

Programme Specification

MSc in Business Economics (full-time)

PFTZBUSECOHM

MSc in Business Economics (part-time)

PPTZBUSECOHM

For students entering in 2021/22

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	MSc in Business Economics (full-time) - 12 months MSc in Business Economics (part-time) - 24 months
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The programme provides a thorough postgraduate education in the analysis of business both at firm and industry level. Core modules provide detailed and up-to-date introductions to Business Economics, focusing particularly on industrial economics. These modules (and supporting specialist options) provide the techniques and evidence to understand how industries are structured, how firms behave within them and the impact of these factors on the performance of firms. The core modules also provide coverage of research methods and include a dissertation. Optional modules allow further opportunities for specialisation.

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
ECM001	Introduction to Econometric Analysis	0	M
ECM101	Microeconomic Policy	20	M
ECM103	Research Methodology	10	M
ECM104	Quantitative Research Methods	10	M
ECM110	Dissertation	40	M
ECM607A	Microeconometrics 1	10	M
ECM620	Economics of Corporate Strategy	20	M
ECM621	Topics in Business Economics	20	M

The remaining credits will be taken from a list of optional modules from the School of Politics, Economics and International Relations, or from an approved list of modules from across the University.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme may be studied part-time over two consecutive years. Dissertations are submitted at the end of the second year of study.

Additional costs of the programme

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 library and through both the Department of Economics and the Department of Politics and International Relations.

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.

Students will need to bear in mind the potential for associated travel costs if undertaking a placement module.

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 that you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

There are no placement opportunities on this programme.

Study abroad 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 total contact hours for your programme will depend upon your choices of optional modules; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is around 180 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about 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

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways, depending on the modules selected. Assessment may include, but is not limited to, any of the following: formal written examination; essay, project, class test, oral presentation.

Progression

There are no specific progression requirements that part-time students need to meet before they can progress into the second year.

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 Master's 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.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at

**<http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant
module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the
University of Reading.**

MSc in Business Economics (full-time) for students entering in session 2021/22
17 August 2020

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