

Programme Specification

MSc in Economics and Finance	
For students entering in September 2019	PFTZECOF1YHM/ PFTZECOFINHM

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

The aim of this programme is to prepare graduates to work as economists in the international investment banking industry, other international or government organisations. The degree is based on rigorous training in both of economics and finance so it also prepares graduates for academic research.

The programme 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 enhance their skills in communications (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, and the use statistical and econometrics software. 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.

Module information

Compulsory Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ECM101	Microeconomic Policy	20	7
ECM102	Macroeconomic Policy	20	7
ECM132	The Economics of Financial Markets	20	7
ICM103	Quantitative Methods for Finance	20	7
ICM107	Securities Futures and Options	20	7
ICM108	Fixed Income and Equity Investments	20	7

Compulsory text:

Students take 80 credits of compulsory modules during the autumn term and 40 credits of compulsory modules during the spring term. Students on the 9-month programme take 60

additional credits of ICM and/or ECM elective modules during the spring term. Students on the 12-month programme take 40 credits of ICMA and/or ECM elective modules during the spring term and 20 additional credits during the summer.

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 other taught 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.

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.