



**1. Programme Title(s):**

MSc Management, Finance and Accounting

Postgraduate Diploma Management, Finance and Accounting\*

Postgraduate Certificate Management, Finance and Accounting\*

\*Approved as exit awards only

**2. Awarding body or institution:**

University of Leicester

**3. a) Mode of study**

Full time or part time

**b) Type of study**

Campus based

**4. Registration periods:**

Full time:

The normal period of registration is 12 months

The maximum period of registration is 24 months.

Part time:

The normal period of registration is 24 months

The maximum period of registration is 36 months.

**5. Typical entry requirements:**

A good second class honours degree 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. Standard University English Language requirements apply.

**6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:**

None

**7. Programme aims:**

The Management, Finance and Accounting degree programme is a specialist career entry programme, which aims to:

- ❑ Provide students with a rigorous curriculum in the subjects of management, finance and accounting covering the main theories, models, frameworks, and techniques in those three disciplines to prepare them for a career in either management, finance or accounting or for further research in any of the three areas
- ❑ Enable the study of management and organisations in an historical, international and comparative framework recognising the different types, sizes, structures and purposes of organizations and the stakeholders that they serve;
- ❑ Analyse and evaluate management problems and issues, including the external economic, political, social, and technological, contexts within which organizations operate
- ❑ Provide students with an appreciation of the importance of information to business within a knowledge-based economy. This will include an identification of appropriate methodologies for data acquisition, assessment, analysis and dissemination

- ☐ Enable students to develop a range of transferrable and interpersonal skills, which will allow them to identify problems, evaluate and analyse situations and typical business scenarios, consider alternative solutions, make choices through critically appraising evidence and hence to implement solutions
- ☐ Enable students to integrate and apply systematically, and creatively, the knowledge, theories and models that they have learnt to a variety of case studies and a dissertation
- ☐ Equip students with the necessary skills to undertake independent research work in either management, accounting or finance, which is supporting through the completion of a dissertation

#### 8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- ☐ QAA Benchmarking Statement for Economics and Business and Management
- ☐ University of Leicester Learning & Teaching Strategy
- ☐ University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiner's Reports
- ☐ Claritas Program specification
- ☐ Student Feedback (formally through questionnaires and Staff-Student Committees; informally, for example, through student contact with module tutors, personal tutors, and programme leaders)
- ☐ The requirements of the UK Race Relations Act 2000
- ☐ The requirements of the UK Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001
- The University of Leicester's Widening Participation Strategy
- The University's Equal Opportunities Statement
- ☐ University of Leicester Senate Regulations

#### 9. Programme Outcomes:

|  | Intended Learning Outcomes   | Teaching and Learning Methods   | How Demonstrated?  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>(a) Subject and Professional skills</b> |  |   |  |
| <b>Knowledge</b>                           |  |   |  |
| PGCert                                     | Discuss key theories and models used across a range of management, finance and accounting subjects.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| PGDip                                      | In addition to the above, possess a deeper knowledge of the key theories and models, as well as demonstrating some evaluation of their usefulness in business decision-making scenarios.   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc  | In addition to the above, students should be able to critically evaluate key theories and models, including their usefulness in both practical (and organisational) settings and in a research context. Integrate and synthesise knowledge across subjects | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above: dissertation                                       |
| <b>Concepts</b>                            |  |   |  |
| PGCert                                     | Explain key principles and concepts of management, finance and accounting and their inter-relationship.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |

|                          | <b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>  | <b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>  | <b>How Demonstrated?</b>   |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| PGDip                    | Demonstrate an analysis of principles and core concepts, models and theories of management, finance and accounting   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                      | In addition to the above, students should be able to critically analyse the development of management, finance and accounting theories, concepts and models and explain and critique the methodologies used in management, finance and accounting research.    | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above: dissertation                                       |
| <b>Techniques</b>        |  |   |  |
| PGCert                   | Describe and apply core theories, models and concepts; evaluate the usefulness of theories and models in business scenarios.   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| PGDip                    | Describe and apply of core theories, models and concepts; evaluate the usefulness of theories and models in business scenarios.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                      | In addition to the above, students should be able to undertake qualitative, numerical and statistical evaluation as a means to develop an analysis of a management, finance or accounting problem.   | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above, the dissertation                                   |
| <b>Critical analysis</b> |  |   |  |
| PGCert                   | Describe core management, financial and accounting concepts and techniques.<br>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, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| PGDip                    | Describe core management, financial and accounting concepts and techniques.<br>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, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                      | Describe core management, financial and accounting concepts and techniques.<br>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. | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above, the dissertation                                   |

|                                | Intended Learning Outcomes   | Teaching and Learning Methods   | How Demonstrated?  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>Presentation</b>            |  |   |  |
| PGCert                         | Distinguish between relevant and non-relevant materials;<br><br>Communicate results of independent research and problem solution in both oral and written form.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                     |
| PGDip                          | Distinguish between relevant and non-relevant materials;<br><br>Communicate results of independent research and problem solution in both oral and written form.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                     |
| MSc                            | Distinguish between relevant and non-relevant materials;<br><br>Communicate results of independent research and problem solution in both oral and written form.  | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above, the dissertation   |
| <b>Appraisal of evidence</b>   |  |   |  |
| PGCert                         | Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex accounting and financial issues.<br>Locate, organise and assess data from a range of different primary and literature sources<br>Analyse a range of management, finance and accounting concepts and understand and criticise arguments. | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Essays assignments, examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| PGDip                          | Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex accounting and financial issues.<br>Locate, organise and assess data from a range of different primary and literature sources<br>Analyse a range of management, finance and accounting concepts and understand and criticise arguments. | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Essays assignments, examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                            | In addition, demonstrate the ability to sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level   | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above, the dissertation   |
| <b>(b) Transferable skills</b> |  |   |  |
| <b>Research skills</b>         |  |   |  |
| PGCert                         | Demonstrate intellectual independence, through identifying and evaluating relevant evidence for essay assignments, as well as developing time management skills;<br>Demonstrate an ability to write structured and coherent written work   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Essays assignments, examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |

|                               | <b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>   | <b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>  | <b>How Demonstrated?</b>   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| PGDip                         | Demonstrate intellectual independence, through identifying and evaluating relevant evidence for essay assignments, as well as developing time management skills; Demonstrate an ability to write structured and coherent written work | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Essays assignments, examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                           | In addition to the above, students will plan an independent research project based on focused research questions.   | In addition to the above: the dissertation and independent research   | In addition to the above, the dissertation   |
| <b>Communication skills</b>   |   |   |  |
| PGCert                        | Communicate effectively through both written and oral channels to a variety of audiences.   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                     |
| PGDip                         | Communicate effectively through both written and oral channels to a variety of audiences.   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                     |
| MSc                           | In addition, students will produce a dissertation that is coherently structured and written   | In addition to the above, the dissertation  | In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation                                     |
| <b>Data presentation</b>      |   |   |  |
| PGCert                        | Presentation of financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written form.   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                     |
| PGDip                         | Presentation of financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written form.   | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                     |
| MSc                           | Presentation of financial data and the results of analysis in both oral and written form.   | In addition to the above, the dissertation  | In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation                                     |
| <b>Information technology</b> |   |   |  |
| PGCert                        | Construct and present quantitative data, including accounts, effectively using IT resources where appropriate.<br><br>Use specialist packages for statistical analysis.   | Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.  | Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                                   |
| PGDip                         | Construct and present quantitative data, including accounts, effectively using IT resources where appropriate.<br><br>Use specialist packages for statistical analysis.   | Lectures, seminars, problem classes, computer classes.  | Projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.                                   |
| MSc                           | In addition use data analysis software and statistical databases that are relevant to the dissertation  | In addition to the above, the dissertation  | In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation                                     |

|                              | Intended Learning Outcomes   | Teaching and Learning Methods   | How Demonstrated?  |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>Problem solving</b>       |  |   |  |
| PGCert                       | Demonstrate problem formulation and solution.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises   | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| PGDip                        | Demonstrate problem formulation and solution.  | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises   | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                          | Demonstrate problem formulation and solution.  | In addition to the above: the dissertation (and supervision process) and independent research   | In addition to the above: research proposal and dissertation                 |
| <b>Working relationships</b> |  |   |  |
| PGCert                       | Demonstrate ability to work with others and contribute to group discussions.   | Independent and group coursework.   | Group projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.         |
| PGCert                       | Demonstrate ability to work with others and contribute to group discussions.   | Independent and group coursework.   | Group projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.         |
| MSc                          | Demonstrate ability to work with others and contribute to group discussions.   | Independent and group coursework.   | Group projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework.         |
| <b>Managing learning</b>     |  |   |  |
| PGCert                       | Plan and construct responses to exercises and essay assignments. Self-direct study to ensure completion of essay assignment tasks and to manage the programme workload | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises   | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| PGDip                        | Plan and construct responses to exercises and essay assignments. Self-direct study to ensure completion of essay assignment tasks and to manage the programme workload | Lectures, seminar-facilitated group discussion, directed reading, self-directed private study and seminar exercises   | Examinations, projects, problem classes, formative and summative coursework. |
| MSc                          | In addition: identify and complete an independent research project – this also includes the necessary time management to conduct independent research                  | In addition to the above: the dissertation (and supervision process) and independent research   | Successful completion of the dissertation                                    |
| <b>Career management</b>     |  |   |  |
| PGCert                       | Assess potential career pathways and employers.  | 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 | Essay assignment feedback and personal development planning                  |

|       | <b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>               | <b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>   | <b>How Demonstrated?</b>                                    |
|-------|---|--|---|
| PGDip | Assess potential career pathways and employers. | Teaching methods provide the relevant knowledge and context to encourage self-reflection on personal development.<br>Personal Tutor system, and self-reflection on essay assignment feedback | Essay assignment feedback and personal development planning |
| MSc   | Assess potential career pathways and employers. | In addition: The dissertation supervision process  | Dissertation  |

#### 10. Special features:

This program features a 30 credit dissertation rather than the more traditional 60 credits. This will better align students' learning, skills and goals with those provided on the program. A typical 30 credit dissertation might involve a student writing an investment report on a company. This type of dissertation would be well aligned with a typical task a graduate may have to perform in employment. At the same time it would allow students to apply the skills learnt during their course (potentially from any and all modules) in a focussed project. The dissertation would involve a great deal of independent research along with analysis, critical thinking and the application of techniques. This type of project, however, is not possible in the current 60 credit format as it is too small to represent 60 credits worth of work.

The table below gives details of how we expect the skills previously assessed in the 60 credit dissertation to be assessed under the 30 dissertation format (listed below as Dissertation).

| Skill   | Courses   |
|---|---|
| Literature review   | <b>Management Accounting, Accounting, Representation and Control, Research Methods for Managers</b> |
| Define appropriate research questions                       | <b>Dissertation</b>   |
| Identify the steps necessary to answer questions            | <b>Dissertation, Financial Analysis and Investment</b>  |
| Develop research skills                                     | <b>Dissertation, Research Methods for Managers, Strategic Management</b>                            |
| Select and apply appropriate analytical techniques          | <b>Dissertation, Financial Analysis and Investment, Business Economics, Strategic Management</b>    |
| Evaluate work and identify possible improvements            | <b>Dissertation, Management Accounting, Strategic Management, Organisational Behaviour</b>          |
| Present results concisely and appropriately                 | <b>Dissertation,</b>  |
| Structure and develop arguments                             | <b>Dissertation, Accounting, Representation and Control, Organisational Behaviour,</b>              |
| Write a formal document (including appropriate referencing) | <b>Dissertation, Accounting, Representation and Control, Research Methods for Managers</b>          |

Those listed in bold the skill will be a significant part of assessment.

This change will result in better alignment between the master's degree and the intended learning outcomes. It will enhance the skill levels and knowledge of our graduates. In particular this will enhance our graduates in the key areas set out by the QAA. We believe the wider range of assessments, multiple projects, and more focused dissertation will improve our students' abilities. It will allow us to better meet our accreditation requirements and make our students more attractive to employers.

The program structure has, on the face of it, an unusual feature: an imbalance of assessed credits between the first two semesters, 45 in the first and 75 in the second. The first term has three 15 credit courses. These will be taught in the final 7-7.5 weeks of term. The first 4.5-5 weeks of term will be dedicated to the zero credit module – “Professional Skills in Finance”. Central to this certificate is the CFA Claritas program. Students will study this certificate during this period. They 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. At the same time students will learn to use a financial information system such as Bloomberg. After completing these aspects students will be equipped to tackle the credit bearing modules. Taking into account this zero credit module we expected the teaching and study hours within the two terms to be approximately equal.

The modules “Professional Skills in Finance” also incorporates a program of workshops and events featuring professionals from the finance industry aimed at developing students career prospects.

A large number of modules on this course are assessed predominantly by examination as due to the mathematical nature of this course this is the most appropriate assessment method to ensure fair and consistent assessment of financial and economic related content.

**11. Indications of programme quality:**

- ☐ University Academic Review
- ☐ External examiners' reports
- ☐ Accreditation by Claritas.

**12. Scheme of Assessment**

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see [Senate Regulations](#))

**13. Progression points**

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see [Senate Regulations](#))

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 award where appropriate.

**14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:**

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see [Senate Regulations](#))

**15. External Examiners reports**

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found [here](#).

**16. Additional information [e.g. timetable for admissions]**

N/A

**Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)**

Term 1 – first 3 weeks:

EC7121 Professional Skills in Finance (0 Credits)



Term 1 –week 4 onwards:

MN7023 Financial Analysis and Investment (15 credits)

MN7402 Business Economics (15 credits)

MN7401 Organizational Behaviour (15 credits)

Term 2 (Compulsory):

MN7262 Accountability, Representation and Control (15 credits)

MN7405 Strategic Management (15 credits)

Options – 30 Credits

EC7097 Financial Risk Management (15 Credits)

EC7112 Financial Accounting and Audit (15 Credits)

MN7036 Corporate Governance

MN7037 Social and Environmental Accounting (15 Credits)

MN7320 Contemporary Issues in International Financial Reporting (15 Credits)

MN7365 Finance, Markets and Organisations (15 Credits)

MN7034 Knowledge Management (15 Credits)

MN7406 International Business (15 Credits)

MN7374 International HRM (15 Credits)

Term 3:

Either 2 Options from the below list and

EC7110 Dissertation (July-September) (30 credits)

OR 1 option from the below list and

M7408 Research Methods for Managers (15 Credits)

MN7410 Dissertation (July-September) (30 credits)

Term 3 options

MN7035 Management Accounting (15 credits)

MN7392 Accounting Representations: Public and  
Private Sectors (15 credits)

## **Appendix 2: Module Specifications**

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>