

# Programme Specification for Postgraduate Programme

Leading to:

**MSc Business Finance**

**MSc Business Finance (with Placement) (with Internship)**



*Applicable for all postgraduate students starting on or after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020*

Version No.	Date	Notes – QA USE ONLY	QA
1	November 2020	Programme specification for 2020/21 created. Addition of January start in Jan 21 for full-time students only	BJR

Postgraduate Taught Programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home College/Dept/Division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences/Department of Economics and Finance/Division of Accountancy and Finance
4. Contributing college/department/division/associated institution	N/A
5. Programme accredited by	N/A
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	MSc Business Finance - FHEQ Level 7 MSc Business Finance (with Internship/Placement) – FHEQ Level 7
7. Programme title	MSc Business Finance
8. Programme type (Single honours/joint)	N/A
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	12 months FT/24 months PT; up to 16 months FT (MSc with Internship) or 12 months FT up to 24 months (MSc with Placement)  12 months – January starters 16 months - with Internship 24 months - with Placement  Placement is not available to PT students.
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	Normal length of programmes plus two years up to a maximum of five years.
11. Variation(s) to September start	January 2021 only
12. Modes of study	FT and PT
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level Award	Postgraduate Certificate in Business Finance - FHEQ Level 7 Postgraduate Certificate in Business Finance with Internship/with Placement FHEQ Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Business Finance - FHEQ Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Business Finance with Internship/with Placement- FHEQ Level 7

15. UCAS Code	N/A
16. HECOS	100450
17. Route Code	N400PBUSFIN
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design	<a href="#">UK Quality Code for Higher Education</a> <a href="#">s</a> <a href="#">Most Recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement</a> (Business and Management) <a href="#">Brunel 2030</a> Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the ' <a href="#">Managing Higher Education Provision</a> with Others' page.
19. Admission Requirements	Details of <a href="#">entry requirements</a> are provided on the University's and College website. Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's <a href="#">language requirements</a> pages.
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	There will be supervision, guidance and support for students embarking on the placement. Further information is provided in a separate document. The placement is not guaranteed. Students who cannot secure a placement by end of May the following year after they start their course, will be reverted to the full time programme
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 3. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 3 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A
22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	<a href="http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/business-finance-msc">http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/business-finance-msc</a>

### 23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The MSc in Business Finance is designed to enhance students understanding of the operation of the firm, with a special focus on the financing decisions it must make. This requires an evaluation of the firm's relationship to financial markets. It also requires an understanding of the theory and practice underlying corporate finance and investment decisions. Studying the operation and design of corporate financial systems, and analysing business financing and investment decisions should enable students to find a role within the finance department of large firms or in government bodies as well as provide them with tools to help organise smaller businesses. Our objective is to produce graduates with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of business finance and company valuation within the context of modern financial markets, without necessarily requiring a high level of mathematical or statistical knowledge as a prerequisite. The key transferable research skills should be sufficient to enable students to proceed to PhD study. In addition these key transferable skills should enable students to undertake further professional development and seek career opportunities within financial management.

To offer to participants the opportunity to apply and examine business and financial theories, frameworks and tools in the actual business environment / "on the job", test themselves against the employment challenges of the financial sector (for MSc with Internship/Placement)

### 24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

FHEQ Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding,	Learning Outcome	Masters Only	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
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	C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)					
<b>7</b>						
	K	A comprehensive knowledge and understanding of business finance and investment decisions from the perspective of the financial manager of the firm, and how these decisions impact on company value.				EC5530, EC5602, and EC5603
	K	A comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the interaction between firms' finance and investment decisions and the financial markets in which they operate.				All modules
		1. Knowledge of international business, finance and trade. Understanding the main principles of business economics.				EC5603, EC5607
	K	An understanding and appreciation of the constraints imposed by the financial markets on the firm's financial decision making				EC5602 and EC5603
	K	A detailed and systematic understanding of firm and financial asset valuation from the perspective of the financial manager.				EC5608 and EC5602
	K	A systematic and detailed understanding of techniques used to model financial decisions, applied to the valuation of companies, the valuation of corporate investments, and the valuation of company securities.				EC5608, EC5602, and EC5603
	K	Awareness of the relationships between academic studies and the professional/business context in which the placement takes place; awareness of the organisation of the placement provider viewed in the context of its business sector. (NB note this LO is for a programme with a placement only)				EC5617
	C	Understand different methods to model phenomena relevant to business finance, corporate structure, corporate valuation and business economics.				All modules
	C	Develop reasoned arguments supported by relevant and appropriate evidence.				All modules
	C	Plan, deliver and communicate research by drawing on a variety of methodologies relevant to	X			EC5500

		business finance and corporate valuation.				
	C	Demonstrate self-direction and originality in formulating and testing key hypotheses in business finance and corporate valuation, and act autonomously in planning and implementing research.	X			EC5500
	C	Ability to analyse issues encountered in an employment context from an academic perspective and vice versa. (NB note this LO is for a programme with a placement only)				EC5617
	S	The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (i) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility, (ii) ability to ask relevant questions, (iii) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development (PGDip).				All
	S	Ability to adapt to a workplace and learn from it; planning, organisation and time management in the context of ability to work independently and as part of a team. (NB note this LO is for a programme with a placement only)				EC5617 (short placement) EC5618 (12 month placement)
	K	To demonstrate and reflect on the obtainment, development and enhancement of personal and professional business skills. . (NB note this LO is for a programme with a placement only)				EC5617 (short placement) EC5618 (12 month placement)
	K	To reflect on the application and relevance of theory and knowledge taught on the MSc programme to the practical work environment. (NB note this LO is for a programme with a placement only)				EC5617 (short placement) EC5618 (12 month placement)
	<b>Learning/teaching strategies and methods</b> to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments					
	<p>Compulsory knowledge and understanding of Category K learning outcomes (above) are acquired by means of lectures, seminars, computer aided labs (where applicable), and guided independent study resulting in a dissertation, all of which encourage and develop active learning.</p> <p>Cognitive skills (Category C learning outcomes, above) are developed concurrently with knowledge and understanding, through the medium of the teaching and learning programme. Each module, however taught and assessed, entails the deployment of a full range of the skills identified. Seminars and feedback on coursework (for which there is a standard pro-forma) provide formal mechanisms for students to reflect on their own learning and intellectual development, and make use of constructive feedback.</p>					

	<p>The final Category C cognitive skill (above) is developed through supervised work on the dissertation, which also further enhances the other Category C outcomes (above).</p> <p>The Category S learning outcome (above) would be nurtured in all forms of interaction between the instructors and students, e.g., lectures, feedback on coursework, and dissertation supervision.</p> <p>For the MSc with Internship/Placement Practice, adapt to an employment environment, meet organisational expectation and successfully engage in informal and self-directed learning are achieved through work placement learning. Students who undertake the Extended period of placement would be expected to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the business and acquire a higher level of skills to be reflected in the Placement Report.</p>
	<p><b>Summative assessment strategies and methods</b> to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.</p>
	<p>Systematic knowledge and understanding of Category K learning outcomes (above) are tested by means of a range of assessment methods including seen and unseen written examinations, formative coursework and a dissertation.</p> <p>The range of assessment methods utilised tests (Category C learning outcomes) (above) through a shared emphasis on approaching a task or problem via a process of individual study and research, analysis and interpretation. All require clear, well-evidenced argumentation, and all call upon a degree of creative thought, imagination and independence of mind. The final Category C learning outcome (above) is assessed through the dissertation.</p> <p>The first three Category K learning outcomes are fundamental to programmes in Business Finance are directly assessed through all compulsory modules. The second Category K learning outcome is developed through the core modules and is necessary to pursue and pass the dissertation satisfactorily.</p> <p>For the MSc with Internship the adaptation and engagement in an employment environment are assessed through a presentation on the placement. Or a report of 2,500 words for those undertaking MSc with Placement</p>

## 25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade C- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at C- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB5500 Project (40)

Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at C- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)

Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)

Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade C- or better, but must D- or better in order to be eligible for the final award.

<b>FHEQ Level 7</b>	
For programmes with a part-time mode of study, please indicate which year of study each module will normally take place in using a superscript <sup>1</sup> or <sup>2</sup> .	
<b>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit</b>	<b>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</b>
<p><b>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</b></p> <p>EC5701 Essentials of Mathematics and Statistics (0 credit)</p> <p>Students on the 'with Internship/Placement' routes will additionally take:</p> <p>EC5702 MSc Pre-Placement Preparation (0 credits)</p>	<p><b>Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume</b></p>
<p><b>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</b></p> <p>All modules are 15 credits unless otherwise specified</p> <p>EC5530 Business Finance Workshop (term 2)</p> <p>EC5602 Foundations of Finance (term 1)</p> <p>EC5603 Business Finance (term 2)</p> <p>EC5606 Quantitative Methods for Business Finance (term 2)</p> <p>EC5607 Business Economics (term1)</p> <p>EC5608 Company Valuation (term 1)</p> <p>EC5500 Dissertation (60 credits) Core: Block</p> <p>Students on the 'with Internship' route will additionally take: EC5617 MSc Placement (6-12 weeks) (0 credits) Core: Block Which will take place after completion of the taught part of the programme</p> <p>Students on the 'with Placement' route will additionally take: EC5618 MSc Placement (12 months) (0 credits) Which will normally commence after submission of the dissertation.</p> <p>Core: Block</p> <p>Part time route:</p> <p>Year 1: EC5701; EC5602; EC5606; EC5530; EC5603;</p> <p>Year 2: EC5607; EC5608; EC5500</p>	<p><b>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</b></p> <p>All modules are 15 credits unless otherwise specified. Students are required to select one 15 credit module per term from</p> <p><b>Autumn Term</b></p> <p>EC5604 Investment Valuation Models EC5605 International Finance</p> <p><b>Spring Term:</b></p> <p>EC5600 Financial Reporting in Capital Markets EC5601 International Accounting Standards and Policy</p> <p>Part-time route: Option modules are available in Year 2 only.</p>

## **FHEQ Level 7 Progression and Award Requirements**

**Students pursuing the MSc Business Finance (with Internship/Placement) are required to attend the EC5702 MSc Pre-Placement Preparation prior to taking the EC5617 or EC5618 MSc Placement module in order to obtain the 'with Internship' or 'with Placement' award.**

As per [Senate Regulation 3](#)

**PGDip may not be awarded by substitution of the dissertation (EC5500) for modular/assessment blocks in the taught part of the programme**

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.