

Programme Specification

MSc Data and Decision Analysis (in Nanjing) (full-time)	PFTZDADAURHM
MSc Data Science (UoR-NUIST Academy, Year 1 at UoR) (full-time)	PFTZDATARNHM
MSc Data and Decision Analysis (UoR-NUIST Academy, Year 1 at UoR) (full-time)	PFTZDADARNHM

For students entering in 2027/28

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 Data and Decision Analysis (in Nanjing) (full-time) - 2 years MSc Data Science (UoR-NUIST Academy, Year 1 at UoR) (full-time) - 2 years MSc Data and Decision Analysis (UoR-NUIST Academy, Year 1 at UoR) (full-time) - 2 years
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	September
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	N/A

Programme information and content

The programme provides a thorough postgraduate education in the analysis of Economics and Data Analytics. Students will learn the essentials of Economics to obtain the theoretical understanding regarding how to approach economic problems. Students will then learn relevant Econometric and computational skills to enable them to process and analyse big data. The programme includes a dissertation which give students the opportunity to undertake an independent research project based on their theoretical understanding of economic analysis and statistical/computational skills.

This programme is jointly run with NUIST.

Before starting the programme:

Students may need to attend the pre-sessional English courses to meet the minimum English language requirements if their IELTS results do not reach the entry requirements.

The first academic year:

Students who are enrolled onto the programme can choose between the following two options for the first academic year.

- **Option 1:** Students will study at Reading for the first academic year from September to June. Students will also complete relevant assessments such as coursework and exams at Reading.
- **Option 2:** Students will study at Nanjing and be taught by NUIST staff members. Students will also complete relevant assessments such as coursework and exams at NUIST.

The second academic year:

During the entire second academic year, all students will complete a dissertation in stages under the supervision of a NUIST supervisor and a UoR supervisor, and choose to be based in Reading or Nanjing for Semester 1.

At Reading, students will have the option to take up to 20 non-credit bearing modules from a list provided by the School.

Programme Learning Outcomes

-MSc Data and Decision Analysis (in Nanjing) (full-time)

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	Explain micro-/macro-economic, econometric and data mining concepts, principles, and methods/algorithms.
2	Use data mining methodologies to apply various algorithms and tools for descriptive and predictive analytics.
3	Apply empirical methods to support and estimate various economic models, and use these models to evaluate policies.
4	Evaluate the conditions under which various econometric methods and data mining tools are appropriate to use; from both scientific and data security and ethics standpoints.
5	Discuss real world economic phenomena in the context of core economic theory, empirics, analytics, data security and ethics.
6	Interpret and critically evaluate published research in the quantitative social sciences.
7	Motivate and apply appropriate research methods to address their chosen research question(s).
8	Synthesise their research findings in written form.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

The programme comprises 180 credits.

Compulsory modules**Year 1 modules**

For those students who come to Reading:

Module	Name	Semester	Credits	Level
ECM101	Microeconomic Policy	1	20	M
ECM604	Econometrics 1	1	20	M
CSMDS	Data Science Algorithms and Tools	1	20	M
ECM605	Econometrics 2	2	20	M
CSMDE	Data Security and Ethics	2	20	M

Students will then have to choose one 20-credit module from a list of optional modules approved by the Department of Economics in Semester 2.

In addition, students can choose to do the following non-credit bearing module:

Module	Name	Semester	Credits	Level
ECM001	Introduction to Econometric Analysis	1	0	M

For those students who remain in Nanjing:

Module	Name	Semester	Credits	Level
ECM101NU	Microeconomic Policy	1	20	M
ECM604NU	Econometrics 1	1	20	M
CSMDSNU	Data Science Algorithms and Tools	1	20	M
ECM102NU	Macroeconomic Policy	2	20	M
ECM605NU	Econometrics 2	2	20	M
CSMDENU	Data Security and Ethics	2	20	M

In addition, students can choose to do the following non-credit bearing module:

Module	Name	Semester	Credits	Level
ECM001NU	Introduction to Econometric Analysis	1	0	M

Year 2 modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ECM110NU	Dissertation	60	M

In addition to the UoR modules listed above, in line with Chinese MoE regulations, all students will be expected to study two Chinese Philosophy modules, delivered by NUIST in Year 2 of the programme.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

N/A

Placement opportunities

N/A

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Optional modules

N/A

Teaching and learning delivery

You will be taught primarily through a mixture of lectures, lab practical, tutorials and seminars, depending on the individual modules. Some modules may include group work.

Reading-based modules are delivered at Reading by academic staff from the University of Reading, while NUIST-based modules are delivered at NUIST by academic staff from NUIST. Students must undertake a dissertation project in the second year of this programme. Each dissertation project will be supervised by two supervisors: a supervisor from the University of Reading and a supervisor from NUIST. Detailed information about the teaching and learning delivery can be found in each specific module description.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including 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 and coursework (including class tests). Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

N/A

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

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Master's degree:

Award of a Master's degree

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 180 credits

(ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 120 credits

(iii) not more than 20 credits with a mark below 40%

(iv) a mark of 50% or more for the Dissertation

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Master's degree, the following **further** conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction

An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 180 credits

OR

an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 180 credits and marks of 70% in at least 90 credits

AND

Where the dissertation is included in the conditions for the award of a Master's degree, a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation

AND

No marks below 40%.

Merit

An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 180 credits

OR

an overall average of 58% or more over 180 credits and marks of 60% in at least 90 credits

AND

No marks below 40.

For Postgraduate Diploma

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma:

Award of a Postgraduate Diploma

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 120 credits

(ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 80 credits

(iii) not more than 20 credits with a mark below 40%

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma, the following further conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction

An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 120 credits

OR

an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 120 credits and marks of 70% in at least 60 credits

AND

No marks below 40.

Merit

An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 120 credits

OR

an overall average of 58% or more over 120 credits and marks of 60% in at least 60 credits

AND

No marks below 40.

For Postgraduate Certificate

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate:

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 60 credits

(ii) No credits with a mark below 40%.

Details of the classification method is given in detail in the [Assessment Handbook](#) under:

- Section 19: Awards: Postgraduate Master's, Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate

Please note that there may be a specific version for your year of entry.

Additional costs of the programme

Students will need to fund their travel costs to and from China and the UK.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2026.

Students may consider purchasing a laptop to help support their learning. Information on recommended device specifications can be found on the [DTS Student Hub](#).

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 Data and Decision Analysis (in Nanjing) (full-time) for students entering in session 2027/28

30 July 2026

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