

**KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION**

<b>Originating institution(s)</b> Bournemouth University	<b>Faculty responsible for the programme</b> Bournemouth University Business School
<b>Final award(s), title(s) and credits</b> MSc Finance – 180 credits (90 ECTS)	
<b>Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits</b> PG Certificate Finance – 60 credits (30 ECTS) PG Diploma Finance – 120 credits (60 ECTS)	
<b>UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable and if known)</b> N/A	<b>HECoS (Higher Education Classification of Subjects) Code and balanced or major/minor load.</b> 101040 (75%), 100828 (25%)
<b>External reference points</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QAA Chapter A1: The National Level (incorporating the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ))</li> <li>• QAA Chapter A2: The Subject &amp; Qualification Level: Masters Level</li> <li>• QAA subject benchmarks - Finance 2007</li> </ul>	
<b>Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links</b> None	
<b>Places of delivery</b> Bournemouth University	
<b>Mode(s) of delivery</b> Full-time; Full-time sandwich	<b>Language of delivery</b> English
<b>Typical duration</b> 12-16 months full-time 20-24 months full-time sandwich	
<b>Date of first intake</b> September 2019	<b>Expected start dates</b> September, January.
<b>Maximum student numbers</b> N/A	<b>Placements</b> <i>Optional Placement (30 week minimum) on fulltime sandwich programme.</i>
<b>Partner(s)</b> Not applicable	<b>Partnership model</b> Not applicable
<b>Date of this Programme Specification</b> April 2025	
<b>Version number</b> 1.7-925	
<b>Approval, review or modification reference numbers</b> E 201819 22 EC 1819 22 FM1920 17, approved 20/04/2020 EC2021 01, FM2021 04 approved 04/11/2020 and 10/03/2021, previously v1.1 FM2021 21, approved 31/05/2021, previously v1.2 BUBS2122 24, approved 24/02/2022, previously 1.3 BUBS2122 20, approved 17/11/2021 and 02/02/2022, previously v1.4 EC 2122 55, approved 07/07/2022, EC2223 02 BUBS 2324 04, Approved 20/12/2023, previously v 1.5 BUBS2425 22, approved 07/04/2025, previously 1.6	

## Programme Specification – Section 1

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## Programme Specification - Section 2

### PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

<b>Programme Award and Title:</b> MSc Finance										
<b>Level 7</b> Students are required to complete 4 core units and choose 2 optional units										
Unit Name	Core/ Option	No of credits	Assessment Element Weightings <sup>1</sup>				Expected contact hours per unit	Unit version no.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/minor load)	
			Exam 1	Exam 2	Cwk 1	Cwk 2				
International Corporate Finance	Core	20	60		40		40	1.0	101040	100
Risk Management	Option	20	50		50		40	1.1	100835	100
Portfolio Management and Asset Allocation	Core	20	100				40	1.1	100828	100
Derivatives and Alternative Investment	Option	20	50		50		40	1.1	101040	
Economics of Money and Financial Markets	Option	20	50		50		40	1.0	100450	100
Statistics and Data Analytics	Core	20			50	50	40	1.1	101030	100
Financial Reporting and Analysis	Option	20	60		40		40	1.2	100449	100
Financial Markets and Instruments	Core	20	60		40		40	1.1	100827	100
<b>Progression requirements:</b> A minimum of 80 credits is necessary to progress to the Research Project. Students will normally have completed 180 credits before proceeding to the placement but this requirement may be relaxed in the case of a student who needs to resit assessment(s). In such cases, decisions will be made on an individual basis and in the best interests of the student.										
<b>Exit qualification:</b> PGCert Finance requires 60 Credits (30 ECTS) PGDip Finance requires 120 Credits (60 ECTS)										
<b>Placement</b> The 30 week placement is optional for students. The placement is not credit-bearing and is assessed on a pass/fail basis (ie satisfactory completion of 30 weeks). The placement will appear on a student's degree transcript. Students are required to find their own placements. Students must comply with any visa requirements.										
Placement	Option	0			Pass /Fail		5	3.0		
Dissertation (PG Accounting, Finance and Economics)	Core	60			100		20	1.0	101040	100
<b>Exit qualification:</b> MSc Finance requires 180 Credits (90 ECTS)										

### AIMS OF THE DOCUMENT

The aims of this document are to:

- define the structure of the programme;
- specify the programme award titles;
- identify programme and level learning outcomes;
- articulate the regulations governing the awards defined within the document.

### AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme aims to develop critically informed, agile and resourceful graduates, who:

- have the versatility and professional qualities necessary to work in global finance context;
- are critically aware of the wider impact of financial decisions on organisational stakeholders and the wider economy;
- have highly-developed interpersonal and analytical skills;
- are able to manage their own personal development and lifelong learning.

### ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The proposed framework will create a stimulating, challenging and rewarding university experience through a clear focus on Bournemouth University's strategic plan (BU2025) and the university's unique fusion of excellent research, education and professional practice. This approach will inform our teaching practices, which will focus on professional and research informed content. The BU Business School is dedicated to being an internationally recognised thought-leader and has a team of talented staff with excellent reputations in terms of outstanding or emerging research and professional practice. Moreover, our staff will utilise their talents to create an exceptional student learning experience through the use of inspirational and technology enhanced teaching methods. Students will be provided with an opportunity to learn from this integration of professional practice and cutting-edge research through the use of work-related learning materials and real-world and problem solving assessment.

### LEARNING HOURS AND ASSESSMENT

Bournemouth University taught programmes are composed of units of study, which are assigned a credit value indicating the amount of learning undertaken. The minimum credit value of a unit is normally 20 credits, above which credit values normally increase at 20-point intervals. 20 credits is the equivalent of 200 study hours required of the student, including lectures, seminars, assessment and independent study. 20 University credits are equivalent to 10 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits.

The assessment workload for a unit should consider the total time devoted to study, including the assessment workload (i.e. formative and summative assessment) and the taught elements and independent study workload (i.e. lectures, seminars, preparatory work, practical activities, reading, critical reflection).

Assessment per 20 credit unit should normally consist of 3,000 words or equivalent. Dissertations and Level 6 and 7 Final Projects are distinct from other assessment types. The word count for these assignments is 5,000 words per 20 credits, recognising that undertaking an in-depth piece of original research as the capstone to a degree is pedagogically sound.

## STAFF DELIVERING THE PROGRAMME

Students will usually be taught by a combination of senior academic staff with others who have relevant expertise including – where appropriate according to the content of the unit – academic staff, qualified professional practitioners, demonstrators/technicians and research students.

## INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – AND HOW THE PROGRAMME ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

### PROGRAMME AND LEVEL 7 INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

<p><b>A: Subject knowledge and understanding</b></p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</p>
<p><b>A1</b> organisations, the financial environments in which they operate and how financial decisions are made;</p> <p><b>A2</b> financial functions and processes;</p> <p><b>A3</b> the limitations of current financial knowledge and practices;</p> <p><b>A4</b> pervasive, contemporary and emerging issues in finance;</p> <p><b>A5</b> financial risk management in portfolio management.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>lectures (A1 – A5);</li> <li>seminars (A1 – A5);</li> <li>directed reading (A1 – A5);</li> <li>use of the VLE (A1 – A5);</li> <li>independent research (for dissertation) (A3 , A4).</li> </ul> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>open book examinations (A1-A5);</li> <li>coursework essays (A1 – A5);</li> <li>dissertation (A3, A4).</li> </ul>
<p><b>B: Intellectual skills</b></p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme outcomes:</p>
<p><b>B1</b> critically evaluate theory and practice;</p> <p><b>B2</b> analyse and synthesise information, identifying implicit values, detecting false logic or reasoning and ensuring that conclusions are supported by evidence;</p> <p><b>B3</b> integrate and synthesise evidence from a range of sources to support findings, proposed solutions and hypotheses;</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>lectures (B1 – B5);</li> <li>seminars (B1 – B5);</li> <li>directed reading (B1 – B5);</li> </ul>

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<p><b>B4</b> manage complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity;</p> <p><b>B5</b> Use specialised technical/academic skills across the area of study to evaluate financial data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use of the VLE (B1 – B5);</li> <li>• independent research (for dissertation) (B1 - B5).</li> </ul> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open book examinations (B1- B5);</li> <li>• coursework essays (B1 - B5);</li> <li>• dissertation (B1 - B5).</li> </ul>
<p><b>C: Practical skills</b></p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</p>
<p><b>C1</b> demonstrate confidence and competence in the use of information technologies, including working effectively in an online environment;</p> <p><b>C2</b> conduct research into financial issues, either individually or as part of a team;</p> <p><b>C3</b> use appropriate skills to communicate effectively in business situations;</p> <p><b>C4</b> prepare and present research findings in a range of effective and appropriate formats;</p> <p><b>C5</b> demonstrate an understanding of the range of techniques and software packages relevant to the programme;</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lectures (C1 – C5);</li> <li>• coursework essays (C1 - C5);</li> <li>• independent research for empirical dissertation (C1 – C5);</li> </ul> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examinations (C3);</li> <li>• coursework essays (C1 – C5);</li> <li>• dissertation (C2-C5).</li> </ul>
<p><b>D: Transferable skills</b></p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</p>
<p><b>D1</b> perform effectively when working in collaboration with others;</p> <p><b>D2</b> deploy a range of interpersonal skills including effective listening, negotiating, persuasion and presentation;</p> <p><b>D3</b> demonstrate openness and sensitivity to diversity in terms of other people, cultures and business and management issues;</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lectures (D1 – D6);</li> <li>• seminars (D1- D6);</li> </ul>

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<p><b>D4</b> manage their own motivation, tasks and behaviour in enterprising, innovative and professionally appropriate ways;</p> <p><b>D5</b> communicate effectively by oral, written and visual means information, ideas and concepts.</p> <p><b>D6</b> Use IT effectively, including the Web, spreadsheets, statistical software and word-processing.</p>	<p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• coursework essays (D1 – D6);</li><li>• examinations (D5);</li><li>• dissertation ( D5, D6).</li></ul>
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### ADMISSION REGULATIONS

Please refer to the course website for further information regarding admission regulations for this programme: [MSc Finance | Bournemouth University](#)

### PROGRESSION ROUTES

Recognition arrangements provide formally approved entry or progression routes through which students are eligible to apply for a place on a programme leading to a BU award. Recognition does not guarantee entry onto the BU receiving programme only eligibility to apply. In some cases, additional entry criteria such as a Merit classification from the feeder programme may also apply. Please see the Recognition Register

([https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/pandptest/7J\\_Recognition\\_Register\\_Public.xlsx](https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/pandptest/7J_Recognition_Register_Public.xlsx)) for a full list of approved Recognition arrangements and agreed entry criteria.

### ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate Assessment Regulations. The University's Standard Assessment Regulations are available using the following link:

<https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/pandptest/6a-standard-assessment-regulations-postgraduate.pdf>

### PLACEMENT ELEMENT

Those students who undertake the programme on a fulltime (sandwich) and successfully complete a minimum 30 week placement will be eligible for the award of full-time sandwich degree. The placement takes the form of a non-credit bearing unit which is undertaken following the Research Project.



## Programme Specification - Section 2

### Programme Skills Matrix

Units		Programme Intended Learning Outcomes																					
		A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	A 5	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	B 5	C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4	C 5	D 1	D 2	D 3	D 4	D 5	D 6	
LEVEL 7	International Corporate Finance	x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Statistics and Data Analytics	x		x		x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	
	Risk Management	x	x			x	x	x		x		x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Portfolio Management and Asset Allocation	x	x		x	x	x			x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Dissertation (PG Accounting, Finance and Economics)		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Financial Reporting and Analysis		x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x		x			x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Derivatives and Alternative Investment	x	x		x	x	x			x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Financial Markets and Instruments	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	Economics of Money and Financial Markets	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x		x		x	x	x	
<b>A – Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b> This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:  <div>1. organisations, the financial environments in which they operate and how financial decisions are made;</div> <div>2. financial functions and processes;</div> <div>3. the limitations of current financial knowledge and practices;</div> <div>4. pervasive, contemporary and emerging issues in finance;</div> <div>5. financial risk management in portfolio management.</div>												<b>C: Practical skills</b>  This programme provides opportunities for students to:  <div>1. demonstrate confidence and competence in the use of information technologies, including working effectively in an online environment;</div> <div>2. conduct research into financial issues, either individually or as part of a team;</div> <div>3. use appropriate skills to communicate effectively in business situations;</div> <div>4. prepare and present research findings in a range of effective and appropriate formats;</div> <div>5. demonstrate an understanding of the range of techniques and software packages relevant to the programme;</div>											
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