International Accounting and Finance MSc
Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2026/2027
Degree Awarding Body:	The University of Bradford
Main Location:	City Campus
Subject Benchmarks:	Masters in Business and Management (Quality Assurance Agency 2019)
Qualifications Framework:	HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ: QAA 2014)
Target Degree Award:	Master of Science (MSc) International Accounting and Finance [FHEQ Level 7]
Intermediate awards:	Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) or Postgraduate Certificate (PGC) [FHEQ Level 7]
Programme Admissions:	UK (all routes) and international students (full-time only)
Programme Start Dates:	September, January
Course Modes of Study:	12 months full-time (September start) 15 months full-time (January start) 24 months full-time (September start) 27 months part-time (January start)

Please note: Some modules in this programme are recognised to provide exemptions by The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). This means that by successfully completing these modules within the programme, students are eligible for credit towards professional examinations.

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 you accept an offer of a place on a programme of study at the University of Bradford. 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. March 2023: updated modules
2. July 2025: Annual Changes for the 2025 academic year, including changes to academic regulation.
3. April 2026: Annual changes for 2026 entry, including revised modes of study.
4. November 2026: Reissued with new formatting and minor corrections

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

Programme Overview

The Master's in International Accounting and Finance is designed to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to operate as effective financial managers who contribute to business and society as a whole whilst applying the highest professional standards. This programme serves also as preparation for further study or an academic career in financial management. Throughout the programme, there is strong emphasis on the practical application of specialist knowledge and skills. Such practical skills and critical faculties will enable the student to apply the knowledge and understanding gained at an early stage in their careers in order to make a meaningful contribution to the organisations they will work for. The focus on various areas of international accounting and finance that this programme offers is in response to the demands from these professionals in the global economy and the need for trained professionals who are able to fully appreciate and appropriately respond to the multiple challenges faced within the international financial industry.

Students will study a number of core subjects that will provide the knowledge and understanding necessary to gain an insight into firm level and macroeconomic aspects of both finance and accounting that will enable superior decision making through the use of specialist skills. An emphasis on the practical application of concepts learned in the classroom and an extensive use of examples, data and case studies will enable them to gain a feel for the "real life" challenges faced within accounting and finance. This experience will enable them to evaluate alternative options to take decisions consistent with the objectives of particular firms and institutions.

The MSc International Accounting and Finance programme cultivates the ethos of an engaging and inclusive learning community that is responsive to different learning styles and allows each student to develop to their full potential. promote a critical understanding of how capital markets operate, how companies are valued, how markets shape the financial manager's operating context, and how companies can protect themselves against risk and uncertainty. The application of theories and financial tools to real-world practical problems should enable students to use the information gained from financial sources in making optimal financing decisions and choices.

The MSc in International Accounting and Finance is supported by experienced academics associated with the Accounting Finance and Economics Department. Staff hold a reputation in the field and will provide significant insights into key elements of business in creating and measuring value, and views of accounting and finance from a strategic perspective.

The School of Management aims to provide programmes that educate students as a manager and business specialist and thus improve the quality of management as a profession. The MSc programme is commensurate with the UK QAA Benchmark for a Type 1 (Specialist Level Career Entry) Master's Degree in Business and Management. The subcategory is “professionally oriented leading to a job in a company/organisation”.

On graduation from this programme students will have developed a portfolio of work that demonstrates specialist knowledge in both advanced accounting and finance alongside awareness of the internalisation inherent within these disciplines alongside employability related skills and will thus be well-placed to access a range of career opportunities nationally or

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

internationally. Therefore, students will be able to contribute to business and society as a whole whilst applying the highest professional standards and will be capable of identifying their own professional development requirements. Equipped with the skills, knowledge and critical faculties required to operate and thrive in the contemporary business environment, students will be ideally placed to pursue a financial related career in business.

This MSc degree programme offers exemptions from professional examinations in the UK and internationally for the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA). This means you can save time and money if you choose to pursue certification after completing this course. Exemption details can be found on the **ACCA Exemptions Calculator** website.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

A1. Prepare students for careers in international finance and accounting industries with suitable coverage of subjects such as corporate finance, international finance, portfolio management, financial accounting and reporting, risk management and other accounting and finance related disciplines. To prepare students for further advanced study (at MPhil / PhD level) in finance, as well as careers as analysts or regulators.

A2. Provide advanced study of financial markets, financial institutions and business organisations, their financial and organisational structure and the political and economic environment in which they operate.

A3. Provide a critical understanding of the main theoretical and empirical evidence relating to areas such as equities, currencies, financial reporting, accounting conventions and systems, banking, institutions and the regulatory context, and appropriate quantitative methods.

A4. Provide a critical understanding of the theory and practice of financial management.

A5. Provide the knowledge and technical skills required to undertake formal financial and economic analysis using the most widely implemented software packages.

A6. Provide a supportive, structured environment in which students are encouraged to develop independent learning skills and provide original contributions to the field of finance.

A7. Develop personal transferable skills, particularly in the areas of teamwork, communication, computing, analytical reasoning and mathematics.

A8. Provide the theoretical and subject specific skills for students to undertake further advanced study (at MPhil / PhD level) in finance and banking.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Students eligible for the FHEQ Level 7 Degree award of Master will be able to:

1. Critically appraise the political, economic and business environments in which banks, multinational enterprises, international financial markets and institutions operate, as well as the context within which financial managers make crucial business decisions.

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

2. Provide a detailed explanation of types of international financial accounting and reporting techniques that are available for multinational enterprises and a critical understanding, both theoretical and empirical, of the way in which these techniques are reported and various types of international accounting decisions including those in relation to international banking, international finance, international trade and investment, including a critical assessment of both theoretical and empirical aspects of financial decision-making.

3. Critical evaluate how multinational corporations can be financed and describe the role of banking institutions in supporting such financing decisions.

4. Advanced technical skills in the areas of international accounting and finance and use of suitable technical software for formal analysis.

5. Demonstrate knowledge of recent developments in the theory and practice of international accounting and finance (e.g. foreign currency consolidations, international transfer pricing,).

6. Apply appropriate international accounting and finance models to real-world problems, particularly through the use of popular computer software packages.

7. Apply enhanced interpersonal skills in communication, negotiation, leadership and teamwork, through group work and tutorial activities.

8. Utilise research skills and demonstrating original thought in financial management by preparing for and writing a Master dissertation.

Assessment Strategy

The assessment strategy for this programme is based on principles of constructive alignment, diversity and inclusion. It employs a well-developed range of formative and summative assessments tasks which are designed to help students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding as well as a skill set in accordance with the learning outcomes for the programme overall and for specific modules. Our overall strategy aims to develop ability to succeed in a global context, and to assist individuals to take effective roles within them in a balanced and diverse range of assessment tasks. Part of usual assessment strategy (I.e. on-campus examinations) cannot take place due to limitations imposed by Covid-19. The programme thus alters and adapts some forms of alternative assessments.

The formative assessment strategy includes monitoring student's learning throughout each semester, using a range of class and seminar activities, personal tutors, project supervision and a variety of coursework, including essays, reflective notes, literature reviews, oral or audio-visual presentations, and individual tasks for which formative feedback is given.

The programme is summatively assessed by a mixture of online examinations, assessed coursework, and applied coursework requiring the use of specialist computer software used on this programme as well as case studies, projects and [multimedia] presentations. Assessment is integrated with learning and teaching to support and demonstrate achievement of the learning outcomes for individual modules and the programme as a whole.

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

Learning outcomes 1, 4, 5, and 6 focus on gaining a critical appreciation of the socio-political and economic context within which financial institutions operate, as well as application of knowledge and technical skills to address "real world" problems. They also aim to provide insights into likely future challenges faced by financial institutions, and the ways to address those challenges in an ethical manner. They are assessed by coursework, tutorial exercises, examinations, preparation of the MSc dissertation and group work in modules such as International Finance.

Learning outcomes 2, 3 and 7 are focused on subject-specific knowledge in both finance and banking, gaining a critical appreciation of financing and the interplay between financial institutions, and acquisition of advanced knowledge of formal concepts in finance using appropriate mathematics, statistics and computational tools. They are assessed by employing a mixture of examinations, individual items of coursework, and the MSc dissertation, in modules such as Quantitative Methods in Finance, International Banking and Business Economics.

Learning outcome 8 focuses on the development of interpersonal and leadership skills, as well as skills in communication, time management and negotiation. These skills will contribute to students portfolio of personal transferable skills and their employability. This learning outcome is assessed by coursework and interactive tutorial and computer lab sessions in modules such Quantitative Methods in Finance and International Banking.

The Dissertation integrates a significant number of Programme learning outcomes. Students will be provided with an opportunity to receive formative feedback in preparation for completing the final research dissertation. The dissertation is an extended piece of written work involving an original and in-depth investigation of a specialist finance issue related to this programme. Guidance on dissertation choice and supervision is provided during the first two phases of the degree, thus giving the student the opportunity to prepare in advance for phase three.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

This programme aims at integrating applied and theoretical knowledge with assessment processes that test both knowledge of the discipline and understanding of its application and limitations. The learning and teaching strategy put significant emphasis on the development of analytical, practical and interpersonal skills. Throughout the programme, students will be actively engaged in a diverse range of learning activities designed to develop your capacities for thoughtful analysis and reflective practice.

Teaching on the programme will take different formats and will be directed, supported and reinforced through a combination of formal online lectures, staff/student led online group tasks and discussions, simulations, personal research and guided self-study, tutorials (a blend of online and face-to-face), seminars (a blend of online and face-to-face) and directed reading. Sessions may be delivered weekly or in blocks.

Small group sessions will use case studies and seminars, tutorials and simulations with formative feedback given in class. Students will be guided to suitable primary and secondary data sources and be required to conduct research and presentation exercises. These activities will all be further supported by the use of a virtual learning environment and use of lab sessions, as necessary.

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

The MSc in International Accounting and Finance makes intensive use of Trading Room facilities. By access to specialist resources within our Trading Room, students are able to gain hands on experience in a simulated trading environment, as well as get a feel for “real” investment decisions made in industry. Bradford University's Trading Room in our Bright Building enables our students to gain exposure to, and receive training in, dealing with “real life” financial and economic markets through simulations and exercises. Students have access to **Bloomberg Professional Terminals**, an industry standard market information software package that is used widely internationally. It is used by a majority of organisations engaged in finance, banking and macroeconomic analysis. Bloomberg Professional offers a feature rich environment with a wide range of data classes whereby students have access to data used in decision making in areas such as macroeconomic policy making, central banking, portfolio management, equities, insurance, risk analysis and more.

In addition to learning within modules, personal academic tutors will support individual academic development, by helping in analysing learning needs, developing appropriate learning strategies that enable students to reflect on their own progress. Building many and varied opportunities to engage with and learn from each other into the programme is integral to fostering an inclusive learning environment. University wide there is support available for students for academic skills, information literacy and programming language learning.

Further, there are many opportunities to take part in exciting extra-curricular activities. The Faculty's own Career Booster professional development programme will offer opportunities to advance intellectual and employability skills (e.g. critical thinking, communication, team work, problem solving). The School of Management is dynamic with a diverse and active Faculty and wider University. It arranges numerous events and opportunities each semester beyond the taught modules to engage with not only academic but also policy and practitioner events and issues. These include invited speakers, seminars, workshops, activities and conferences.

Placement and Study Abroad Opportunities

This programme is not designed to include a full study abroad component or integrated placement. Further information about international **internships and placements** and **study abroad opportunities** is published on the University's website.

We do not recommend you take up "study abroad semester" opportunities while studying on this programme. This is due to the professional ACCA 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.

Academic Student Journey

This programme is completed in 4 semesters. Full-time students entering the full-time programme in September or January study modules in a different order to each other as follows:

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

Table 1: Student journey comparison between September and January start

September Full-Time	Study Period and Year	January Full-Time Start
Start Taught Component with Semester 1 Modules	Autumn Semester 1, Year 1	/
Conclude Taught Component with Semester 2 Modules. Start Dissertation.	Spring Semester 2, Year 1	Start Taught Component with Semester 2 Modules
International Master's Summer School (Credit or attendance). Continuation of Dissertation.	Summer Semester 3, Year 1	International Master's Summer School (Credit or attendance). Start Dissertation.
Submission of Dissertation in September - complete programme. Graduation in December.	Autumn Semester 1, Year 2	Conclude Taught Component with Semester 1 Modules. Continuance of Dissertation.
/	Spring Semester 2, Year 2	Submission of Dissertation in March - complete programme.
/	Summer Semester 3, Year 2	Graduation in July.

Students studying part-time are expected to complete 4 taught modules a year. The model student journey is based on approximately a half-day attendance per week (subject to timetable).
Part-time students may study the taught core modules in any order but must complete 60 credits before starting the dissertation.

Table 2: Example part-time study pattern

Study period	Modules studied
Year 1, Autumn Semester 1	Two core modules
Year 1, Spring Semester 2	One core module and one option module
Year 2, full year	Work on dissertation
Year 2, Autumn Semester 1	Two core modules
Year 2, Spring Semester 2	One core module and one option module

Curriculum

The Master's in International Accounting and Finance covers areas such as strategic management accounting, international financial accounting and reporting, corporate governance and sources of financial risk, regulation and finance functions within generalist and non-finance firms such as FMCGs (consumer goods firms). The programme provides an internationalised focus on key elements of corporate finance, banking, economics, regulation, international finance, and applied quantitative methods. The aim is to produce ethically responsible specialists who have a strong

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

financial and banking perspective in relation to corporate activity, pension funds, investment funds and international financial markets. Throughout the programme, there will an intensive use of the financial software packages that are most widely utilised in industry and students will obtain advanced training in the use of these packages.

This programme also provides the opportunity for granular personalised learning and specialism where students select 2-3 modules of interest for 20 credits.

Table 3: International Accounting and Finance Modules (cores/options) FHEQ Level 7

Code	Module Title	Credit	Period	Selection
AFE7514-B	International Financial Accounting and Reporting	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE7501-B	Quantitative Methods in Finance	20	Sem 1	Core
AFE7504-A	Business Economics	10	Sem 1	Core
MAR7504-A	International Marketing	10	Sem 1	Core
MAL7502-E	Dissertation (AFE)	60	NSYR	Core
AFE7505-B	Contemporary Issues in Accounting and Finance	20	Sem 2	Core
AFE7502-B	International Banking	20	Sem 2	Core
AFE7513-A	Corporate Finance	10	Sem 2	Core
SIB7506-A	International Master's Summer School	10	Sem 3	Option 1
AFE7508-A	International Finance	10	Sem 2	Option 2
SIB7505-A	Corporate Social Responsibility	10	Sem 2	Option 3
SIB7507-Z	International Master's Summer School (attendance only)	0	Sem 3	Option

This programme offers the Summer School as attendance only (Z) which allows you to select a third module within your 20 credits. You may not study SIB7506-A and SIB7507-Z together.

As part of the School of Management's exchange agreement with TBS (France), students could study a credit-bearing Semester 2 option "Financial Risk Management in European Banking" in Toulouse. This module runs irregularly, and students will be advised after enrolment if this module (AFE7512-A) is available. Travel and maintenance costs are additional for students. The School of Management subsidises the cost to students of taking the module in France but the level of contribution can vary.

Assessment, Continuation and Award Regulations

This programme follows the Assessment, Continuation and Award regulations published on the University's website for postgraduate courses (**Regulation 9**).

Award of the Masters degree requires 180 FHEQ Level 7 credits and achievement of the award learning outcomes. Students who exit the programme with 120 or 60 credits completed may be eligible for an intermediate award in line with the regulations.

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.

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.

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.

If you are thinking of coming or have recently applied to the University of Bradford, don't wait until you have arrived to contact our Disability Service. We can arrange for you to talk to a member of our team about what support is on offer here at the University including an invitation to our Get Set Day. To contact the Disability Service please complete the **request support form**.

As the programme is taught in English, all applicants are required to have GCSE Grade 4 (national grade C) or above in English Language. 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**. Exceptionally, holders of a UK degree awarded within 2 years prior to entry to the Bradford programme may be exempt from these English test requirements.

Applicants to MSc International Accounting and Finance typically have an undergraduate Honours degree passed at 50% (2:2 class) or higher, in accounting and finance, economics, or business and management, from an accredited higher education institution.

This is generally equivalent to an international grade percentile average (GPA) of 2.5 out of 4.0 or 6.5 out of 10, or overall average of 70 from 100%. Examples of other equivalent international qualifications are provided on the **University of Bradford page for your country or region**.

Equivalent professional qualifications will also be eligible if supported with appropriate practical experience. Applications are welcome from students with non-standard qualifications or mature students (those over 25 years of age on entry) with significant relevant experience.

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.

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/pg/international-accounting-and-finance/

Copyright © 2026 The University of Bradford.