002	Developing Academic Skills for Success	20	BUS3003	Developing Interpersonal Skills for Success	20	ACC3001	Fundamentals of Accounting	20	BUS3006	Foundation Practice Project	20	FIN3000	Fundamentals of Finance	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	ACC4031	Governance, Ethics and Law	20	ACC4032	Professional Development in Accounting	20	QME4015	Introduction to Economics and Finance	20	ACC4033	Introduction to Financial Accounting	20	ACC4029	Introduction to Management Accounting	20	FIN4008	Data Intelligence	20
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BUS3001	Business in Context	20																																									
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ACC3001	Fundamentals of Accounting	20																																									
BUS3006	Foundation Practice Project	20																																									
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Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ACC5036	Financial Reporting	20
ACC5040	Management Accounting	20
FIN5XXX	Corporate Finance	20
ACC5041	International Accounting and Finance Issues	20

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ACC5XXX	Principles of Taxation	20
ACC5XXX	Business Technology and the Finance Function	20
ACC5XXX	Business Operations	20
FIN5XXX	Personal Wealth Planning and Management	20
ACC5XXX	Study Abroad*	20

*If you choose to study abroad for a semester you will substitute the BCU semester two 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.

In order to qualify for the award of BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement Year a student must successfully complete the following module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PLA5XXX	Professional Placement Year	120

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 60 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ACC6XXX	Advanced Financial Reporting	20
ACC6XXX	Strategic Management Accounting	20
FIN6XXX	Corporate Financial Strategy	20

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 60 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
ACC6XXX	Tax Planning	20
FIN6XXX	Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions	20
ACC6XXX	Accounting for the Planet	20

	ACC6XXX	Principles of Not-For-Profit Accounting and Governance	20
	ACC6XXX	Empowering Future Leaders	20
	BUS6XXX	Business Research Project	40
	BUS6XXX + BUS6XXX	Business Research Methodology and Practice + Community Advice Project	20 20
	BUS6XXX + BUS6XXX	Business Research Methodology and Practice + Business Start-Up Project	20 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 3 Foundation Year				
Level 3	Semester 1	Developing Academic Skills for Success (20 Credits)	Developing Interpersonal Skills for Success (20 Credits)	Business in Context (20 Credits)
	Semester 2	Foundation Practice Project (20 Credits)	Fundamentals of Accounting (20 Credits)	Fundamentals of Finance (20 Credits)

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core ACC4031 Governance, Ethics and Law (20 credits) ACC4032 Professional Development in Accounting (20 credits) QME4015 Introduction to Economics and Finance (20 credits)	Core ACC4033 Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) ACC4029 Introduction to Management Accounting (20 credits) FIN4008 Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 5

Core ACC5XXX Financial Reporting (20 credits) ACC5XXX Management Accounting (20 credits) FIN5XXX Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Core ACC5XXX International Accounting and Finance Issues (20 credits)
	Optional - 40 credits from: ACC5XXX Principles of Taxation (20 credits) ACC5XXX Business Technology and the Finance Function (20 credits) ACC5XXX Business Operations (20 credits) FIN5XXX Personal Wealth Planning and Management

	ACC5XXX Study Abroad (20 credits) - only available if studying a semester abroad (not required if studying the entire 60 credits abroad).
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Level 6

Core ACC6XXX Advanced Financial Reporting (20 credits) ACC6XXX Strategic Management Accounting (20 credits)	Core FIN6XXX Corporate Financial Strategy (20 credits)
Optional - 20 credits from: ACC6XXX Tax Planning (20 credits) FIN6XXX Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice (20 credits)*	Optional - 40 credits from: ACC6XXX Accounting for the Planet (20 credits) ACC6XXX Principles of Not-For-Profit Accounting and Governance (20 credits) ACC6XXX Empowering Future Leaders (20 credits) BUS6XXX Community Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX Business Start-Up Project** (20 credits)
OR Optional: BUS6XXX Business Research Project (Major) (40 credits)	

* This module is a prerequisite for BUS6XXX Community Advice Project and BUS6XXX Business Start-Up Project

** The project modules are mutually exclusive – students may choose one from the available options

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 3 Foundation Year				
Level 3	Semester 1	Developing Academic Skills for Success (20 Credits)	Developing Interpersonal Skills for Success (20 Credits)	Business in Context (20 Credits)
	Semester 2	Foundation Practice Project (20 Credits)	Fundamentals of Accounting (20 Credits)	Fundamentals of Finance (20 Credits)

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core ACC4XXX Governance, Ethics and Law (20 credits) ACC4XXX Professional Development in Accounting (20 credits) ACC4XXX Introduction to Economics and Finance (20 credits)	Core ACC4XXX Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) ACC4XXX Introduction to Management Accounting (20 credits) FIN4XXX Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 5

Core ACC5XXX Financial Reporting (20 credits) ACC5XXX Management Accounting (20 credits) FIN5XXX Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Core ACC5XXX International Accounting and Finance Issues (20 credits)
Core PLA5XXX Professional Placement Year (120 credits)	
	Optional - 40 credits from: ACC5XXX Principles of Taxation (20 credits) ACC5XXX Business Technology and the Finance Function (20 credits) ACC5XXX Business Operations (20 credits) FIN5XXX Personal Wealth Planning and Management

	ACC5XXX Study Abroad (20 credits) - only available if studying a semester abroad (not required if studying the entire 60 credits abroad).
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Level 6

Core ACC6XXX Advanced Financial Reporting (20 credits) ACC6XXX Strategic Management Accounting (20 credits)	Core FIN6XXX Corporate Financial Strategy (20 credits)
Optional - 20 credits from: ACC6XXX Tax Planning (20 credits) FIN6XXX Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice (20 credits)*	Optional - 40 credits from: ACC6XXX Accounting for the Planet (20 credits) ACC6XXX Principles of Not-For-Profit Accounting and Governance (20 credits) ACC6XXX Empowering Future Leaders (20 credits) BUS6XXX Community Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX Business Start-Up Project** (20 credits)
OR Optional: BUS6XXX Business Research Project (40 credits)	

* This module is a prerequisite for BUS6XXX Community Advice Project and BUS6XXX Business Start-Up Project

** The project modules are mutually exclusive – students may choose one from the available options

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 3

Workload

40% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	480
Directed Learning	600
Private Study	120
Total Hours	1200

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	55%
Exam	34%
In-Person	11%

Level 5

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
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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	50%
Exam	43%
In-Person	7%

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	44%
Exam	46%
In-Person	10%