Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 12/11/2020 **Last amended:** 03/07/2026 **Version no.** 3

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

MSc Accounting, Finance and Management

Postgraduate Diploma Accounting, Finance and Management*

Postgraduate Certificate Accounting, Finance and Management*

Notes

* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

a) HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
CAH17-01-04 (Management Studies)	30%
CAH17-01-07 (Finance)	30%
CAH17-01-08 (Accounting)	40%

https://www.hesa.ac.uk/support/documentation/hecos/cah-list

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

M.Sc. Accounting, Finance and Management

The normal period of registration is 12 months

The maximum period of registration 24 months

5. Typical entry requirements

A good second class honours degree (not necessarily in business and management) or equivalent from a recognised university, or a relevant graduate level professional qualification; or a demonstration of considerable relevant practical experience and evidence of the ability to cope with the demands of the course.

When English is not the first language of the candidate, the successful applicant must have either IELTS 6.5 TOEFL (paper) 575 with TWE 4.0, 90 (IBT), or the University of Leicester English Language Test or meet the University's English regulations by other means as stated in Senate Regulation 1.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

n/a

7. Programme aims

The Accounting, Finance and Management degree programme is a conversion career entry programme, which is aimed at students who do not necessarily have a degree or experience in business and management but who wish to acquire a solid understanding of Accounting, Finance and Management. The programme aims to:

- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the principal ideas, concepts, models, principles, theories and practices underpinning Accounting, Finance and Management.
- Apply technical accounting, finance and management skills and contemporary theories to a wide range of operational environments and research problems.
- Collate, analyse, select and communicate data utilising media, formats and language appropriate for a variety of audiences.
- Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident learner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively.
- Analyse a range of management, finance and accounting concepts and understand and criticise arguments.
- Understand how to seek out solutions to unfamiliar problems.
- Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering context and having an awareness of alternative viewpoints.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- University Learning Strategy
- University Assessment Strategy [log in required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

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9. Programme Outcomes

MSc Accounting, Finance and Management is a post-graduate L7 award, which constitutes a QAA Type 1 Specialist Masters qualification. The post graduate diploma and post graduate certificate are exit awards made when students fail to complete the 180 M level credits required for the award on an MSc. The post graduate diploma is awarded on the achievement of 120 M level credits, and the post graduate certificate awarded on the achievement of 60 M level credits.

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s). To ensure students meet the programme specific learning outcomes, the following competencies are mapped to the programme learning outcomes as described in 7.

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. (PA 1, 2, 5 & 7) - Apply key theories and models used across a range of management, finance and accounting subjects. - Apply key theories and models, and evaluate their usefulness in	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, tests, problem classes, formative and summative coursework and assessments, and the dissertation.

business decision-making scenarios. - Critically evaluate key theories and models, and assess their usefulness in both practical and organisational settings and in a research context. - Integrate and synthesise knowledge across subjects.			

ii) Concepts

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. (PA 1, 2, 5 & 7) - Explain and apply key principles and concepts of management, finance and accounting and their inter-relationship. - Analyse principles and core concepts, models and theories	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, tests, formative and summative assessments. The dissertation.

of management, finance and accounting. - Critically analyse the development of management, finance and accounting theories, concepts and models. - Explain and critique the methodologies used in management, finance and accounting research.			

iii) Techniques

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. (PA 1, 2, 3 & 6) - Explain and apply core theories, models and concepts. - Evaluate the usefulness of theories and models in business scenarios. - Undertake qualitative, numerical	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, tests, formative and summative assessments, the dissertation and oral presentation.

and statistical evaluation as a means to develop an analysis of a management, finance or accounting problem.			

iv) Critical Analysis

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. (PA 2, 3 & 7) - Analyse and evaluate core management, financial and accounting concepts and techniques. - Reflect critically on the disciplines of management, finance and accounting and upon the context bound nature of the generation and application of its concepts and techniques.	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, tests, formative and summative assessments, the dissertation and oral presentation.

v) Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type

Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. (PA 3 & 7) - Distinguish between relevant and non- relevant materials. - Communicate the results of independent research and problem-solving in both oral and written forms.	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study and seminar exercises.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, formative and summative assessments, and oral presentation.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. (PA 3, 4 & 7) - Analyse and assess a variety of complex accounting and financial issues. - Locate, organise and assess data from a range of different primary and literature sources. - Analyse a range of management, finance and	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and formative and summative assessments. The dissertation and oral presentation.

accounting concepts and understand and criticise arguments. - Sustain an independent line of inquiry at an advanced level.			

b) Transferable Skills

i) Research Skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. PA (2, 3, 4 & 7) - Apply intellectual independence to identify and evaluate relevant evidence for essay assignments. - Employ time-management skills and produce structured and coherent written work. - Plan an independent research project based on focused research questions.	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and formative and summative assessments. The dissertation and oral presentation.

ii) Communication skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. PA (2, 3, 5 & 7) - Communicate effectively to a variety of audiences using both written and oral forms. - Produce a coherently structured and written dissertation.	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises and the dissertation.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and formative and summative assessments. The dissertation and oral presentation.

iii) Data Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters PA (3 & 7) Successful students should be able to present financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written forms.	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion and directed reading.	Self-directed private study and seminar exercises.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and formative and summative assessments.

iv) Information Technology

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. PA (2, 3 & 4) - Construct and effectively present quantitative data, including accounts, using IT resources where appropriate. - Use specialist packages for statistical analysis. - Use data analysis software and statistical databases that are relevant to the dissertation.	Lectures, seminars, problem classes, and computer classes.	The dissertation and independent research (research projects).	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and formative and summative assessments.

v) Problem Solving

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should be able to formulate problems and solve them. PA (2 & 6)	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation (and supervision process) and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and

			formative and summative assessments. Research proposal and the dissertation.

vi) Working relationships

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should be able to work with others and contribute to group discussions. PA (4)	Independent and group coursework.	Group activities and tasks, and self-reflection on essay assignment feedback.	Group projects, problem classes, and formative and summative coursework.

vii) Managing learning

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should achieve the following learning outcomes. PA (2, 3 & 4) - Plan and construct responses to exercises and essay assignments.	Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, and directed reading.	Self-directed private study, seminar exercises, the dissertation (and supervision process) and independent research.	Individual or group essay, examinations, group or individual projects, problem classes, and formative and summative assessments.

- Self-direct their study to ensure completion of essay assignment tasks and to manage the programme workload. - Identify and complete an independent research project – this also includes the necessary time-management skills to conduct independent research.			Successful completion of the dissertation.

viii) Career Management

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Masters Successful students should be able to assess potential career pathways and employers. PA (3, 4, 6 & 7)	Teaching methods provide the relevant knowledge and context to encourage self-reflection on personal development.	Personal Tutor system, and self-reflection on essay assignment feedback. The dissertation supervision process.	Essay assignment feedback and personal development planning. The dissertation.

10. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulations - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress, he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate/exit award where appropriate.

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of postgraduate award and classification set out in Senate Regulations – see the version of *Senate Regulation governing postgraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

The programme is aimed at non-specialists, who do not necessarily have a degree in business or management, but who wish to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to become well-rounded managers. The programme covers four broad areas: strategic financial management; accounting for accountability and decision making; management, marketing and operations; and business analytics. Each of these topics are covered in each of the four taught credit bearing modules. The programme also incorporates topics on sustainability, accountability, and international agendas. Students will be able to access a set of extra-curricular activities and services to improve their employability skills, such as carbon literacy accreditation and computer programming workshops. An ad-hoc Business Analytics module that will equip students with a solid foundation in data analysis and interpretation tools.

12a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
Research-briefed Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.	The Accounting, Finance and Management programme provides a thorough understanding of the role of accounting and finance in organisational management. It provides students with the ability to think critically, problem solve and appraise potential solutions to real-world issues It provides understanding on how the main theories, models, frameworks and techniques of management are used within strategic decision making. It draws on global accounting standards and international expectations ensuring that the knowledge and skills acquired by graduates align with the expectations of the corporate sector. Research-briefed – From the first week of the course students will be exposed to both research processes and outputs from active research staff members, as well as, third party researchers and members of the professional community.

Research-based Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.	Research-based – Taught sessions are based on real world situations and/or contemporary issues impacting management, finance and accounting. Teaching staff on the programme are engaged in research and professional activities which are integrated into the course content and teaching sessions.
Research-oriented Students critique published research content and process.	Research-oriented – students are required to critically evaluate both their own data and data provided by third parties in the form of a dissertation, to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and competencies acquired over the taught elements of the programme.
Research-apprenticed Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.	Research-apprenticed – training and practice will be provided for all students on writing for a variety of audiences, collaborative working, oral presentation skills and academic literacy.

As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

Research seminars and workshops are timetabled on a weekly basis across the College of Business and are accessible to all students within the College. These sessions focus not only on potential research outputs and working papers from academic staff within the College but also on the processes underpinning research and associated funding and dissemination of work.

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

All module leaders and teaching focused staff and members of not only their subject specific research group but also the College's Academy of Education. The college Academy of Education runs regular sessions including external speakers and workshops for recognition of external awards for teaching excellence. The Academy also facilitates a journal paper book group which provides an informal environment to discuss contemporary pedagogic issues related to Business education.

The Academy underpins a teaching and learning research culture which provides staff with a clear platform to share and evaluate current and potential practice-based activities within the pedagogic sphere.

13. Indications of programme quality

a. University Academic Review

b. External examiners' reports

c. Accreditation for CFA Investment Foundations programme

Note added June 2026: The programme covers the content of the accredited CFA Investment Foundations programme which can then be undertaken directly with the CFA

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required].

15. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions

As defined in Senate Regulations - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

n/a

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

MSc Accounting, Finance and Management

Updates to the programme

Academic year	Module	Change
2025/26	Global Strategy, Innovation and Operations	Previously *Global Strategy, International Marketing and Operations Management*

Level 7/Year 1 Delivery Year 2025/26 Intake Month September Mode of Study Full Time Structure

Credit breakdown

Status	Teaching Period 1	Teaching period 2	Teaching Period 3 and 4
Core	60 credits	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	60 credits	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Teaching Period 1 (October – January) SEM1	ADAF060	Academic Practice and Professional Skills	n/a
Teaching Period 1 (October – January) SEM1	AF7062	Accounting for Accountability and Decision Making	30 credits
Teaching Period 1 (October – January) SEM1	MK7053	Global Strategy, Innovation and Operations	30 credits
Teaching Period 2 (January – April) SEM2	AF7060	Strategic Financial Management	30 credits
Teaching Period 2 (January – April) SEM2	EC7062	Business Analytics	30 credits
Teaching Period 3 & 4* (May – September) SEM2*	AF7063	Research Methods and Dissertation	60 credits

Notes
This is a 180 credits programme structured in four 30 credit taught modules, plus a 60 credits dissertation, and a 0 credits foundations module that will run asynchronously. Each module is self-contained and scaffolding is built in each module.

Level 7/Year 1 Delivery Year 2025/26 Intake Month January Mode of Study Full Time Structure

Credit breakdown

Status	Teaching Period 1	Teaching period 2	Teaching Period 3 and 4
Core	60 credits	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Teaching Period 2 (January – April) SEM2	ADAF060	Academic Practice and Professional Skills	n/a
Teaching Period 2 (January – April) SEM2	AF7060	Strategic Financial Management	30 credits
Teaching Period 2 (January – April) SEM2	EC7062	Business Analytics	30 credits
Teaching Period 3 (May – July) T3	MK7053	Global Strategy, Innovation and Operations	30 credits
Teaching Period 3 (May – July) T3	AF7062	Accounting for Accountability and Decision Making	30 credits
Teaching Period 4* and Teaching Period 1 (July – January) T3*	AF7063	Research Methods and Dissertation	60 credits

Notes

This is a 180 credits programme structured in four 30 credit taught modules, plus a 60 credits dissertation, and a 0 credits foundations module that will run asynchronously. Each module is self-contained and scaffolding is built in each module.

Level 7/Year 1 Delivery Year 2025/26 Intake Month April Mode of Study Full Time Structure

Credit breakdown

Status	Teaching Period 1	Teaching period 2	Teaching Period 3 and 4
Core	60 credits	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Teaching Period 3 (April – July) T3	ADAF060	Academic Practice and Professional Skills	n/a
Teaching Period 3 (April – July) T3	MK7053	Global Strategy, Innovation and Operations	30 credits
Teaching Period 3 (April – July) T3	AF7062	Accounting for Accountability and Decision Making	30 credits
Teaching Period 4 (July – September) T3*	AF7060	Strategic Financial Management	30 credits
Teaching Period 4 (July – September) T3*	EC7062	Business Analytics	30 credits
Teaching Period 1 and 2 (October – April) Year Long	AF7063	Research Methods and Dissertation	60 credits

Notes

This is a 180 credits programme structured in four 30 credit taught modules, plus a 60 credits dissertation, and a 0 credits foundations module that will run asynchronously. Each module is self-contained and scaffolding is built in each module.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See postgraduate module specification database (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery) [login-required]