

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	BSc (Hons) Business Finance
2	Course Code	US1230
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 Securities and Investment (CISI)

6	Course Description
	<p>The world of finance is rapidly changing, with new innovative financial products being developed on a constant basis. The present times have also witnessed an unprecedented number of companies failing because of poor financial management. All these challenges call for dynamic and brilliant people who can design financial solutions and make the world a better place.</p> <p>The degree is designed to equip you with wider business and Finance environment knowledge. Offering you the opportunity to acquire key business and financial skills, explore innovative practices and entrepreneurial skills. The course is accredited by Chartered Institute for Securities and Investments (CISI). The course also aligns with various other professional bodies courses such as Association of Corporate Treasures (ACT), Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), and many others. 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 widespread, broad, covers key current topics such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and help you to appreciate finance from a range of perspectives. Ultimately, decision making in finance, calls for one to exercise their judgement and intuition and this course helps you to strengthen that judgement.</p> <p>The course team has, between it, years of industrial experience in the finance field as well in academia. Therefore, students with little or no background in finance are assured of getting all the help they need in order to excel in the course. You will learn a lot from course team's knowledge and experience, as you will be regularly engaging in inquiry based and experiential learning, which has been designed to assimilate work-based scenarios.</p> <p>In order to enhance your employability, extra-curricular activities such as trading trainings, conferences and field trips will be arranged throughout the academic years. Outside speakers from industry will also be invited to give presentations on how best to improve your employability. Moreover, you'll also have the opportunity to gain industry experience by going on a professional placement, or to travel overseas to study abroad at one of our partner universities. In a nutshell, the knowledge attained from the course will help you to seek a variety of employment in the sector nationally and internationally.</p>

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

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	None

9	Delivery Patterns		
Professional Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US1230
Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre (and placement provider)	4 years	US1232
Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US1231

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) Business Finance degree course you will be able to:
K1	Identify the key components of the financial environment within which businesses operate.
K2	Analyse the current international developments and trends in finance and evaluate how they can affect UK businesses.
K3	Exhibit a critical understanding of the theoretical and model based methods and be able to apply them in a practical situation.
K4	Identify and analyse financial risk and develop mechanisms, which can mitigate the risk.
K5	Analyse an ethical dilemma out of a scenario and assess its financial implications on a company.
K6	Exhibit a critical understanding of mathematical techniques that are available in finance and they can be used to aid in decision-making and problem solving.
K7	Apply and recommend the different financial products that are available to businesses and individuals.
K8	Elucidate how sustainability impacts the global business environment and how companies can be encouraged to be more environmentally aware.
	Skills and Other Attributes: On successful completion of the BSc (Hons) Business Finance degree programme, you will have acquired skills and abilities in the following areas:
T1	Numeracy, including the processing and analysis of financial and other numerical data and the appreciation of statistical concepts at an appropriate level.
T2	Using contemporary information and communications technology for the acquisition, analysis and communication of financial information.
1T3	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.
T4	Working with others (such as through small group projects).
T5	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 Course Requirements

12a Level 4:
In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
QME4018	Principles of Economics	20
ACC4032	Professional Development in Accounting	20
FIN4010	Quantitative Methods for Finance	20
FIN4009	Introduction to Finance	20
ACC4033	Introduction to Financial Accounting	20
FIN4008	Data Intelligence	20

Level 5:
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
FIN5XXX	Corporate Finance	20
ACC5XXX	Financial Reporting	20
ACC5XXX	Principles of Taxation	20
FIN5XXX	Risk Management	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
FIN5XXX	Entrepreneurial Finance	20
FIN5XXX	Financial Analysis for Investments	20
FIN5XXX	Principles of Islamic Finance	20
BUS5XXX	Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age	20
ACC5XXX	Business Operations	20
FIN5XXX	Financial Modelling	20
QME5XXX	Intermediate Macroeconomics	20

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 in Semester Two. However, you can also choose to study 40 credits with the host University and BCU's 20 credit Study Abroad option module ACC5XXX.

In order to qualify for the award of BSc (Hons) Business 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 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
FIN6XXX	Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions	20
FIN6XXX	Financial Technology	20
FIN6XXX	Corporate Financial Strategy	20
FIN6XXX	Current Issues and Trends in Finance	20

In order to complete this course a student must choose ONE of the following core optional project routes (totalling 40 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
QME6XXX	Business Research Project (Major)	40
BUS6XXX + BUS6XXX	Business Research Methodology and Practice + Business Advice Project	20 20
BUS6XXX + BUS6XXX	Business Research Methodology and Practice + Business Start-Up Project	20 20
BUS6XXX + BUS6XXX	Business Research Methodology and Practice + Community Advice Project	20 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
FIN6XXX	International Finance	20
FIN6XXX	Equity and Fixed Income Securities	20
FIN6XXX	Investment and Portfolio Management	20
FIN6XXX	Islamic Banking and Capital Markets	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: FIN4009: Introduction to Finance (20 credits) ACC4032: Professional Development in Accounting (20 credits) QME4018: Principles of Economics (20 credits)	Core: FIN4010: Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits) ACC4033: Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) FIN4008: Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 5

Core: FIN5XXX: Corporate Finance (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Financial Reporting (20 credits)	Core: FIN5XXX: Risk Management (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Principles of Taxation (20 credits)
Optional 20 credits from: FIN5XXX: Financial Analysis for Investments (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Principles of Islamic Finance (20 credits) FIN5XXX: Entrepreneurial Finance (20 credits)	Optional 20 credits from: FIN5XXX: Financial Modelling (20 credits) BUS5XXX: Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age (20 credits) QME5XXX: Intermediate Macroeconomics (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Business Operations (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Study Abroad (20 credits – Semester 2 only: only available if studying a semester abroad. Not required if studying entire 60 credits abroad)

Level 6

Core: FIN6XXX: Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Current Issues and Trends in Finance (20 credits)	Core: FIN6XXX: Corporate Financial Strategy (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Financial Technology (20 credits)
Optional 20 credits from: FIN6XXX: International Finance (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Equity and Fixed Income Securities (20 credits)	Optional 20 credits from: FIN6XXX: Investment and Portfolio Management (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Islamic Banking and Capital Markets (20 credits)

BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice* (20 credits)	BUS6XXX: Business Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Community Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Business Start-Up Project** (20 credits)
Or Optional: BUSXXX Business Research Project (40 credits)	

*BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice is a prerequisite for all 20 credit project option modules

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

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core: FIN4009: Introduction to Finance (20 credits) ACC4032: Professional Development in Accounting (20 credits) QME4018: Principles of Economics (20 credits)	Core: FIN4010: Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits) ACC4033: Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) FIN4008: Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 5

Core: FIN5XXX: Corporate Finance (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Financial Reporting (20 credits)	Core: FIN5XXX: Risk Management (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Principles of Taxation (20 credits)
Core: PLA5XXX: Professional Placement Year (120 credits)	
Optional 20 credits from: FIN5XXX: Financial Analysis for Investments (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Principles of Islamic Finance (20 credits) FIN5XXX: Entrepreneurial Finance (20 credits)	Optional 20 credits from: FIN5XXX: Financial Modelling (20 credits) BUS5XXX: Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age (20 credits) QME5XXX: Intermediate Macroeconomics (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Business Operations (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Study Abroad (20 credits – Semester 2 only: only available if studying a

	semester abroad. Not required if studying entire 60 credits abroad)
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Level 6

Core: FIN6XXX: Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Current Issues and Trends in Finance (20 credits)	Core FIN6XXX: Corporate Financial Strategy (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Financial Technology (20 credits)
Optional 20 credits from: FIN6XXX: International Finance (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Equity and Fixed Income Securities (20 credits) BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice* (20 credits)	Optional 20 credits from: FIN6XXX: Investment and Portfolio Management (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Islamic Banking and Capital Markets (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Business Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Community Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Business Start-Up Project** (20 credits)
Or Optional: BUSXXX Business Research Project (40 credits)	

*BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice is a prerequisite for all 20 credit project option modules

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

Part Time Course Structure

Level 4 (Year One)

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core: ACC4032: Professional Development in Accounting (20 credits) FIN4009 Introduction to Finance (20 credits)	Core: ACC4033: Introduction to Financial Accounting (20 credits) FIN4008: Data Intelligence (20 credits)

Level 4/5 (Year Two)

QME4018: Principles of Economics (20 credits) FIN5XXX: Corporate Finance (20 credits)	FIN4010: Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits)
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	ACC5XXX: Principles of Taxation (20 credits)
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Level 5 (Year Three)

Core: FIN5XXX: Financial Reporting (20 credits)	Core: FIN5XXX: Risk Management (20 credits)
Optional 20 credits from: FIN5XXX: Financial Analysis for Investments (20 credits) FIN5XXX: Principles of Islamic Finance (20 credits) FIN5XXX: Entrepreneurial Finance (20 credit)	Optional 20 credits from: FIN5XXX: Financial Modelling (20 credits) QME5XXX: Intermediate Microeconomics (20 credits) BUS5XXX: Entrepreneurship in Digital Age (20 credits) ACC5XXX: Business Operations (20 credits)

Level 6 (Year Four)

Core: FIN6XXX: Current Issues and Trends in Finance (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits)	Core: FIN6XXX: Financial Technology (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Corporate Financial Strategy (20 credits)
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Level 6 (Year Five)

Optional 20 credits from: FIN6XXX: International Finance (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Equity and Fixed Income Securities (20 credits) BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice* (20 credits)	Optional 20 credits from: FIN6XXX: Investment and Portfolio Management (20 credits) FIN6XXX: Islamic Banking and Capital Markets (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Business Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Community Advice Project** (20 credits) BUS6XXX: Business Start-Up Project** (20 credits)
Or Optional: BUSXXX Business Research Project (40 credits)	

*BUS6XXX Business Research Methodology and Practice is a prerequisite for all 20 credit project option modules

**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 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	49%
Exam	33%
In-Person	18%

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	59%
Exam	23%
In-Person	18%

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	68%
Exam	22%
In-Person	10%