Programme Specification (Postgraduate) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: Click or tap here to enter text. **Last amended:** 11/04/2025 **Version no.** 1 **Date approved by EQED:** Click or tap here to enter text.

Programme title(s) and code(s):

MSc Finance

Postgraduate Diploma Finance *

Postgraduate Certificate Finance *

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	%
100107	100%

Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

Registration periods:

The normal period of registration for the MSc Finance is 12 months. The maximum period of registration for the MSc Finance is 24 months.

Typical entry requirements

A good second class honours degree or equivalent from a recognised university. Standard University English Language requirements apply.

Accreditation of Prior Learning

n/a

Programme aims

On completion of this programme students will be able to:

i. Apply technical economics skills and contemporary theories to a wide range of operational environments and research problems

ii. Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the principal ideas,

concepts, models, principles and practices underpinning Finance

iii. Collate, analyse, select and communicate data utilising media, formats and language appropriate for a variety of audiences

iv. Demonstrate the skills required to be a confident learner, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively

v. Integrate diverse local, national and global perspectives in an economic analysis

vi. Evaluate economic implications of policy options in terms of equality, sustainability and ethical standards

vii. Critically evaluate arguments and evidence considering context and having an awareness of alternative viewpoints

Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- University Education Strategy
- University Assessment Strategy [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data
- CFA candidate body of knowledge
- CFA Investment Foundations Program specification

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Programme Outcomes

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
Students should be able to: MSc: Discuss and critique major areas of Finance. Ability to explain how these concepts relate to real world problems. (i)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets	MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation. MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Discuss and critique major areas of Finance. PGCert: Discuss major areas of Finance. (i)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

ii) Concepts

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Explain and discuss key concepts of Finance. (i)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.		MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Explain and discuss key concepts of Finance. PGCert: Explain key concepts of Finance. (i)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

iii) Techniques

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Describe and apply the techniques central to modern Finance. Explain how and when the key techniques may be applied. (ii)	Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation
Students should be able to: PGDip: Describe and apply the techniques central to modern Finance		Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	

PGCert: Describe the techniques central to modern Finance. (ii)	Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.		Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

iv) Critical Analysis

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Critically evaluate financial theories and arguments and apply them to current situations. (iii)	Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and presentations	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Critically evaluate financial theories and arguments and apply them to current situations. PGCert: Describe financial theories and arguments and apply them to current situations. (iii)	Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and presentations. Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and presentations.	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

v) Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to:		Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	

MSc: Produce clear and concise analysis and results for Finance problems. Communicate results of independent research and problem solution in both oral and written form. (iii)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. .		MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation. MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Produce analysis and results for Finance problems. PGCert: Produce clear and concise analysis and results for Finance problems. (iii)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Analyse and draw appropriate conclusions from financial data. Assess problems and apply appropriate techniques associated with financial analysis. Critically appraise relevant economic and financial research. (vi)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation. MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation. MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.

Students should be able to: PGDip: Analyse and draw conclusions from financial data. PGCert: Analyse from financial data. (vi)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes and coursework feedback.	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

b) Transferable Skills

i) Research Skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Ability to formulate problems, collect and analyse data, estimate relationships and test hypothesis. (vii)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Ability to formulate problems, collect and analyse data, estimate relationships and test hypothesis. PGCert: Ability to formulate problems, collect data, estimate relationships and test hypothesis. (vii)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.	Seminar discussions and problems sets and computer classes preparatory work	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

ii) Communication skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Communicate effectively through both written and oral channels to a variety of audiences. (iii)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.	Seminar discussions	MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Communicate effectively through both written and oral channels to a variety of audiences. PGCert: Communicate effectively through both written and oral channels to a variety of audiences. (iii)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.	Seminar discussions	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

iii) Data Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Presentation of financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written form. (iii)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, presentations.	Computer classes preparatory work	MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Presentation of financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written form.	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, presentations.	Computer classes preparatory work	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.

PGCert: Presentation of financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written form. (iii)	PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, presentations.		PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.

iv) Information Technology

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to:		Computer classes preparatory work	
MSc: Use word processing in the preparation of written work.	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.		MSc: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Use the internet to access appropriate information.	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.		MSc: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Use spreadsheets for data presentation and analysis.	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.		MSc: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Use specialist packages for statistical analysis. (iv)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.		MSc: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to:		Computer classes preparatory work	
PGDip: Use word processing in the preparation of written work.	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.		PGDip: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.
PGCert: Use word processing in the preparation of written work. (iv)	PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.		PGCert: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

v) Problem Solving

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Demonstrate problem formulation and solution considering diverse local, national and global perspectives. (vi).	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, independent and group work.	Seminar work and discussions	MSc: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Demonstrate problem formulation and solution considering diverse local, national and global perspectives.. PGCert: Demonstrate problem formulation and solution considering diverse local, national and global perspectives. (vi).	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, independent and group work. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, independent and group work.	Seminar work and discussions	PGDip: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

vi) Working relationships

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Demonstrate ability to work with others and contribute to group discussions. (iv)	MSc: Independent and group coursework.	Group work during seminar activities	MSc: Group projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.
Students should be able to:		Group work during seminar activities	

PGDip: Demonstrate ability to work with others and contribute to group discussions. PGCert: Demonstrate ability to work with others and contribute to group discussions. (iv)	PGDip: Independent and group coursework. PGCert: Independent and group coursework.		PGDip: Group projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Group projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

vii) Managing learning

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Students should be able to: MSc: Identify a credible research project and plan and carry this out under light supervision. Ability to carry out coursework on time. (vii)	MSc: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, independent and group work.	Seminar work and discussions	MSc: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework, dissertation.
Students should be able to: PGDip: Ability to carry out coursework on time. PGCert: Ability to carry out coursework on time. (vii)	PGDip: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, independent and group work. PGCert: Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes, independent and group work.	Seminar work and discussions	PGDip: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. PGCert: Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.

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Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in Senate Regulations – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing postgraduate programmes* relevant to the 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.

a) Course transfers

n/a

b) Year in Industry

n/a

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.

Special features

This program is accredited by the Chartered Financial Analysts Institute (CFA). This confirms that this degree covers over 70% of the CFA Candidate body of Knowledge. Student wishing to achieve the Chartered Financial Analyst designation are required to take the examinations offered by CFA Institute.
The first term has two zero credit bearing modules which will be taught in the first part of the first term. The first of these modules, "Foundations of Mathematics for Finance", will introduce students to the fundamental notions and results of mathematics and statistics that are needed during the programme. The second of these modules is "Professional Skills in Finance". Central to this module is the CFA Investment Foundations program and the corresponding certificate, whose content will be studied in this module. The students will gain an overall appreciation of the finance industry and the language to discuss and understand it along with the possibility to take the professional qualification enhancing their employment prospects. After completing these aspects students will be equipped to tackle the credit bearing modules.

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
	The MSc Finance programme provides a comprehensive foundation in the knowledge and skills essential for professionals in financial analysis. It equips students to think critically, solve problems, and assess potential solutions to real-world economic challenges. The curriculum is grounded in current research in finance and financial economics, ensuring that the knowledge and skills acquired by graduates meet professional standards.
Research-briefed Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.	Research briefed – Programme content is shaped and inspired by the latest research, drawing on contributions from the Centre for Finance, Governance and Sustainable Growth and other research groups in Economics at the University of Leicester. All staff are experienced researchers who bring their expertise into their teaching.
Research-based Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.	Research based – Students will be challenged to analyse various financial problems using the theories and methods they have learned. They will apply their theoretical knowledge and data analysis skills across different contexts.
Research-oriented Students critique published research content and process.	Research oriented – Students are equipped with tools and are required to critically evaluate lecture content, seminar analyses, assessments, and published academic research.
Research-apprenticed Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.	Research apprenticed – Students receive training and practice in writing for various audiences, collaborative work, oral presentation, and academic literacy. Working individually and in teams, students will present findings from their critical appraisals and data analyses.

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 Business Education and Practice. The Academy runs regular sessions including external speakers and workshops for reflection on teaching practices and sharing of best practice. The Academy also facilitates a reading group which provides an informal environment to discuss contemporary pedagogic issues.

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.

Indications of programme quality

- University Academic Review
- External examiners' reports
- Accredited by the CFA.
- Accreditation for Investment Foundations Programme.
- CFA exam pass rates.

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].

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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 Finance

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

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	60 credits	60 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	30 credits

180 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ADEC721	Professional Skills in Finance	n/a
Semester 1	ADEC722	Foundations of Mathematics for Finance	n/a
Semester 1	AF7097	Financial Risk Management	15 credits
Semester 1	AF7022	Financial Analysis and Investment	15 credits
Semester 1	EC7024	Financial Modelling	15 credits

Semester 1	AF7241	Financial Statement Analysis	15 credits
Semester 2	AF7061	Corporate Finance	15 credits
Semester 2	AF7076	Financial Derivatives	15 credits
Semester 2	AF7093	Principles of Banking	15 credits
Semester 2	AF7098	Fixed Income Securities	15 credits
Term 3	AF7092	Investment Management	15 credits
Term 3	EC7094	Behavioural Finance	15 credits
Term 3	EC7110	Dissertation (July-September)	30 credits

Notes
n/a

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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