

Programme Specification

Programme title: BSc (Hons) Finance and Economics

Academic Year:	2018/19
Degree Awarding Body:	University of Bradford
Partner(s), delivery organisation or support provider (if appropriate):	n/a
Final and interim award(s):	BSc (Honours) [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications level 6] BSc (Ordinary) [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications level 6] Diploma of Higher Education [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications level 5] Certificate of Higher Education [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications level 4]
Programme accredited by (if appropriate):	n/a
Programme duration:	3 and 4 years full time
UCAS code:	
QAA Subject benchmark statement(s):	Economics 2015; Finance 2016
Date of Senate Approval:	June 2017
Date last confirmed and/or minor modification approved by Faculty Board	February 2018

Introduction

The BSc in Finance and Economics programme provides a structured approach to the disciplines of economics and finance that is informed by the Quality Assessment Agency for Higher Education (QAAHE) Benchmarking Statements in Economics 2015 (<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Economics-15.pdf>) and Finance 2016 (<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Finance-16.pdf>) with respect to the aims of the programme, subject knowledge and understanding, together with subject-specific skills including numeracy and quantitative skills. This programme has an emphasis on transferable skills in addition to subject knowledge and aims to develop skills in data analysis and communication.

The BSc in Finance and Economics aims to equip students with grounding in accountancy, financial markets, investment appraisal and risk management, along

with a thorough background to economics, qualitative and mathematical research methods, always highlighting the link between theoretical aspects and real-world applications. Apart from core modules the programme also offers a choice of complementary options from other subject disciplines. The programme is oriented towards research-led-teaching from academic staff with research interests in various fields including trade, economic integration, macroeconomic policy, finance, accounting, individual behaviour, and social economics

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- Provide students with a thorough grounding in economic and finance principles, theories, concepts, methods and tools.
- Give students strong foundations for further studies in economics, finance and allied disciplines and equip them with the necessary skills for successful job employability.
- Provide students with an appreciation and understanding of the wider international economic and finance context as well as knowledge and understanding of historical, political, institutional, international, social and environmental contexts in which specific economic and finance analysis is applied.
- Give students knowledge of how to apply economic reasoning to policy issues in a critical manner. Examine the factors that shape sustainable economic and financial decision-making and the developments in government policy that impact on the regulatory environment.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the award of Certificate of Higher Education at FHEQ level 4, students will be able to:

- LO1. Understand and evaluate, at an introductory level, the theories and concepts of economics, finance and accounting, the relevant methods and analytical techniques, and the applications of ethical economic, accounting and financial principles to diverse areas of national and international affairs
- LO2. Apply IT skills, use written and electronic sources of information, discuss and communicate effectively and fluently in speech and writing. Students will also develop the capacity to work in a team, to work independently and to self-manage their learning.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Diploma of Higher Education at FHEQ level 5, students will be able to:

- LO3. Abstract and examine essential features of complex economic and finance systems. Demonstrate analysis, deduction and induction applied to assumption-based models. Show awareness of the potential problems of economic and financial theories, of models and methods and their applications and develop the ability to be critical and creative in problem solving.
- LO4. Display understanding of data sources and of data access, synthetisation, quantification, design and organisation and framing of parameters in economic and financial problems. Apply critical thinking and use numerical and statistical techniques to construct reasoned arguments and present empirical evidence.

LO5. Recognise and explain the factors influencing the investment and finance behaviour of private individuals and firms both in national and in international contexts. Research, make decisions and action plans, demonstrate self-evaluation and reflection, and construct effective applications in relation to career planning.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Ordinary Degree of Bachelor at FHEQ level 6, students will be able to:

- LO6. Select and apply the relevant methods and techniques to critically review, consolidate, or extend knowledge and understanding in economics and finance at both theoretical and applied level.
- LO7. Recognise that many economic and financial problems may accept more than one approach and may accept several solutions. Be aware of different methodological and theoretical approaches and of their drawbacks.
- LO8. Show the skills required to be an independent learner, seek out solutions to unfamiliar problems and work collaboratively. Evaluate and debate theory and practice in economics and finance.
- LO9. Understand and apply the financial instruments and techniques which can be used by businesses and individual investors in the assessment and management of risk.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor at FHEQ level 6, students will be able to

LO10. Critically evaluate and discuss current research in economics and finance, practice and policies related to economics and finance and how this research impacts individuals, businesses and societies. Apply critical thinking to construct reasoned arguments and present empirical evidence

Curriculum

The map of their studies is detailed below. The programme consists of 360 credits, made up mainly of core modules. Students take 120 credits at each Stage. Each 'Stage' or taught 'year' of an Honours programme consists of two semesters.

Stage 1 [Level 4]

Stage 1 consists of core modules to provide the essential foundation for their further study. By the end of this year students will have gained knowledge and understanding of the core introductory modules, which provide grounding in the basic ideas in economics, accounting, finance, and quantitative methods. Alongside these, key graduate learner skills including communication and the correct sourcing, use of and presentation of information including referencing will be introduced. Such skills will enable students to write in an academic manner and begin to reflect on the value and usefulness of the information with which they are presented, engage in team working and consider their future career paths.

To support their learning of mathematics an initial screening is undertaken to identify if students require additional support provided by specialists from the academic skills development unit. If needed, we will then refer students to the academic skills development unit and they will work with students to support them in the relevant areas. Additionally, the academic skills development unit offers a wide range of study skills advice such as: critical thinking, effective learning strategies, exam skills, note-taking, group working skills, communication skills and time management.

Stage 2 [Level 5]

In Stage 2 students will take core modules in microeconomics, macroeconomics, financial management, finance and investment at an intermediate level and they will further enhance their knowledge of the relevant research and statistical methods used in economics and finance in order to prepare themselves for the final year dissertation. The Employability and Enterprise Skills module will develop their understanding of the job market, their goals and how they can present themselves to prospective employers. By the end of this Stage students will have a critical awareness of the tools and principles in finance and economics and their applicability, an understanding of statistical techniques relevant to both economic and finance, an awareness of the skills necessary to identify, frame and research a dissertation topic in their chosen area of economics and finance and an understanding as to how they can develop their career and set appropriate personal goals.

Stage 3 [Level 6]

In Stage 3 students will research and write-up a dissertation in their chosen topic within Financial Economics, with guidance from their supervisor. This will build upon the Level 5 module Research Methods for Economists and can be complemented by the semester 1 Level 6 Econometrics module. By the end of this Stage students will demonstrate understanding of advanced economic and financial analysis. Students will develop a deeper, more specialised knowledge and understanding of the application of economic and finance principles. Students will have the opportunity to examine economic issues from a range of perspectives; for example, social dimensions ethics, finance, trade and policymaking. Upon completion students will be able to explain ideas to a wide range of audiences and complex ideas to non-technical audiences. Students will possess insight into the current direction in economics teaching regarding interlinkages between microeconomics and macroeconomics.

At Stage 3 students will be able to choose 40 credits from a wide range of subject options including up to 20 credits at level 5.

Stage 1

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Semester	Module Code
4	Introduction to Accounting	Core	20	1&2	AFE4005-B
4	Principles of Management	Core	20	1&2	OIM4006-B
4	Introduction to Finance	Core	20	1&2	AFE4004-B
4	Introduction to Microeconomics	Core	20	1&2	AFE4010-B
4	Introduction to Macroeconomics	Core	20	1&2	AFE4011-B
4	Quantitative Methods for Economists	Core	20	1&2	AFE4013-B

At the end of stage 1, students will be eligible to exit with the award of Certificate of Higher Education if they have successfully completed at least 120 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Stage 2

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Semester	Module Code
5	Employability and Enterprise skills	Core	20	1	HRM5004-B
5	Financial Management	Core	20	1	AFE5011-B
5	Multinational Finance and Investment	Core	20	2	AFE5013-B
5	Intermediate Microeconomics	Core	20	1or2	AFE5021-B
5	Intermediate Macroeconomics	Core	20	1or2	AFE5022-B
5	Research Methods for Economists	Core	20	1or2	AFE5023-B

At the end of stage 2, students will be eligible to exit with the award of Diploma of Higher Education if they have successfully completed at least 240 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Stage 3

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Semester	Module Code
6	Dissertation in Financial Economics	Core	40	1&2	AFE6030-D
6	Current Issues in International Business	Option	20	1	SIB6007-B
6	Risk Management and Derivatives	Core	20	1	AFE6013-B
6	Leading and Managing People	Option	20	1	HRM6014-B
6	Econometrics	Option	20	1	AFE6019-B
6	Product and Corporate Brand Management	Option	20	1	MAR6013-B
6	Business Ethics and Social Responsibility	Option	20	2	HRM6010-B
6	Interactive Services Marketing	Option	20	2	MAR6011-B
6	Contemporary Development in Employee Relations	Option	20	2	HRM6011-B
6	Taxation	Option	20	2	AFE6002-B
6	Contemporary issues in Economics	Option	20	2	AFE6018-B
6	Advanced Economics	Core	20	2	AFE6020-B
6	Project Management	Option	20	1	OIM6008-B
5	International Business Strategy	Option	20	1	SIB5001-B
5	Human Resource Management	Option	20	1	HRM5008-B
5	European Business and Management	Option	20	2	SIB5006-B
5	Auditing	Option	20	2	AFE5009-B
5	Strategic Management	Option	20	2	SIB5003-B

5	Organisational Design and Analysis	Option	20	2	HRM5014-B
5	Entrepreneurship Creativity and Innovation	Option	20	2	EAE5001-B
5	Management of Information Systems	Option	20	2	OIM5009-B
6	University Elective	Elective	20		

Students will be eligible to exit with the award of Ordinary Degree of Bachelor if they have successfully completed at 120 credits in both Level 4 and 5 and 60 credits at level 6 and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students will be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor if they have successfully completed at least 360 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

The curriculum may change, subject to the University's programme approval, monitoring and review procedures.

Placement Year and Study Abroad

This programme provides the option for students to undertake a work placement or period of study abroad between Stages 2 and 3. Students wishing to take this option will be registered for the 4 year programme. There is the possibility to study abroad for shorter periods of time than one year but students are strongly advised to discuss this possibility with the Programme Leader.

We promote study abroad as there is overwhelming evidence as to the benefits. Research shows that students that were either on placement or on a studying abroad year achieve higher average salaries and are more likely to achieve a First Class (1st) or Upper Second Class (2.i) in their degree (Source: The UK Higher Education International Unit's Go International programme Report, 18 February 2016).

We have longstanding partnerships with highly regarded institutions in great locations where the teaching is in English:

- Rome (Italy): Università degli Studi Roma Tre
- Vienna (Austria): University of Vienna
- Amsterdam (Netherlands): VU University Amsterdam
- Madrid (Spain): University of Carlos III Madrid
- Cologne (Germany): University of Cologne
- Tokyo (Japan): Hosei University
- Seoul (South Korea): Sogang University
- California (USA): California State University

For further information about study abroad opportunities please refer to <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/international/erasmus-and-international-exchanges/>

Work placements are extremely valuable in helping students to develop their understanding of all aspects of economics. Historically, students who have undertaken a placement year attain higher degree classifications and improved graduate employment prospects.

Our students are highly successful in securing both summer and year-long internships and placements with prestigious employers, including the competitive Government Economic Service placement scheme (e.g. Department for Work and Pensions, Department of Health and the Treasury), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and a range of private sector companies involved in marketing, finance and the voluntary sector.

Students are responsible for finding a placement, but they are fully supported by our dedicated work placements team who will advertise placement vacancies, help them with applications, CV writing, interview techniques and preparing for their time in work. There are regular visits to the School of Management by representatives of both local and national companies, looking to recruit graduates. There are also great opportunities for students to do shorter internships (6 or 8 weeks) or in company projects.

A year spent in employment provides an excellent opportunity to apply the knowledge, understanding and skills that students have developed during the earlier Stages of their programme. It will also enable students to further develop their transferable skills and may even secure their entry onto the graduate career ladder as many employers use a placement year as a method of recruitment onto their graduate training scheme. Our students are increasingly securing work placements, either during the summer vacation or for a full year in industry and the public sector.

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Semester	Module Code
5	Placement	Core	ACYR	MAL5009-Z
5	Study Abroad	Core	ACYR	MAL5010-Z

On successful completion of the MAL5009-Z, students will be eligible for the award of University Diploma in Professional Services.

On successful completion of the MAL5010-Z, students will be eligible for the award of University Diploma in Professional Services.

For further information about study abroad opportunities please refer to <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/international/erasmus-and-international-exchanges/>

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The approach to teaching and learning aims to integrate applied and theoretical knowledge, taking into consideration the learning outcomes, progression through the levels of study, the nature of the mode of study and the need for students to take greater responsibility for their own learning as they progress through the programme.

The strategy for learning is to enable students to achieve their optimum level of competence and understanding at each stage in order to be well prepared, and feel confident, to progress to higher levels of skill and knowledge. While lectures are the main teaching method, a wide variety of other learning activities take place including: seminars and supplementary reading, exercises, projects and workbooks, independent study and group work.

The Stage 3 dissertation is a substantial piece of work that gives students the opportunity not only to increase their specialist subject knowledge, but also to

demonstrate their ability to undertake independent study. Throughout the programme, students will acquire skills that will be useful not only in economics and finance, but in whatever profession students choose to follow. These will be taught, practised and assessed.

Assessment Strategy

Methods of assessment vary according to the learning outcomes of particular modules and the stage of study. Accordingly, a mixture of closed book examinations, essays and other written work, oral presentations, problem solving exercises and group work will be used in assessment of their work. Classroom and mid-semester tests are intended to provide feedback on their progress. Throughout the programme their learning will be supported using various methods of formative assessment and feedback. This is to help students progress their studies and support their continuing development.

For all taught modules their learning will be directed, supported and reinforced through a combination of lectures, tutorials, small group seminars, virtual learning environment activities and guided private studies. The School of Management is also committed to demonstrating the relevance of taught material to real economic and business problems; and students can expect to see guest industry lectures and the use of real business and economic problems for assessment purposes. Generally, for each module, students will attend one lecture and one tutorial each week during which they will be in direct contact with teaching staff. Their learning will be supplemented by private and group study (as appropriate) following the direction of module teaching staff. All teaching will be supported by information and activities provided through the University's virtual learning environment. In addition, the School offers our Effective Learning Service, which helps with the development of study skills both in group sessions and through individual coaching.

One of the School of Management's main aims is to address major challenges for business and society such as global responsibility and sustainable development. Accordingly, the School seeks to prepare students who are able to contribute in an effective manner to debates about sustainable development and critically appraise the relationship(s) between the social, economic and environmental dimensions. Our intention is to nurture students who can apply the principles of sustainable development in their professional capacity. Whilst there are a number of individual modules that focus specifically on sustainability issues, awareness of the importance and principles of sustainability is emphasised in modules.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Regulations which are available at the following link:

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/academic-quality-unit/ordinances-and-regulations-for-taught-courses/>

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students and most important in the decision to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this

particular programme. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

The **minimum** entry requirements for the programme are as follows:

120 UCAS points including ONE full A Level or equivalent and Maths and English GCSE at Grade 4 (C) or above.

The UCAS **tariff** applicable may vary and is published here

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/finance-and-economics-bsc/>

Applications are welcome from students with non-standard qualifications or mature students (those over 21 years of age on entry) with significant relevant experience.

Recognition of Prior Learning

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval (Faculty Board)
1		
2		