## **BSC Banking and Finance**

# **Programme Specification**



1. Programme title	BSc (Hons) Banking and Finance
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	Bachelor of Science (Honours)
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	2017
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-Time/Part-Time

# 9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Students accepted to study the Foundation Year should have an equivalent of 80-200 UCAS entry points. All candidates should possess at least grade C in GCSE Maths and English language, or equivalent.

International students who have not been taught in the English medium must show evidence of proven ability in English such as TOEFL grade 550 or IELTS grade 6.0. The University provides pre-sessional English language courses throughout the year for candidates who do not meet the English requirements.

The equivalence of qualifications from outside UK will be determined according to NARIC guidelines.

We accredit prior experiential learning and welcome mature applicants with suitable life skills and work experience. University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations.

## 10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to develop students' knowledge and skills in the areas of banking, finance, financial economics, and financial asset management. The programme will also develop competence in applying quantitative and computational techniques to the practice of wealth management. It provides students with the ability to test and evaluate finance models using a range of theoretical and empirical methods, data and techniques of analysis. Students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary for them to pursue a career in financial services, corporate finance, and investment and fund management. In addition to developing analytical and quantitative skills, a significant emphasis is placed on enhancing students' capacity to communicate concepts, arguments and empirical findings effectively.

#### 11. Programme outcomes

#### A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

- 1. Foundations of mathematics and statistics
- 2. Strategies and techniques to support undergraduate studies
- 3. Fundamentals and principles of Finance
- 4. Key theoretical concepts and practical techniques in banking and finance theory, financial asset pricing and valuation, and in wealth management;
- 5. The role, operations and regulation of financial intermediaries, and global financial markets;
- 6. Evaluation and application of financial accounting;
- 7. Introductory econometric, mathematical and computational methods for the estimation, interpretation, and evaluation of results obtained using financial data;
- 8. Key empirical literature in the fields of corporate finance, quantitative finance, and financial economics;
- 9. Apply analytical skills by using basic mathematical and statistical techniques
- 10. Research and evaluate information and apply to given problems
- 11. Apply problem solving strategies to scenarios and formulate solutions
- 12. Reflect on their learning development
- 13. Criticise, compare and evaluate competing theories in the fields of banking theory, international financial markets architecture, financial assets evaluation, monetary policy.
- 14. Critically appraise the empirical finance and financial economics literature;
- 15. Present cogent and reflective arguments that demonstrate knowledge of corporate finance, portfolio and risk management, and of the international financial and banking system.
- 16. Critically interpret and evaluate financial information and data:

#### Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through guided reading of textbooks, academic journals and in-class exercises, lectures, workshops, seminars, and specialised computer workshops. Students learn cognitive skills through working through a series of real life problems and seeking solutions; by reading and interpreting research articles; by listening and discussing a series of topics and theories; by identifying suitable research articles to support their learning and their dissertation; and by applying theory to a specific problem and producing a significant piece of work based on their analysis.

#### Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by assessed by presentations, examinations and written assignments.

#### B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

- 1. Communicate effectively orally and in writing for different audiences
- 2. Apply mathematical and statistical skills to projects
- Source financial and economic data from a range of different sources including electronic databases and use this to support his/her learning;
- 4. Analyse and interpret financial and economic data at firm, industry and country level;
- 5. Demonstrate problem solving skills and formulate empirically testable models;
- 6. Demonstrate basic spreadsheet skills;
- 7. Use advanced econometric and statistical software to investigate relationships in financial and economic data;
- 8. Interpret and evaluate the results of statistical, quantitative and econometric analysis.
- 9. use communication and information technology in acquiring, analysing and communicating information;
- communicate, both orally and in writing, including the ability to present quantitative and qualitative information, together with analysis, arguments and commentary, in a form appropriate to the intended audience;
- locate, extract and analyse data from multiple sources, including correct citing and referencing of those sources;
- 12. work in professionally effective groups, and other interpersonal skills, including oral as well as written presentation skills;
- 13. learn in an independent and self-managed way

## Teaching/learning methods

Students learn practical skills through workshops in computer and financial markets labs, by accessing and using specialist financial databases, and by using specialist statistical and econometrics software. Problemsolving skills are developed by applying theoretical concepts to case studies, and real-life problems.

Practical skills are developed in interactive lectures, supervised laboratories and workshops, online activities and tests, guided research, individual and group projects and reflection. Specialist skills are acquired by participating in computer labs and by using specialist software and database

Interpersonal and communication skills will be developed by taking part in group activities, presentations.

Formative verbal feedback is provided in practical sessions. Summative feedback is provided electronically and/or verbally.

Students are encouraged to actively participate in all sessions and a good attendance is compulsory.

#### **Assessment methods**

Students' skills are assessed by coursework which requires them to access data, analyse, and interpret them and write reports, as well as production of empirical econometric or statistics reports.

<b>1 Overall</b> Time	structure of the programme			
th Placem	ent			
	ACC1110 Finance	ACC1110 Financial Accounting (30)		
Year 1	ECS1340 Financial Ma	ECS1340 Financial Markets and Institutions (30)		
	FIN1350 Dec	FIN1350 Decision theory (30)		
	MSO1620 Financi	MSO1620 Financial Data Analysis (30)		
	ECS2380 Banking T	heory and Practice (30)		
	FIN2150 Securities	FIN2150 Securities and Derivatives (30)		
Year 2	MSO2620 Finance	MSO2620 Financial Mathematics (30)		
	Opti	Option (30)		
	MBS3331/MBS3332 Placement 1	20 credits (Optional)		
	ECS3110 Financial Risk I	Management in Banking (30)		
	FIN3160 Invest	ment Analysis (30)		
Year 3	Opti	Option (30)		
	Term 1	Term 2		
	FIN3170 Applied Financial Econometrics (15)	ACC3145 Ethics and Sustainability (15)		

# With Flexible Placement modules ACC1110 Financial Accounting (30) FIN1340 Financial Markets and Institutions (30) Year 1 FIN1350 Decision Theory (30) MSO1620 Financial Data Analysis (30) MBS2333 60 credits (Optional) ECS2830 Banking Theory and practice FIN2150 Securities and Derivatives (30) Year 2 MSO2620 Financial Mathematics (30) Option (30) MBS3431/MBS3432 60 credits (Optional) ECS3110 Financial Risk Management in Banking (30) FIN3160 Investment Analysis (30) Year 3 Option (30) Term 1 Term 2 FIN3170 Applied Financial Econometrics ACC3145 Ethics and Sustainability (15) (15)Options chosen from: Year 2:

ACC2810 Applied Financial Accounting FIN2840 Personal Financial Behaviour

Year 3

ECS3350 International Finance

ECS3356 Applied Computational Finance

MGT3027 Business Start-up MBS3001 Work Internship

12.2 Levels and modules				
Level 4 (1)				
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROC	GRESSION REQUIREMENTS	
Students must take all of the following: ECS1340 (30) FIN1350 (30) MSO1620 (30) ACC1110 (30)	Students must also choose from the following: No optional module	Students must pass at least 90 credits to progress		
Placement Opportunities				
Either: MBS2333 and MBS3431/MBS3432 Optional Placement 60 Credits each (one between year 1 and year 2; one between year 2 and 3) Or: MBS3331/MBS3332 Optional Placement 120 Credits				
Level 5 (2)				
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL		PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS	
Students must take all of the following: ECS2380 (30) FIN2150 (30) MSO2620 (30)	Students must also choose 30 credits from the following: FIN2840 (30) ACC2810 (30)		Students must pass at least 90 credits to progress	
Level 6 (3)				
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL		PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS	
Students must take all of the following: ECS3110 (30) FIN3160 (30) FIN3170 (15) ACC3145 (15)	Students must also choose 3 credits from the following: ECS3350 (30) ECS3356 (30) MGT3027(30) MBS3001 (30)	0		

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code
	NONE

13. Curriculum map	
See end	

# 14. Information about assessment regulations

Middlesex University and Business School Assessment Regulations apply to this programme.

# 15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

A 12 month placement is offered at the end of year two (Thick Sandwich mode).

Alternatively students can opt for 2 smaller placements over the two first years of the programme including the summers between their years of study (Thin Sandwich Mode).

A dedicated Employability Advisor helps in the search for an employer who will provide the student with an appropriate placement. S/he will also provide students with guidance and support in preparation for, as well as during and after the placement.

The placement forms the basis for an assessed report based on the organisation.

At the start of the placement students are allocated an individual supervisor who provides support and advice for the duration of the project. All projects are double marked.

#### 16. Future careers (if applicable)

The BSc Banking and Finance (Foundation year) is designed to allow students whose career choices lie in the financial services sector to develop their analytical skills, acquire a body of knowledge, and be exposed to the frontiers of the subject.

Potential careers span a wide range, including investment banking, corporate banking, financial regulation, investment management, trading in equity, bond and foreign currency markets, corporate treasury management, derivatives and risk management.

## 17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

In addition to Middlesex University's campus student achievement advisers, learning resources staff and counsellors, there are some forms of support particularly relevant to this programme: programme induction; English language and numeracy support; exam technique classes; programme web-site and on-line discussion boards.

Tailored English language and learning support classes will be provided to support the students during their studies on this programme. Support will be provided to develop both written and spoken English for International students, and help develop confidence in essay writing and study skills. Self-access materials and LET interactive learning support will be directly linked on the programme page.

Middlesex University is committed to breaking down any barriers which might prevent a disabled person from actively participating in the academic life. This extends to the provision of learning support and support in relation to assessment for people with disabilities.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	N300
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Finance

#### 20. Reference points

QAA Guidelines for programme specifications

- QAA Benchmark Statement for Finance (2016)
- QAA Qualifications Framework
- Middlesex University Regulations (2016-17)
- Middlesex University Learning Framework Programme Design Guidance, 2015
- Middlesex University Business School Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategy

#### 21. Other information

Opportunities available to students:

Sage, Datastream and Bloomberg Certification

Financial Markets Lab

Distinguished Lecture Series

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.