

BA (Hons) in Business Studies with 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
Quantitative Analysis & Systems
Discover Project Management

Year 2

Personal and Professional Development 2
Creativity and Decision Making in Business
Operations Management
Project Planning and Management
Banking: Principles, Practices & Regulations

Year 3

Personal and Professional Development 3
Managing Strategy
Corporate Financial Management
Small 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.

Quantitative Analysis & Systems

The aim of this course is to develop your analytical skills, to teach you how to develop arguments and justify conclusions using both numerical information and published material as source information. You will develop your numerical skills and understanding of numbers specifically in a financial context. It is also vital that you will learn to communicate clearly arguments stemming from numerical analysis. The course also outlines the ways and means by which data and information is gathered, generated, stored and processed in typical business. You will be introduced to how organisations manage and develop information systems for accounting and administration.

Operations 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.

Project Planning and Management

The aim of this course is to produce professional business managers capable of making effective and efficient project management decisions. The course provides a range of academic knowledge, business understanding, and project management techniques and seeks to develop within students the ability to integrate these with an appreciation of the usefulness of appropriate project management software. On completion of the course, students will have the core knowledge needed to work

successfully within a project team or as a project manager on small projects in an environment constrained by time, cost and quality.

Banking: Principles, Practices & Regulations

This course introduces students to the principles and practice of modern banking and its regulation in an international context. The course covers the rationale for the existence and regulation of banks, functions of major types of banks and explores how banking meets a range of payments, savings, and investment and risk management needs that exist in modern societies. Attention will be paid to banks' balance sheets, management of the risks that are inherent in various banking operations and strategies. Students will also explore the structure of banking in different countries and topical issues in banking.

Corporate Financial Management

This course is intended for students who require an intermediate knowledge of the financial aspects of business management. Students will apply financial concepts and theories to finance-related issues encountered by firms, focusing upon the role of the Financial Manager and the theory and skills required to make sound investment and financing decisions. The key topics to be delivered include the tenets of Modern Portfolio Theory, developing from the concept of efficient markets through to the ability to identify and calculate bespoke risk adjusted weighted average cost of capital. Students will grasp the financial relevance of cost of capital within the context of business project evaluation. The course deals with the theory and techniques of financial decision-making in a corporate context.

Personal and Professional Development 3

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.