

Accounting and Finance BSc Course Specification

Academic Entry Year:	2026/2027
Degree Awarding Body:	The University of Bradford
Main Location:	City Campus
Subject Benchmarks:	Accounting (QAA 2016); Finance (QAA 2016)
Qualifications Framework:	HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ: QAA 2014)
Target Degree Award:	Bachelor of Science with Honours (BSc Hons) Accounting and Finance [FL6]
Intermediate/exit awards:	Ordinary Degree of Bachelor (BSc) [FHEQ Level 6] Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) [FHEQ Level 5] Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) [FHEQ Level 4]
Programme Admissions:	UK and international students
Programme Start Date(s):	September
Programme Modes of Study:	UCAS code N420: 3 years full-time UCAS code N421: 4 years full-time & sandwich placement or study abroad UCAS code N422: 4 years full-time with Integrated Foundation Year UCAS code N423: 5 years full-time with Foundation and Placement Year Partner entry only: 4-5 years full time (international incorporated Bachelors)

Some modules in this programme are recognised to provide exemptions by [The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants \(ACCA\)](#), [the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants \(CIMA\)](#) and by [the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales \(ICAEW\)](#). This means that by successfully completing these modules within the programme, students are eligible for credit towards professional examinations offered by these bodies.

Please note: The University has a set of terms and conditions for all students accepting an offer to study on a course here at Bradford. This is called the Student Contract. This document sets out the Terms and Conditions which apply when an offer of a place on a programme of study at the University of Bradford is accepted. [View our Student Contract for further details](#). Information about this programme and its modules has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them.

Minor Modification Schedule

1. April 2024: Updated options.
2. July 2025: Annual Changes for the 2025 academic year, including changes to academic regulations.
3. April 2026: Annual changes for 2026 entry, including changes to options and admissions.
4. October 2026: Swap HRM6011-B for MAR6011-B (correct mistake) & fix typos, format errors

Introduction

The BSc (Hons) programme in Accounting and Finance has been designed for those business students who wish to pursue a career in accounting and finance but at the same time provides these students with a general business education.

Accountancy is a regulated profession generally requiring a mix of study and work experience before taking a professional qualification. The BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance degree programme offers many exemptions from professional examinations in the UK and internationally for the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA), Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), and Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). This means you can save time and money in getting to your future career. Details about each exemption can be found on the individual professional body's website:

- [ACCA Exemptions Calculator](#)
- [AICPA-CIMA Educational Exemptions Calculator](#) (University of Bradford)
- [ICAEW Credit for Prior Learning Directory](#) (Bradford University)

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 individual modules that focus specifically on sustainability issues, awareness of the importance and principles of sustainability is emphasised in many others.

Similarly, whilst there are a number of modules specifically designed to develop those personal transferable skills that will increase the student's attractiveness to future employers (e.g. Employability and Enterprise Skills), employability is an over-arching theme across the programme and many of the modules will develop their employability skills in different ways. The BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance programme of study combines academic rigour with practicality and relevance for business and management in industry and commerce. A fundamental aim of the programme is to add value to the contribution students make to their organisations. Added value is evidenced for all students as they apply their learning in the future.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- A1. provide students with an opportunity to equip themselves with specialised knowledge and understanding of accounting and finance practices, theory and applications which enable them to pursue further programmes of study or to progress in their chosen career
- A2. provide students with a basic knowledge and understanding of some of the contexts in which accounting, and finance operates e.g. the legal and social

environment, the accounting and finance profession, the business entity, and the capital markets

- A3. provide a supportive, structured environment in which students are encouraged to develop independent learning skills
- A4. enable students to develop an awareness of the broad range of knowledge required in modern management
- A5. develop in students an appreciation of the principles and importance of sustainability in the context of the global business environment
- A6. provide students with the skills and competences to enhance their employability and which will open up opportunities for meaningful employment when they graduate

Programme Learning Outcomes

Students who start the programme in Stage 0 and are eligible to progress to Stage 1 are able to:

- 0. Apply knowledge and understanding of key academic and professional skills, through exploration of contemporary issues, research, analysis and problem-solving in the subject discipline.

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

- 1. Recognise the contexts in which accounting, and finance operate and how accounting and finance relate to other business disciplines.
- 2. Illustrate, explain, and apply some fundamental concepts in accounting and finance.
- 3. Develop numeracy, organisational, information technology and communication skills. They will also develop their capacity to work in a team and to work independently and to self-manage their learning.

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

- 4. Demonstrate knowledge, critical understanding, and the ability to apply the concepts, languages, theories and methods of Accounting and Finance. Show awareness of the potential problems of these theories and methods and of their application in the global business world.
- 5. Develop skills in assessing, recording, processing, summarising and analysing accounting and financial data and transactions and prepare and analyse financial statements.
- 6. Recognise and explain the factors influencing the investment behaviour of private individuals and firms both in national and in international contexts.

7. Develop the ability to be creative in problem solving, and critical in the evaluation of arguments and evidence. Review their on-going professional and career development, have an identified plan to maintain and improve their knowledge and skills.

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

8. Identify the relationship between Accounting and Finance theory and empirical testing and discuss accounting and finance research and how this research impacts on businesses and individuals.
9. Evaluate the development of appropriate policies and strategies within a changing environment to meet stakeholder interests and engage with the complexity of the sustainability agenda in its broadest sense.
10. Understand and apply the financial instruments and techniques which can be used by businesses and individual investors in the assessment and management of risk.
11. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the up-front knowledge and/or skills in accounting and finance and of how accounting and finance are applied in both national and international contexts.
12. Critically evaluate current research, practice and policy related to accounting and finance.
13. Show the skills required to be an independent learner, seek out solutions to unfamiliar problems and work collaboratively.
14. Critically evaluate and debate theory and practice in written and oral presentations using a variety of current methods and take responsibility for successful collaborative learning.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The programme of study has three, one year long, stages of study. Within each stage students will gain a range of knowledge and understanding specific to accounting and finance, and personal transferable skills, which will improve and enhance their ability to excel at university and beyond.

The School of Management prides itself on providing an educational experience which is informed by the world class research of the School's academic staff. The School also has a long tradition for ensuring that students develop academically with knowledge, understanding and personal skills that are relevant and fit the needs of contemporary business. Together, the exploration of leading research ideas and the application of knowledge and skills to real business problems pose interesting and appropriate challenges to our students.

We understand students may arrive from school, college or some other route as a tutor dependent learner, following prescribed lesson plans and assessments. Through a transformational educational experience, students will graduate as an independent learner, able to identify their own learning needs, sources of information and an ability to critically evaluate, reflect upon and develop their own learning. This process of transformation will be gradual, progressive and supportive. Through each stage of study progressively more advanced skills, experiences and expectations will be introduced, challenging students to mature as a learner within a supportive and developmental environment.

Assessment Strategy

Methods of assessment vary according to the learning outcomes of particular modules and the stage of study. Accordingly, a mixture of, essays, programme work, computer assisted assessment, and individual coursework (alternative to closed book examinations) will be used in assessment of students' work. Throughout the programme student learning will be supported using various methods of formative assessment and feedback. This is to help them progress their studies and support their continuing development.

For all taught modules student learning will be directed, supported and reinforced through a combination of online lectures, online tutorials, virtual learning environment activities, and guided private studies. The School of Management is also committed to demonstrating the relevance of taught material to real business problems; and students can expect to see guest industry lectures and the use of real industry sponsored business problems for assessment purposes.

Generally, for each module, students will attend one lecture and one tutorial each week during which they will be in contact with teaching staff. Student learning will be supplemented by private study (as appropriate) following the direction of module teaching staff. The school's blending teaching strategies provide students with chances to attend face-to-face tutorials. All teaching will be supported by information and activities provided through the University's virtual learning environment.

Curriculum

The BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance curriculum is organised into modular units, studied across the "Academic Year" of two Semesters or discretely in a single Semester. Students study 120 credits in each stage/year, some of which are "core" to the programme and required to be studied, and some of which are "optional" to choose one of from a list. Some modules are required to be studied at earlier stages to study later more advanced modules in that area. We call these modules "pre-requisites".

The integrated programme is designed to prepare and support you for a wide range of careers in accounting, finance and business, and provides a strong foundation for further professional study. From the moment you enrol, you will begin developing the knowledge and skills needed to understand how financial information supports decision-making in organisations.

In the first year, you will build a strong foundation for studying at university level. You will develop key academic and professional skills such as communication, numeracy, critical thinking and independent learning, while exploring contemporary issues affecting organisations and the global economy. Through project work and practical activities, you will begin to interpret financial information, analyse data and develop your problem-solving skills.

As you progress, you will explore accounting and finance in greater depth, including areas such as financial reporting, management accounting, auditing, taxation and corporate finance. You will develop your understanding of how financial information is used to assess performance and support strategic decision-making.

Students may start the course directly in Stage 1 or enter our foundation year before joining stage 1.

Students who join before stage 1 will build a strong foundation for studying at university level. Students will develop key academic and professional skills such as communication, teamwork, critical thinking and independent learning, while exploring contemporary issues affecting people, communities and society. Through project work and practical activities, students will develop skills in research, analysis and problem-solving.

UK/home students can join the **"Stage 0"** foundation year and study 4 core modules:

Stage 0 Core Modules (RQF Level 3)

Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Study Period
SIB3003-C	Fundamentals of Business and Management in a changing environment	30	Semester 1
OIM3002-C	Becoming my professional self	30	Semester 1
AFE3004-C	Introduction to Finance, Accounting and Economics in a Digital World	30	Semester 2
SIB3004-C	Applied Project (Business and Management)	30	Semester 2

Stage 1

Stage 1 of the programme contains core modules and options and provides the foundation level understanding to support the attainment of learning outcomes 1 to 3. During Stage 1 core knowledge and understanding of business and management will be introduced. 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.

During Stage 1, students study 100 core credits and select 1 option for 20 credits, all across the Academic Year:

Table 1: Accounting and Finance Stage 1 modules (cores/options) FHEQ Level 4

Code	Module Title	Credit	Period	Selection
AFE4001-B	Business Economics	20	Year	Core
LAW4006-B	Business Law and Ethics for Accountants	20	Year	Core
AFE4005-B	Introduction to Accounting	20	Year	Core
AFE4004-B	Introduction to Finance	20	Year	Core
OIM4013-B	Principles of Responsible Management and Practice	20	Year	Core
HRM4009-B	People, Work and Organisations/Work in Context	20	Year	Option 1
MAR4002-B	Foundations of Marketing	20	Year	Option 2
OIM4011-B	Operations and Technology Management	20	Year	Option 3
OIM4012-B	Fundamentals of AI and Data Analytics	20	Year	Option 4
SIB4001-B	Principles and Practice of International Business	20	Year	Option 5

Stage 2

Stage 2 focuses on core modules in Accounting and Finance alongside Employability and Enterprise Skills. The Employability and Enterprise Skills module helps students develop transferable skills such as problem solving and career enhancement skills. The broad range of options available in Stage 2 builds on the underpinning knowledge gained at Stage 1. The focus here is more on interpretation and evaluation, rather than understanding and description.

During Stage 2, students study 100 core credits in Semester 1 and Semester 2 and select 1 option for 20 credits in Semester 2. To select MAR5007-B in Stage 2 you must have studied the pre-requisite MAR4002-B in Stage 1:

Table 2: Accounting and Finance Stage 2 modules (cores/options) FHEQ Level 5

Code	Module Title	Credit	Period	Selection
HRM5015-B	Entrepreneurship and Employability	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE5008-B	Financial Accounting	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE5011-B	Financial Management	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE5004-B	Management Accounting	20	Sem 2	Core
AFE5013-B	Multinational Finance and Investment	20	Sem 2	Core
AFE5009-B	Auditing	20	Sem 2	Option 1
EAE5001-B	Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation	20	Sem 2	Option 2
HRM5018-B	Consultancy Skills and Practice	20	Sem 2	Option 3
MAR5007-B	Integrated Marketing Communications	20	Sem 2	Option 4
MAR5013-B	Digital and Social Media for Business	20	Sem 2	Option 5
SIB5003-B	Strategic Management	20	Sem 2	Option 6

After completing Stage 2, students will progress to Stage 3 or undertake the elective Placement/Study Abroad year. See the Placement Year section for more details.

Stage 3

In Stage 3 students will be prepared to demonstrate their ability as an independent learner. For Stage 3, advanced specialist knowledge is gained, and the enhancement of personal transferable skills is further developed. Students will be presented with teaching materials, methods and assessment strategies that will require them to be more evaluative and critical of theory and utilise problem solving skills, often in relation to advanced business scenarios, research information and communicate these effectively, either individually or as part of a group.

During the final Stage 3, students study 80 core credits and select 2 optional modules from the below list, 1 each in Semester 1 and Semester 2.

Table 3: Accounting & Finance Stage 3 modules (FHEQ Level 6 cores, FHEQ Level 5/6 options)

Code	Module Title	Credit	Period	Selection
AFE6012-B	International Accounting and Reporting	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE6014-B	Empirical Methods in Accounting and Finance	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE6013-B	Risk Management and Derivatives	20	Sem 1	Option 1
HRM6014-B	Leading and Managing People	20	Sem 1	Option 2
MAR6014-B	Digital Campaign Planning and Content Management	20	Sem 1	Option 3
SIB5001-B	International Business Strategy	20	Sem 1	Option 4
AFE6002-B	Taxation	20	Sem 2	Core
AFE6031-B	Accounting and Finance Project	20	Sem 2	Core
AFE6018-B	Contemporary issues in Economics	20	Sem 2	Option 5
HRM6010-B	Business Ethics and Social Responsibility	20	Sem 2	Option 6
MAR6011-B	Interactive Services Marketing	20	Sem 2	Option 7
OIM6013-B	Innovation in Logistics and Supply Chain Management	20	Sem 2	Option 8
SIB6009-B	Cross Cultural Management	20	Sem 2	Option 9
AFE5009-B	Auditing	20	Sem 2	Option 10

AFE5009-B is only available if students did not select it at Stage 2. In this scenario, you can select either of SIB5001-B and AFE5009-B as options this year, not both of them.

Assessment, Continuation and Award Regulations

This programme follows the Assessment, Continuation and Award regulations published on the University's website for undergraduate courses ([Regulation 2](#)).

Award of the Honours degree requires 360 FHEQ credits and achievement of the award learning outcomes. Students who exit the programme with 300, 240 or 120 credits completed may be eligible for an intermediate award in line with the regulations.

The professional bodies which award credit or exemptions for this programme maintain their own criteria for awarding these. You may need to meet their requirements, including

choosing specific options, in order to be eligible for any specified exemption. For example, ICAEW specify that you must pass modules with 50% or more examinations at 50% or higher and then apply for the ICAEW exemption within 5 years of completing your degree.

Placement and Study Abroad Options

This programme provides the option for students to undertake a work placement or period of study abroad between Stages 2 and 3. Placements are a fantastic way of building on the professional skills developed during the programme and boosting students' practical industry experience prior to graduating. Equally, study abroad opportunities can be very valuable in giving students experience of academic and/or industrial contexts in other countries. Students wishing to take this option can register directly for, or can transfer to, the 4-year variant of the programme.

There are regular visits to the School of Management by representatives of both local and national companies, looking to recruit graduates. Placements 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.

There are also great opportunities for students to do shorter internships (6 or 8 weeks) or in-company projects. The International Opportunities team can advise students about the available funding to support their study or work experience abroad.

Any placement or period of study abroad is subject to approval by the Programme Team. Students who wish to participate in a placement or period of study abroad will be required to find, apply for and make the most of their chosen opportunity, and will be supported in doing so by the Programme Team, the Faculty Academic Lead for Placements, as well as the central University Careers and Employability Service.

Further information about [internships and placements](#) and [study abroad opportunities](#) is published on the University's website.

Placement Year

Work placements are extremely valuable in helping students to develop their understanding of all aspects of finance and business. 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 on a placement year will be registered for the **MAL5009-Z Placement** module allowing the option of recording information about your experience on your Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR) and academic transcript.

Study Abroad Year

Instead of a placement year, students can opt to study abroad for one year in one of our partner institutions worldwide, where students will be taught in English. Study abroad has a number of benefits, not only as a unique experience in itself but also enhancing academic insights, employability and life skills and the Faculty and the University wish to encourage it, if the circumstances are appropriate. During the exchange the students will have support from the relevant University services.

Students on a study abroad year will be registered for the **MAL5010-Z Study Abroad** module allowing the option of recording information about your experience on your Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR) and academic transcript.

Other International Opportunities

We do not recommend you take up "study abroad semester" opportunities while studying on this programme. This is due to the professional exemptions of the programme being attached to performance in specified modules, which you will not be eligible for if you study substitute modules overseas. Students can still explore opportunities for short international activities (1-6 weeks) that are held over the summer periods by speaking to the University International Opportunities team.

Admission Requirements

We are proud to be [one of the most inclusive universities in the UK](#). All our students have potential, and we believe that as many people as possible should have the chance to benefit from higher education, no matter what their background or circumstances.

We take the time to understand the background of our applicants, understand their journey to education, and make decisions based on an applicant's potential to thrive at university and beyond. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

As the programme is taught in English and relies on numeracy skills, all applicants are required to have GCSE Grade 4 (national grade C) or above in English Language and Mathematics. Alternative RQF Level 2 qualifications such as Key Skills are also acceptable if equivalent. For international students, the level of English required is listed on the [University of Bradford English language requirements website](#).

Academic Entry Requirements

A typical offer to someone joining the BSc Accounting and Finance would be different for Stage 0 entry (4/5 year programme) or Stage 1 entry (3/4 year programme):

- Stage 0 (Foundation Year) entry: 64 UCAS tariff points plus Higher Level grade 3 or Standard Level grade 4 in English. GCSE English grade C/grade 4 (equivalents accepted).
- International students may be nominated to join BSc Accounting and Finance at Bradford through our partnership [University of Bradford International](#)

[College](#) (UBIC) to the International Foundation Year if they do not meet the Stage 1 entry requirements. For 2026/27 entry there is no direct International Stage 0 pathway

A typical offer to someone seeking entry through the Ucas scheme would be 112 points:

- A-Level: BBC - no subject requirements but Maths would be an advantage.
- T-Level: Merit
- BTEC Extended Diploma: DMM.
- Access to HE Diploma: At least 112 UCAS points e.g. D24 M12 P9, D21 M18 P6
- International Baccalaureate: At least 112 Ucas points including 2 HL subjects and Maths at HL3 or SL4.

Examples of equivalent international qualifications are provided on the [University of Bradford page for your country or region](#).

On completion of a UCAS form students will be invited to the Faculty for an Open Day where they will have the opportunity to meet staff, view the facilities and discuss “the Bradford experience” with current students. Students will be made aware of the range of programmes available within the Faculty, including the optional Foundation Year in Management stage permitting entry to this programme or others with 64 UCAS points.

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University of Bradford has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme. Find more information about [recognition of prior learning decisions](#) on the University website.

People thinking of studying with the University of Bradford don't need to wait for the start of the year to contact our Disability Service. The University can arrange for anyone to talk to this team about what support is on offer at Bradford including an invitation to our Get Set Day. To contact the Disability Service please complete the [request support form](#).

We are committed to raising aspirations and widening access to higher education, regardless of your background. The [University of Bradford Progression Scheme](#) welcomes applicants from a number of groups including adult learners who are 21+ on the first day of term, British armed forces families, carers and care experienced learners, estranged or orphaned learners, refugees and asylum seekers, and Romani or Traveller family members.

Please note: Information in this document is for the contemporary recruitment cycle and was accurate at time of publication. The current tariff and accepted qualifications for entry onto the programme is published at the online course page:

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/accounting-and-finance-integrated-foundation-year/>

