Programme Specification

BSc Finance (Investments) **UCAS Code: N301**

For students entering Part 1 in September 2027 **UFFININV**

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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	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BSc Finance (Investments) with Year Abroad - 4 years (UCAS Code: N311) BSc Finance (Investments) with Placement Year - 4 years (UCAS Code: N310)
Accreditation	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) EFMD Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Finance

Programme information and content	
The programme aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in the financial services industry. Students on this programme will gain a deep understanding of financial concepts, markets and the financial services industry in general. The programme has a practical focus, and it explores real-world financial applications. Students have the opportunity to learn about financial markets and various methodologies to analyse financial data or build investment strategies. Furthermore, the programme offers the option to do a Placement Year or a Study Abroad Year. Additionally, the knowledge and skills gained within the programme offer the students the opportunity to continue their studies at graduate level.	
Part 1:	The aim of Part 1 is to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of Finance and practical tools that they will need to cope with the challenges of the fast-paced financial services industry. The students will learn about financial markets, Ethics in the financial industry, concepts of Economics and Accounting, as well as about Quantitative Techniques in Finance.
Part 2:	The aim of Part 2 is to provide students with a deeper understanding of the core concepts in portfolio management, financial modelling and corporate finance. Also, students can learn about financial markets and econometric methods and choose from a wide range of optional modules.

Placement/Study abroad year:	Students have the option to go on a Placement Year or to do a Study Abroad Year.
Part 3:	The aim of Part 3 is to provide students with an understanding of more advanced topics in Finance, such as risk management and advanced derivative products.

Programme Learning Outcomes - BSc Finance (Investments)

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	Demonstrate an appropriate academic knowledge of the fundamental concepts at the core of Finance as well as in specific areas of Finance and Investments;
2	Analyse qualitative information and process quantitative data;
3	Demonstrate critical thinking skills;
4	Recognise and value diversity and multiculturalism by engaging in team-working;
5	Discuss their roles and responsibilities as individuals to support organisational activity which encourages positive outcomes and results in a fairer and inclusive society;
6	Explain the global context in which organisations operate;
7	Recognise the need for continuing professional learning and development throughout their studies and career;
8	Demonstrate confident, credible communication regardless of the mode of transmission;
9	Evaluate and/or apply leading edge practices in finance;
10	Discuss and/or demonstrate sound business practice.

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.

In addition to the learning outcomes stated above if you are on a placement or study abroad programme you will have the opportunity to develop the following learning outcome:

Additional learning outcomes
Study Abroad By the end of the Study Abroad Programme, students will have adapted to international study contexts in order to achieve the required academic outcomes determined by the host institution.

Placement

By the end of the Placement Year programme, students will have contextualised their academic learning in a placement role relevant to their programme of studies and developed their professional experience, skills and knowledge, contributing significantly towards their continuous learning and career prospects as graduates.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AC117	World of Work	20	4
IC101	Introductory Securities and Markets	20	4
IC102	Introductory Finance/Trading Simulation I	20	4
IC103	Introductory Economics for Business and Finance	20	4
IC104	Introductory Quantitative Techniques for Business and Finance	20	4
MM1F27	Business in Practice: Accounting for Managers	20	4

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
IC201	Corporate Finance	20	5
IC204	Portfolio Management	20	5
IC211	FX and International Debt Markets	20	5
IC212	Financial Modelling	20	5
IC215	Data Science for Finance	20	5

Students who have transferred and have not taken AC117 World of Work at Part 1 are required to take AC117 at Part 2.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in Henley Business School or modules from elsewhere in the University.

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MM200	Study Abroad Year	120	5
MM284	Work Placement	120	5

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
IC303	Management of Risk	20	6
IC314	Bond and Money Markets	20	6
IC315	Advanced Derivative Securities Hedging and Trading	20	6
IC317	Derivative Securities	20	6

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in Henley Business School or modules from elsewhere in the University.

Placement opportunities

Placements:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be offered the opportunity to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable placement. If you undertake a placement year, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you; also, Part 3 as described above may be subject to variation.

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad year during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you; also, Part 3 as described above may be subject to variation.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught primarily through a mixture of lectures, tutorials, seminars, computer-based workshops and trading sessions, depending on the modules you choose. Some modules may include group work.

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

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
EFMD Quality Improvement System (EQUIS)
Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute

Assessment

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

Progression

Part 1
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 1, a student will normally be required to:
(i) Obtain an overall weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
(ii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits taken in Part 1; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in modules amounting to 120 credits. (A Fail in a Pass/Fail module will be treated as not meeting the minimum threshold requirement for progression or classification. Pass/fail modules are excluded from weighted average calculations but must be passed to avoid failure of the Part or degree.)

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Students considering transferring to another programme should seek guidance from their designated Support Centre in the first instance.

Part 2
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

(i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
(ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits. (A Fail in a Pass/Fail module will be treated as not meeting the minimum threshold requirement for progression or classification. Pass/fail modules are excluded from weighted average calculations but must be passed to avoid failure of the Part or degree.)

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Placement/Study Abroad Year

Students are required to pass the professional placement year/study abroad year in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the professional placement year/study abroad year. Students who fail the professional placement year/study abroad year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

Classification

Bachelor's degrees
The University’s honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three year programmes:
Part 2: one-third
Part 3: two-thirds

Four year programmes, including Study abroad / Placement year
Part 2: one-third
Study abroad / Placement year: Year abroad / Placement year not included in the classification
Part 3: two-thirds

Details of the classification method is given in detail in the Assessment Handbook under:

- Section 17: Awards (Bachelor's), or
- Section 18: Awards (Integrated Master's programmes). Students who do not progress to Part 4 of the Integrated Master's will normally be subject to the method detailed under Section 17: Awards (Bachelor's)

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

Additional costs of the programme

The cost of textbooks and recommended calculator is around £500 over the duration of the programme.

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.

BSc Finance (Investments) for students entering Part 1 in session 2027/28
29 September 2026
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