KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	**Faculty responsible for the programme** Faculty of Science and Technology
Final award(s), title(s) and credit MSc Financial Technology – 180 credits (90 ECTS)	
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits PGDip Financial Technology - 120 Credits (60 ECTS) PGCert Financial Technology - 60 Credits (30 ECTS)	
UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable and if known) N/A	**HECoS (Higher Education Classification of Subjects) Code and balanced or major/minor load.** 100360 Business Computing (balanced) 100362 Business Information Technology (balanced) **CAH Code**: 11-01-07 Business Computing **Does this programme require ATAS:** NO
External reference points The UK Quality Code for Higher Education (https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/) Chapter A1: The National Level (incorporating the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) Chapter A2: The Subject and Qualification Level (incorporating the Subject benchmark statements for Computing (2022)) United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links N/A	
Places of delivery Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus	
Mode(s) of delivery Full-time (FT)	**Language of delivery** English
Typical duration 12 months – September intake 16 months – January intake	
Date of first intake September 2025	**Expected start dates** September, January
Maximum student numbers 40	**Placements** None
Partner(s) N/A	**Partnership model** N/A
Date of this Programme Specification April 2025	
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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme Award and Title: MSc Financial Technology								
Stage 1/Level 7 Students are required to complete 7 core units								
Unit Name	**Core/ Option**	**No. of Credits**	**Assessment Element Weightings**			**Expected Contact hours per unit**	**Unit Version No.**	**HECoS Code** (plus balanced or major/ minor load)
			Exam 1	**Cwk 1**	**Cwk 2**			
Applied Programming for Data Science	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100956 (major), 100359 (minor)
Distributed Ledger Technologies: Blockchain and Beyond	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100362 (major), 100361 (minor)
Digital Transformation in Global FinTech	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100362 (major), 100367 (minor)
Data Processing and Analytics	Core	20		100%		30	3.0	100755, 100754 (balanced)
Industrial Skills and Professional Issues (FinTech)	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100962 (major), 101090 (minor)
IT Governance and Ethics	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100362, 100793 (balanced)
Individual Masters Project	Core	60		100%		10	2.0	100367 (major), 100962 (minor)
Exit qualification: MSc Financial Technology requires 180 credits at Level 7								

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

The MSc Financial Technology (FinTech) programme prepare students from diverse backgrounds, including computing, finance, economics, and business, to meet the growing market demand for professionals with expertise in utilising computing and information technology applications to support day-to-day business activities and make critical financial decisions.

Technological advancements and innovations are reshaping the global economy and society. FinTech, in particular, leverages these technologies to explore and analyse financial data, creating solutions that transform the finance industry. Initiatives such as the UK's Kalifa Review of UK FinTech, the EU's Digital Finance Strategy, and the Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN) reflect the international commitment to fostering FinTech innovation and collaboration. Additionally, the rapid growth of emerging markets and the increasing focus on financial inclusion have accelerated the adoption of FinTech solutions worldwide. This programme focuses on providing students with a strong foundation in core knowledge and skills necessary to design and build trustworthy computing technologies that drive innovation and efficiency in the financial sector on a global scale. Students will explore cutting-edge topics such as blokchain, smart contracts, AI in finance, and digital currencies, while also addressing the ethical, regulatory, and security challenges posed by these technologies.

By completing this programme, graduates will be prepared to pursue research and employment opportunities in Financial Technology related fields, contributing to the global effort to enhance financial innovation, inclusion, and sustainability. They will possess advanced technical skills, scientific knowledge, and a strong sense of ethical responsibility, enabling them to make a positive impact on the global financial ecosystem. Furthermore, graduates will be prepared to address the unique challenges and opportunities presented by the increasing interconnectivity of global financial markets and the emergence of new financial technologies.

The primary aim of this postgraduate programme is to develop Masters-level graduates who possess:

- A critical understanding of financial technology concepts and principles, with the ability to utilise relevant tools and methods.
- A critical understanding of creating innovative financial technology applications and the ability to apply knowledge and skills to develop solutions for real-world problems.
- Technical skills and competencies to work across data, operations, analytics, processes, technology & architecture of different industries and segments, such as investment banking, retail banking, insurance, wealth management, and financial regulatory bodies.
- Research skills in areas such as literature reviews, critical analysis of research findings, project proposals, planning, experiment design and analysis, and dissemination, with a focus on the application of these skills to financial technology topics.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY’S STRATEGIC PLAN

The MSc Financial Technology programme aligns with Bournemouth University's 2025 strategic plan, which emphasises the fusion of excellent teaching, world-class research, and professional practice. This alignment reflects the institution's core values of Excellence, Inclusivity, Creativity, and Responsibility.

Students in the programme benefit from the support of academics with extensive industry experience, many of whom are actively involved in various computer science related projects with external

organisations. These academics are also engaged in cutting-edge research, and students are encouraged to participate in co-creation and co-publication projects.

The programme's pedagogical approach focuses on practical, industry-focused tasks, collaborative learning, and engagement with the industry through guest lectures, industrial events and projects. This approach aims to equip students with the full range of skills necessary to succeed in the contemporary ICT environment. The academic team's own industrial experience, as well as their network of industry contacts, informs the programme. These industry contacts may also contribute directly to the programme by delivering guest lectures.

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, *practice (if relevant)*).

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. This programme adheres to best practice in both academia and industry. MSc dissertation projects can range from constructing an artefact to professional standards to conducting empirical research. Students will also produce concise reports similar to scientific papers, demonstrating rigorous research, analysis and presentation of results.

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

A: Subject knowledge and understanding This programme/level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of*:*	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
A1 Principles, concepts and techniques of financial technology and related research. A2 Enabling technologies for financial technology applications. A3 A rigorous scientific and engineering approach to investigating and solving financial problems such as those in a global context.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (A1 – A5); • seminars (A1 – A5); • directed reading (A1 – A5); • use of the VLE (A1 - A5); • independent research (for project) (A1 - A5).
	Assessment strategies and methods:

A4 The management and development of financial technology solutions to address financial problems. A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical, and global contexts in which financial technology applications are developed and deployed.	• coursework (A1 – A5); • project (A1 - A5).
B: Intellectual skills This programme/level/ provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:

B1 Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex financial problems.
 	
B2 Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research.
 	
B3 Critically evaluate and justify alternative approaches to solutions development.
 	
B4 Formulate, plan, execute, and report on a project involving original contributions.
 	
B5 Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.
	Learning and teaching strategies and methods:
	• lectures (B1 – B3, B5);
	  • labs/seminars (B1 – B5);
	  • workshops (B1 – B5);
	  • use of the VLE (B1 – B3);
	• independent research (for project) (B1 - B5).
	
	Assessment strategies and methods:
	• coursework (B1 - B5);
	• project (B1 - B5).

C: Practical skills This programme/level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources towards the financial needs and requirements, with analysis of existing best practices and management of risk. C2 Analyse, specify, design, and implement financial technology applications to meet business goals. C3 Select appropriate methods and tools for solving financial problems. C4 Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of a financial technology solution.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (C1 – C3); • labs/seminars (C1 – C4); • workshops (C1 – C4); • use of the VLE (C1 – C2); • coursework (C1 – C4); • independent research (for project) (C1 – C4); • group exercises (C1 – C4). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (C1 – C4); • project (C1 – C4).
D: Transferable skills This programme/level/ provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D1 Demonstrate problem solving skills and the application of knowledge across the discipline areas.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (D1 - D5); • labs/seminars (D1- D5); • workshops (D1 – D5);

D2 Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data, and present professionally using appropriate media. D3 Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards. D4 Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning. D5 Distil, synthesise, and critically analyse alternative approaches and methodologies to problems and research results reported in literature and elsewhere.	• use of the VLE (D3 - D5); • independent research (for project) (D1 – D5) • directed reading (D1, D2, D4,- D5). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (D1 - D5); • project (D1- D5).

PG Dip INTENDED LEVEL OUTCOMES

A: Knowledge and understanding This level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of*:*	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
A1 Principles and techniques of financial technology and related research. A2 Enabling technologies for financial technology applications. A4 The management and development of financial tec Technology solutions to address financial problems. A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical, and global contexts in which financial technology applications are developed and deployed.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (A1, A2, A4, A5); • seminars (A1, A2, A4, A5); • directed reading (A1, A2, A4, A5). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (A1, A2, A4, A5).
B: Intellectual skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
B1 Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex financial problems. B2 Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research. B3 Critically evaluate and justify alternative approaches to solutions development. B5 Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (B1 – B3, B5); • labs/seminars (B1 – B3, B5); • workshops (B1 – B3, B5); • use of the VLE (B1 – B3). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (B1 – B3, B5)
C: Practical skills	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and

This level provides opportunities for students to:	methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources towards the financial needs and requirements, with analysis of existing best practices and management of risk. C3 Select appropriate methods and tools for solving financial problems. C4 Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of a financial technology solution.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (C1, C3); • labs/seminars (C1, C3, C4); • workshops (C1, C3, C4); • use of VLE (C1); • coursework (C1, C3, C4); • group exercises (C1, C3, C4).
	Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (C1, C3, C4);
D: Transferable skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D1 Demonstrate problem solving skills and the application of knowledge across the discipline areas. D2 Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data, and present professionally using appropriate media. D3 Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards. D4 Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (D1 – D4); • labs/seminars (D1- D4); • workshops (D1 – D4); • use of the VLE (D3, D4); • directed reading (D1, D2, D4).
	Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (D1 – D4).

PG Cert INTENDED LEVEL OUTCOMES

A: Knowledge and understanding This level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of*:*	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
A1 Principles and techniques of financial technology and related research. A4 The management and development of financial technology solutions to address financial problems. A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical, and global contexts in which financial technology applications are developed and deployed.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (A1, A4, A5); • seminars (A1, A4, A5); • directed reading (A1, A4, A5); • Independent research (for project) (A1, A4, A5).
	Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (A1, A4, A5);

	• project (A1, A4, A5).
B: Intellectual skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
B1 Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex financial problems. B2 Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research. B5 Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (B1, B2, B5); • labs/seminars (B1, B2, B5); • workshops (B1, B2, B5); • use of the VLE (B1, B2).
	Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (B1, B2, B5)
C: Practical skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources towards the financial needs and requirements, with analysis of existing best practices and management of risk. C4 Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of a financial technology solution.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (C1, C4); • abs/seminars (C1, C4); • workshops (C1, C4); • use of VLE (C1); • coursework (C1, C4); • group exercises (C1, C4).
	Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (C1, C4);
D: Transferable skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D2 Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data, and present professionally using appropriate media. D3 Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards. D4 Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (D2 – D4); • labs/seminars (D2- D4); • workshops (D2 – D4); • use of the VLE (D23, –D4); • directed reading (D2, –D4).
	Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (D2 – D4).

Programme Skills Matrix

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes **Units**		**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**	**D 1**	**D 2**	**D 3**	**D 4**	**D 5**
L7	Applied Programming for Data Science	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
L7	Distributed Ledger Technologies: Blockchain and Beyond	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Digital Transformation in Global FinTech	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Data Processing and Analytics	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Industrial Skills and Professional Issues (FinTech)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	IT Governance and Ethics	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Individual Masters Project	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate Admission Regulations.

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 for a full list of approved Recognition arrangements and agreed entry criteria.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

6A – Standard Assessment Regulations: Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

N/A