

Programme Specification

MSc in Behavioural Finance	
For students entering in September 2018	PFTZBEHF1YHM/PFTZBEHFINHM

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	12 or 9 months
Accreditation	-
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

This programme aims to provide a masters-level education in finance and psychology. The study of finance and psychology progresses through the programme so that students obtain a critical grasp of core theory along with thorough knowledge, and skills of application and analysis related to these disciplines. The particular focus is on Behavioural Finance. Recent years have witnessed the impact of behaviour on financial markets but the link is still poorly understood. The programme will prepare graduates for careers in the global financial markets and supporting industries. Graduates will acquire the knowledge and skills to continue their studies at the doctoral level.

Module information

Compulsory Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ICM106	Financial Markets	20	7
ICM107	Securities, Futures and Options	20	7
ICM108	Fixed Income and Equity Investments	20	7
PYMIP	Introduction to Psychology for Finance	10	7
ICM124	Introductory Quantitative Methods for Finance	10	7

Compulsory text:

Students must also choose at least 40 credits from a list of option modules available in Finance in the ICMA centre and in Psychology.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

This programme is only available on a full time basis.

Additional costs of the programme

There are no textbooks which you must buy and students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of textbooks or other resources with the module convenor before purchasing. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Business School Academic Resource Centre.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically. Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

N/A

Teaching and learning delivery:

Teaching is organised in modules. The method of delivery varies among modules, especially in terms of the proportions of time allocated to lectures, seminars and dealing-room sessions. All modules are part-assessed via a multiple-choice test or coursework that can take a variety of forms. Assessment may involve a written or multiple-choice type examination.

The programme is taught over two 11-week terms. Part 1 begins at the beginning of Welcome Week in September of each year. Examinations for Part 1 modules are held in Week 1 of the following spring term. Part 2 occupies 9 weeks of the spring term and 2 weeks at the beginning of the summer term. Examinations for Part 2 are normally held in late May. For 12-month programmes there is an additional summer period where participants take a 20-credit module.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is 250 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, class tests and coursework. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

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Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and

- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iv) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.