

## Programme Specification

### MSc International Business and Finance

For students entering in September 2018

PFTZIBUFINHM/PFTIBF1YM

**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	9 months or 12 months
Accreditation	
Programme Start Dates	September

#### Programme information and content

This programme provides an in-depth understanding of the interrelationships between the areas of finance and the global economy. One of the hallmarks of globalisation is the growing significance of multinational enterprises (MNEs) that span multiple countries and industries, and consequently need to manage business operations in an increasingly complex environment. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the international business environment, in terms of the competitive and investment milieu, which is largely determined by the policies and regulations established by governments and supra-national institutions. The programme introduces conceptual frameworks and practical methodologies that make sense of the interaction between firm strategies and policies. These strategies are constantly in flux as these environments rapidly evolve in a globalising world. How are global financial markets leveraged by these MNEs? What are the management challenges that face MNEs that seek to exploit international business opportunities? How are these relevant to financial and capital markets? This programme examines these and other issues from both a business and economic perspective. MSc IB&F is designed for business and economics graduates, as well as financial analysts.

The programme pathway requires a substantial amount of independent reading, research and study and students are expected to take personal responsibility and show initiative in developing their knowledge and understanding of the field of study. They will also need to enhance their skills in communications (both written and oral), information handling, and analysis of context and cases in development. Students will work under pressure of time throughout the programme and will learn to set priorities and manage their time in order to meet strict deadlines.

Graduates will therefore demonstrate a range of cognitive, personal and intellectual skills and techniques specific to International Business and Finance. They should be aware of cultural differences and the different approaches of a range of international students and be able to make adaptations to their natural styles to overcome difficulties. They will therefore need to develop and demonstrate relevant personal and interpersonal skills.

**Module information**

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

**Compulsory Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MMM001	International Strategic Management	20	7
MMM071	International Business Environment	20	7
MMM095	Multinational Enterprise, Strategy and Performance	20	7
ICM106	Financial Markets	20	7
ICM107	Securities, Futures and Options	20	7
ICM108	Fixed Income and Equity Investments	20	7
MMM070	Study and Research Skills (non credit-bearing)	0	7
ICM129	Introductory Quantitative Methods for Finance for IBF	0	7

**Compulsory text:**

Students must choose up to FOUR optional modules (at least ONE summer term module must be chosen) to the value of 60 credits. A complete list of options is available from the Programme Director, and a list of current options can be found in the relevant handbook.

**Part-time or flexible modular arrangements**

This programme is only available for full time study.

**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.

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### **Placement opportunities**

N/A

### **Teaching and learning delivery:**

Teaching is organised in modules. The delivery of material varies among the modules, especially in the proportion of time allocated to lectures, classes and seminars.

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 290 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**

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 case studies. All modules are part-assessed via a written exam, a multiple-choice test or coursework that can take a variety of forms. Final assessment normally involves a written examination, and also incorporates coursework marks.

More detailed information regarding the assessments for each module can be found in the individual module descriptions.

### **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 Degrees**

To pass the MSc students must gain an average mark of 50 or more overall and have no mark below 40 in compulsory modules. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and for all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.

Students who gain an average mark of 70 or more overall including a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Distinction. Those gaining an average mark of 60 or more overall including a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Merit.

**For PG Diplomas**

To pass the Postgraduate Diploma students must gain an average mark of 50 or more and have no mark below 40 in compulsory modules. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and for all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.

Students who gain an average mark of 70 or more and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for the award of a Distinction. Those gaining an average mark of 60 or more and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Merit.

**For PG Certificates**

To pass the Postgraduate Certificate students must gain an average mark of 50 or more and have no mark below 40 in compulsory modules. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.