



Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2022/23

Date created: 20/11/2020

Last amended: 20/11/2020

Version no. 1

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

MSc in Finance

Postgraduate Diploma in Finance*

Postgraduate Certificate in Finance*

Notes

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

[HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100107	100%

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study:

Part-time

b) Type of study:

Distance learning

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration for the M.Sc. in Finance is 30 months.

The maximum period of registration for the M.Sc. in Finance is 48 months.

5. Typical entry requirements:

Entrance is open to those who hold a first or second-class honours degree or an equivalent professional qualification or 3 years or more suitable professional experience.

Applicants who do not meet the standard academic requirement but have at least 3 years of relevant work experience may be considered upon providing a 500-1000 words statement detailing their relevant work experience and suitability for the course and a copy of their CV.

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:

1. The programme aims to Give course members a thorough grasp of the main theories, tools, methods and techniques of financial management within an international context. This includes the development of an understanding of the advantages, limitations and typical applications of each major method or technique in practice.
2. Encourage in course members the need for critical analysis and evaluation of financial management problems and issues.
3. Promote an appreciation of the role of information within a knowledge-based economy. This will include an identification of approaches to data generation, data manipulation, data assessment and analysis.
4. Give course members an analytical appreciation of the organisational contexts of financial management.
5. Expose course members to the current debates in the financial professional and academic literatures.
6. Enable course members to integrate and apply the knowledge, approaches and methods they have learned to a variety of financial decisions and their own management and work experiences.
7. Encourage course members to develop a number of interpersonal, communication and decision and problem solving skills, and to use these in an imaginative way that will enable them to identify problems, consider alternative solutions, evaluate and analyse situations, make choices and implement solutions.
8. Equip Masters students with the necessary skills to undertake independent research work in the broad area of finance, as evidenced in the successful production of a dissertation.

For the PGCert

Programme Aim 1

Programme Aim 2

Programme Aim 3

For the PGDip – in addition to those above

Programme Aim 4

Programme Aim 5

Programme Aim 6

Programme Aim 7

For the MSC – in addition to those above

Programme Aim 8

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](#)
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals

- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes:

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate Graduates will possess knowledge of a range of finance subjects.	Certificate Residential schools, directed reading and exercises, self-directed private study, assignment feedback: formative and summative.	Certificate Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations.
Diploma In addition to the above, graduates should have a sound knowledge of finance theories and the existing empirical evidence. Integration of knowledge across subjects.	Diploma As above.	Diploma As above.
Masters In addition to the above, students should have an advanced knowledge of the qualitative and quantitative methodologies used when pursuing research in finance.	Masters In addition to the above: research methods module, dissertation supervision, independent research.	Masters In addition to the above: research proposal, dissertation.

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate Students will acquire an enhanced grasp of principles of finance and its relationship to general financial management.	Certificate Residential schools, directed reading and exercises, self-directed private study, assignment feedback: formative and summative.	Certificate Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Diploma In addition to the above, graduates will be able to explain the contextual nature of the development of financial theory and the finance discipline.</p>	<p>Diploma Residential schools, directed reading and exercises, self-directed private study, assignment feedback: formative and summative.</p>	<p>Diploma Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations.</p>
<p>Masters In addition to the above, students will be able to explain and critique theories as well as qualitative and quantitative methodologies used in research in finance.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research methods module, dissertation supervision, independent research.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research proposal, dissertation.</p>

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Certificate and Diploma The students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the most important theories and concepts in finance; be able to identify relevant material from the academic literature and write using academic conventions and bibliographic techniques</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Assignment feedback: formative and summative; directed reading, self-directed private study.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations, problem-solving exercises.</p>
<p>Masters In addition to the above, graduates will be able to demonstrate competence in research methods and be able to undertake qualitative, numerical and statistical evaluation as a means to develop an analysis of finance questions.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research methods module, dissertation supervision, independent research.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research proposal, dissertation.</p>

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Certificate, Diploma, Ability to identify and apply relevant concepts and techniques with independence, rigour and self-reflexivity.</p> <p>Ability to reflect critically on the discipline of finance and upon the context-bound nature of the generation and application of its concepts and techniques.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Residential school, directed reading and exercises, self-directed private study, assignment feedback: formative and summative.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations, problem-solving exercises.</p>
<p>Masters As above</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research methods module, independent research.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research proposal, dissertation.</p>

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Certificate and Diploma The student will be able to distinguish between relevant and non-relevant materials; to write up and deliver reports on findings to a professional standard with clarity, fluency and coherency.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Assignment feedback (formative and summative), seminars (full-time students), residential schools, directed reading and exercises, self-directed private study.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations.</p>
<p>Masters Ability to organise research material in a manner appropriate to the type of assessment.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: dissertation supervision, independent research.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research proposal, dissertation.</p>

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Ability to analyse and assess a variety of financial issues.	Certificate and Diploma Residential schools, assignment feedback (formative and summative), directed reading and exercises, self-directed private study.	Certificate and Diploma Essay assignments (formative and summative), practical reports, written examinations.
Masters Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level.	Masters In addition to the above: dissertation supervision, independent research.	Masters In addition to the above: research proposal, dissertation.

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma The graduate will be able to identify, select and organise relevant literature and evidence for assignments; will demonstrate an ability to produce well structured, focused, clearly written essays and reports.	Certificate and Diploma Residential school (distance-learning students), assignment feedback (formative and summative); directed reading; self-directed study.	Certificate and Diploma Essay assignments (formative and summative), examinations.
Masters In addition to the above: demonstrating intellectual independence, through identifying a credible research project, drawing up a realistic time-table, performing the relevant analysis, reflecting on and 'writing up' results	Masters In addition to the above: research methodology module, dissertation supervision, independent research.	Masters In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation.

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Certificate and Diploma Demonstrate ability to critically discuss relevant information. Clarity, fluency and coherence in writing essays in response to given questions. Expression of finance issues and debates in an appropriate manner for the required audience. Develop and sustain financial arguments in differing formats.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Residential schools, assignment feedback (formative and summative); directed reading; self-directed study.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Assignments (formative and summative), examinations.</p>
<p>Masters In addition to the above: Ability to work collaboratively and responsibly in groups. Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others; ability to contribute & comment on ideas in group discussions. Produce a dissertation with a logical structure written with clarity and precision.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research methodology module, dissertation supervision process, independent research</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation.</p>

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Certificate and Diploma Ability to locate and organise evidence, synthesise data into coherent and informed written arguments.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Residential school (distance-learning), assignment feedback (formative and summative); lectures, directed reading; self-directed study.</p>	<p>Certificate and Diploma Assignments, examinations.</p>
<p>Masters In addition to the above: the students should be able to collect relevant data, present data summaries, perform data manipulation and analysis, and competently present their findings.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research methodology module, dissertation supervision process, independent research.</p>	<p>Masters In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation.</p>

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Ability to retrieve and present information using appropriate information technology, for example subject specific databases.	Certificate and Diploma Dissemination of software and software manual, Blackboard resources	Certificate and Diploma Assignments
Masters In addition to the above to use, if necessary, data analysis software that is relevant to their dissertation (e.g. SPSS, E-Views, Excel or R)	Masters In addition to the above: dissertation research process.	Masters In addition to the above: dissertation

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Ability to identify, locate, and analyse relevant data and source material. Ability to investigate and advocate solutions to problems.	Certificate and Diploma Residential schools, assignment feedback (formative and summative); lectures, directed reading; self-directed study.	Certificate and Diploma Assignments, examinations.
Masters In addition to the above: Ability to refine problems into researchable questions and hypotheses.	Masters In addition to the above: dissertation supervision process, independent research.	Masters In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation.

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Ability to work collaboratively and responsibly in groups. Ability to contribute & comment on ideas in group discussion forums.	Certificate and Diploma Blackboard discussion forums.	Certificate and Diploma Feedback on group oral presentations for full time students; feedback provided by the Blackboard tutor to the distance learning students on the discussion forums

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Masters Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others	Masters In addition to the above: the establishment of a working relationship with the dissertation supervisor (or the resolution of any problems through consultation with the Personal Tutor and the Programme Leader)	Masters In addition to the above: interaction with the dissertation supervisor

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Management of an extensive literature and familiarisation with subject-relevant debates and concepts. To timetable self-directed study to ensure the completion of assessment tasks and manage the related study work-load.	Certificate and Diploma Knowledge about managing learning is included in the induction module Foundations of Knowledge; self-directed private-study; self-reflection on assignment feedback; formative and summative.	Certificate and Diploma Assignments, examinations.
Masters In addition to the above: Identify a credible research project; construct a feasible research timetable; carry out independent research	Masters In addition to the above: the dissertation supervision process	Masters In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Certificate and Diploma Ability to take charge of progress and development; to reflect on strengths, interests, motivation and skills; recognition of achievements	Certificate and Diploma Personal Tutor System Self-reflection on assignment feedback Career sessions and access to the Professional Development Resource (distance learning)	Certificate and Diploma Discussions with personal tutor Support of the Careers Office
Masters In addition to the above: if appropriate, to research an area which may be relevant to the student' career preferences	Masters In addition to the above; the dissertation supervision process	Masters Selection of a specific dissertation topic

10. Special features

N/A

11. Indicators of programme quality

External Examiners reports

12. Scheme of Assessment:

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. 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.

The following additional progression requirements for this programme have been approved:

- This progression point corresponds to the progression from the Postgraduate Certificate level modules to the Postgraduate Diploma level modules. A student's progress will be reviewed at the completion of the four Postgraduate Certificate level modules. Students are given an opportunity to resubmit in the session following receipt of module results. For those who do not resubmit, a period of academic suspense may be recommended based on the progression rules below. The Postgraduate Certificate level modules are identified in Appendix 1.
- This progression point corresponds to the progression from the Postgraduate Diploma level modules to the dissertation project. A student's progress will be reviewed at the completion of the taught component of the programme.
- This progression point corresponds to the progression from Part 1 of the dissertation project to Part 2 of the dissertation project.
The dissertation project comprises of two parts. Part 1 consists of the research methods training and culminates in the submission of the dissertation project proposal for the Research Ethics Approval. Part 2 entails the dissertation project itself and culminates in the submission of the dissertation.
The students are not allowed to progress to Part 2 of the dissertation project until they have received a written permission from the School to do so. The permission is given on obtaining the Research Ethics Approval.
The student must commence the dissertation project at least eight months prior to the end of the registration period.

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.

14. 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.

15. External Examiners 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]

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

N/A

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

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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.

M.Sc. in Finance

Credit breakdown

Status	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core	n/a	n/a	150 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	30 credits

180 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2021/22

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	MN7560*	Foundations of Knowledge and Professional Skills	n/a
	MN7561	Foundations of Financial Analysis and Investment	15
	MN7540	Financial Statements: Theory, Practice and Critique	15
Choose an item.	MN7541	Strategic Financial Management	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
	MN7542	Financial Modelling	15
	MN7527	Financial Risk Management	15
	MN7532	Corporate Finance	15
	MN7507**	Dissertation	60
	MN7508***	Research Methodology	n/a

Notes

* This non-credit bearing module will comprise formative assessment.

** Compulsory only for candidates for the degree of Master of Science.

*** This non-credit bearing research skills course supports the dissertation. Progression to the dissertation is dependent upon satisfactory completion of a research proposal.

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	MN7512	Public Finance	15 credits
Choose an item.	MN7574	International Finance and Globalisation	15 credits
	MN7517	Business-to-Business Marketing and Supply Chain Management	15
	MN7584	Leadership	15

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Level 7/Year 2 2022/23

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	MN7560*	Foundations of Knowledge and Professional Skills	n/a
	MN7561	Foundations of Financial Analysis and Investment	15 credits
	MN7540	Financial Statements: Theory, Practice and Critique	15 credits
Choose an item.	MN7541	Strategic Financial Management	15 credits
	MN7542	Financial Modelling	15 credits
	MN7527	Financial Risk Management	15 credits
	MN7532	Corporate Finance	15 credits
	MN7507**	Dissertation	60 credits
	MN7508***	Research Methodology	n/a

Notes

* This non-credit bearing module will comprise formative assessment.

** Compulsory only for candidates for the degree of Master of Science.

*** This non-credit bearing research skills course supports the dissertation. Progression to the dissertation is dependent upon satisfactory completion of a research proposal.

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Choose an item.	MN7512	Public Finance	15 credits
Choose an item.	MN7574	International Finance and Globalisation	15 credits
	MN7517	Business-to-Business Marketing and Supply Chain Management	15 credits
	MN7584	Leadership	15 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See taught postgraduate [module specification database](#) (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).