

# BA(Hons) in Business (Finance)

## Aims and Rationale of the Programme

The BA(Hons) in Business (Finance) is part of a last generation programme that was updated through the University's recent quinquennial review, with the aim of structuring Business Studies around contemporary business processes, rather than traditional thematic areas largely devised in the academic world alone. Apart from dealing with business processes, which encapsulate the full range of managerial activities, the successful candidate will gain a holistic perspective and in-depth understanding of managerial accounting, financial decision making and appraisal, financial planning and all the knowledge necessary to excel in the competitive environment of contemporary business.

## Structure of the Programme

The BA in Business (Finance) is a 3-year full-time programme, taught exclusively in the English language. Courses are offered within a two-term period, with two exam periods in May and August. All courses are delivered during the weekday evenings to accommodate the needs of working students.

## Courses

### Year 1

Personal and Professional Development  
Introduction to Business Processes  
Business Planning and Development  
Context and Regulatory Framework of Business  
Managing the Performance of Individuals

### Year 2

Career Management  
Creativity and Business Decision Making  
Value Chain Management  
Management Information Systems  
Management Accounting

### Year 3

Dissertation  
Managing Strategy  
Finance  
International Business Management

## Entry Requirements

- High School Certificate
- A minimum of TOEFL score of 213 (computer based test), IELTS 6.0, or a recognized equivalent (for example, successful completion of a programme of studies at HE or FE taught in English).

## Careers

Employment in accounting and finance departments, financial services sector, public sector, non-profit making organisations and in public practice with firms of certified or chartered accountants.

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## Indicative Course Descriptions

### Introduction to Business Processes

This course teaches you a systems approach to understand the core concepts in Marketing and Operations by placing business processes on centre stage. The aim of this course is to introduce the students to the principles of process management in all sectors of industry and commerce within a common conceptual framework.

### Personal & Professional Development

The aim of the course is to induct and support students in using the university's systems and processes effectively and to increase student ability to benefit from the academic process.

### Context and Regulatory Framework of Business

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the various components of this analytical tool, with the objective of situating business in its broader context. The course will be international in outlook, under the unifying theme of current and recent global trends. Transitional & developing economies as well as the advanced economies will be covered.

### Value Chain Management

This course is designed to reveal more about the interdependent nature of real world business, and the increasing attention given to cross-functional decision making in a digitally enabled global market. The student will be offered current academic concepts and trends in modern business philosophy that signify a need for reassessing the changing nature of internal and external relationships in business.

### Management of Information Systems

This course covers a broad topic which consists of two main areas: (1) the use and relevance of information systems to managers and enterprises and (2) the management of information systems projects. Rather than providing an in depth technological treatment of information systems, the course prepares students, as future managers, to critically assess the impact of information systems on the enterprise. It also introduces those skills required in order to manage information systems projects.

### Management Accounting

This course aims to allow students to understand how a wider range of accounting techniques may be used by management for the purposes of planning, control and decision making. This course will improve the students understanding of management accounting in an organisational setting. Therefore, students will not only be asked to demonstrate their ability to answer numeric questions but will also be asked to explain their solutions and methods. This course aims to bring management accounting techniques into a practical setting by requiring students to translate management accounting problems into excel based models.

### Finance

Finance as a degree subject requires the students to understand the main objective of the firm which is maximization of shareholder value and the different internal policies undertaken by the firm to attain that goal. This requires students to study the risk, return and utility theories for investors and how investors construct portfolios of investments. Students will also study how firms make capital structure, dividend policy, risk management and other decisions aimed at achieving the primary goal of the firm. They will study valuation techniques of assets, businesses and projects as this is necessary in evaluating the attainment of the above stated objective. There will be an emphasis on a practical approach to the teaching of the subject to help prepare students for effective job performance in this area. This will result in requesting students to do exercises in portfolio theory, valuations, decision making and risk management. They will also learn to prepare financial management reports.

### Dissertation

The Dissertation is a key element of the degree. It is the point where knowledge and understanding acquired through the earlier taught courses is synthesised and applied to a substantial management problem in the Finance area. Students reaching this level of study will have successfully completed the taught unit concerned with research methods and design. The course is designed to build on that experience and provide a supported learning environment in which students can plan a more thorough-going research enquiry of their own choosing. The key outcome of the course is the report of an investigation into an issue of importance.