

## BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2020/21
Degree Awarding Body:	University of Bradford
Partner(s), delivery organisation or support provider (if appropriate):	University of Bradford (Awarding and teaching institution) College of Banking and Finance, Sultanate of Oman (Teaching institution)
Final and interim award(s):	BSc (Honours) BSc (Ordinary) [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 6] Diploma of Higher Education [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 5] Certificate of Higher Education [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 4]
Programme accredited by (if appropriate):	Association of Certified Chartered Accountants Chartered Institute of Management Accountants Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales Association of International Accountants CPA Australia
Programme duration:	3 years full time 4 years full time with placement year
UCAS code:	N420 (3year) N421(4 year)
QAA Subject benchmark statement(s):	Accounting (2016), Finance (2016)
Date last confirmed and/or minor modification approved by Faculty Board	February 2018; June 2019; March 2020; September 2020

**Please note:** This programme specification 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. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

### Introduction

The BSc in Accounting and Finance programme 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.

The degree programme offers many exemptions from professional examinations for the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA), Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), and Association of International Accountants (AIA) professional exams and the CPA Australia.

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

- 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
- 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
- provide a supportive, structured environment in which students are encouraged to develop independent learning skills
- enable students to develop an awareness of the broad range of knowledge required in modern management
- develop in students an appreciation of the principles and importance of sustainability in the context of the global business environment
- 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

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

- LO1 Recognise the contexts in which accounting, and finance operate and how accounting and finance relate to other business disciplines.
- LO2 Illustrate, explain, and apply some fundamental concepts in accounting and finance.
- LO3 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 award of Diploma of Higher Education at FHEQ level 5, students will be able to:

- LO3 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.
- LO4 Develop skills in assessing, recording, processing, summarising and analysing accounting and financial data and transactions and prepare and analyse financial statements.
- LO5 Recognise and explain the factors influencing the investment behaviour of private individuals and firms both in national and in international contexts.
- LO6 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 award of Ordinary Degree of Bachelor at FHEQ level 6, students will be able to:

- LO7 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.
- LO8 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.
- LO9 Understand and apply the financial instruments and techniques which can be used by businesses and individual investors in the assessment and management of risk.
- LO10 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.

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

- LO11 Critically evaluate current research, practice and policy related to accounting and finance.
- LO12 Show the skills required to be an independent learner, seek out solutions to unfamiliar problems and work collaboratively
- LO13 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

## Curriculum

### Stage 1

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Semester	Module Code
4	Business Economics	Core	20	1&2	AFE4001-B
4	Introduction to Finance	Core	20	1&2	AFE4004-B
4	Introduction to Accounting	Core	20	1&2	AFE4005-B
4	People Work and Organisations/Work in Context	Option	20	1&2	HRM4009-B
4	Business Law and Ethics for Accountants	Core	20	1&2	LAW4006-B
4	Foundations of Marketing	Option	20	1&2	MAR4002-B
4	Principles of Responsible Management and Practice	Core	20	1&2	OIM4013-B
4	Operations and Technology Management	Option	20	1&2	OIM4011-B
4	Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics	Option	20	1&2	OIM4012-B
4	Principles and Practice of International Business	Option	20	1&2	SIB4001-B

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

### Stage 2

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Semester	Module Code
5	Financial Management	Core	20	1	AFE5011-B
5	Financial Accounting	Core	20	1	AFE5008-B
5	Management Accounting	Core	20	2	AFE5004-B
5	Multinational Finance and Investment	Core	20	2	AFE5013-B
5	Auditing	Option	20	2	AFE5009-B
5	Entrepreneurship and Employability	Core	20	1	HRM5015-B
5	Organisational Design and Analysis	Option	20	2	HRM5014-B

5	Integrated Marketing Communications	Option	20	2	MAR5007-B
5	Management of Information Systems	Option	20	2	OIM5009-B
5	Strategic Management	Option	20	2	SIB5003-B
5	Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation	Option	20	2	EAE5001-B
5	Digital and Social Media for Business	Option	20	2	MAR5013-B

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

### Stage 3

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Type	Credits	Semester	Module Code
6	Accounting and Finance Project	Core	20	2	AFE6031-B
6	Taxation	Core	20	2	AFE6002-B
6	Contemporary issues in Economics	Option	20	2	AFE6018-B
5	Auditing (if not taken in the previous year)	Option	20	2	AFE5009-B
6	International Accounting and Reporting	Core	20	1	AFE6012-B
6	Risk Management and Derivatives	Option	20	1	AFE6013-B
6	Empirical Methods in Accounting and Finance	Core	20	1	AFE6014-B
6	Econometrics	Option	20	1	AFE6019-B
6	Leading and Managing People	Option	20	1	HRM6014-B
6	Digital Campaign Planning and Content Management	Option	20	1	MAR6014-B
6	Current issues in International Business	Option	20	1	SIB6007-B
6	Innovation in Logistics and Supply Chain Management	Option	20	2	OIM6013-B
6	Business Ethics and Social Responsibility	Option	20	2	HRM6010-B
6	Contemporary Development in Employee Relations	Option	20	2	HRM6011-B
6	Interactive Services Marketing	Option	20	2	MAR6011-B
6	Cross Cultural Management	Option	20	2	SIB6009-B
6	University Elective	Elective	20	2 only	

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

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

## Placement and Study Abroad Year

This programme provides the option for students to undertake a work placement or period of study abroad between Stages 2 and 3. Students wishing to take this option will be registered for the 4 year programme.

We promote placement or study abroad year as there is overwhelming evidence as to the benefits. Research indicates that students benefit academically and professionally from a period abroad as part of their degree. Undergraduate students who went abroad during their studies were more likely to find a graduate job and had higher starting salaries than their non-mobile counterparts (Source: International facts and figures 2019).

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

Students are responsible for finding a placement, but they are fully supported by our dedicated work placements team who will advertise placement vacancies, help them with applications, CV writing, interview techniques and preparing for their time in work. There are regular visits to the School of Management by representatives of both local and national companies, looking to recruit graduates. There are also great opportunities for students to do shorter internships (6 or 8 weeks) or in company projects. The International Opportunities team can advise students about the available funding to support their study or work experience abroad. A year spent in employment provides an excellent opportunity to apply the knowledge, understanding and skills that students have developed during the earlier Stages of their programme. It will also enable students to further develop their transferable skills and may even secure their entry onto the graduate career ladder as many employers use a placement year as a method of recruitment onto their graduate training scheme. Our students are increasingly securing work placements, either during the summer vacation or for a full year in industry and the public sector.

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

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

Study Abroad Year - Instead of a placement year, students can opt to study abroad for one year in one of our 500 partner institutions worldwide, where students will be taught in English.

The list of exchange partners and network of Universities available for Study Abroad can be found in the following website:

<https://unibradfordac.sharepoint.com/sites/opportunities-abroad-intranet>

Study abroad has a number of benefits, not only is it a great experience in itself but also enhances the student’s academic insights, employability and life skills and the Faculty and the University wish to encourage it, if the circumstances are appropriate. Any student wishing to study abroad for a year should contact at first instance the International Opportunities Team to discuss the available year abroad opportunities. Then, they will have to consult with the Faculty Exchange Coordinator on the academic aspects of the exchange including the programme and modules. The student will have significant freedom in the selection of institutions and modules during the year abroad exchange. Finally, the Bradford Programme leader will be informed and consulted about the exchange to ensure compliance with any Bradford programme requirements. During the exchange the students will have support from the relevant University services.

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

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

For further information about study abroad opportunities please refer to <https://unibradfordac.sharepoint.com/sites/opportunities-abroad-intranet>

## 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.

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.

Stage 2 contains core modules in Accounting and Finance and also Employability and Enterprise Skills. Employability and Enterprise Skills supports the attainment of more transferable skills such as problem solving and career enhancement. The broad range of options available throughout Stages 2 build on the underpinning knowledge gained at Stage 1. The focus here is more on interpretation and evaluation, rather than understanding and description.

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.

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 blended 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. In addition, the School offers our Effective Learning Service, which helps with the development of study skills both in online group sessions .

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the social, economic and environmental dimensions. Our intention is to nurture students who can apply the principles of sustainable development in their professional capacity. Whilst there are a number of individual modules that focus specifically on sustainability issues, awareness of the importance and principles of sustainability is emphasised in modules and underpins the Learning Outcomes.

## Assessment Regulations

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

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations/>

## Admission Requirements

We take into consideration a number of factors when assessing your application. It's not just about your grades; we take the time to understand your personal circumstances and make decisions based on your potential to thrive at university and beyond. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

The minimum entry requirements for the programme are as follows:

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

The UCAS tariff applicable may vary and is published here

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

**Please note:** This link provides admission information relevant to the current recruitment cycle and therefore may be different to when this document was originally published.

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

## Recognition of Prior Learning

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

## Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval (Faculty Board)
1	Placement and Study Abroad Options	June 2019
2	Specification reformatted and made accessible	December 2020