

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE (MSC)

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Normally a 2.1 Honours degree in a relevant subject (Accounting or Finance based) or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University.

Exceptional applicants with degrees in Engineering, Mathematics, Management, Economics or other relevant subjects can also be considered. All applicants must have sufficient relevant knowledge of and/or experience in basic Accounting.

INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

For information on international qualification equivalents, please see: go.qub.ac.uk/YourCountry

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students wishing to apply to Queen's University Belfast (and for whom English is not their first language), must be able to demonstrate their proficiency in English in order to benefit fully from their course of study or research. Non-EEA nationals must also satisfy UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) immigration requirements for English language for visa purposes.

Evidence of an IELTS* score of 6.5, with not less than 5.5 in any component, or an equivalent qualification acceptable to the University is required.

*Taken within the last 2 years.

For more information on English Language requirements for EEA and non-EEA nationals see: go.qub.ac.uk/EnglishLanguageReqs

If you need to improve your English language skills before your study, our partner INTO Queen's University Belfast offers a range of English language courses: www.intohigher.com/qub

FEES AND FUNDING

Northern Ireland (NI): £6,900
England, Scotland or Wales (GB): £6,900
Other (Non-UK/EU): £6,900
International: £20,900

For fees and funding information please see:
Fees: qub.ac.uk/TuitionFees
Funding: go.qub.ac.uk/qubpgfunding

DURATION

1 year full-time

TEACHING TIMES

Morning/Afternoon

OVERVIEW

Why is this subject for you?

- You want to be able to speak 'the language of business' and understand financial decision-making and financial institutions.
- You want a career in areas such as accountancy, banking, consultancy or academia.
- You want to be taught and supervised by leading academics and you want exemptions from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) professional examinations.

Accounting is the process of summarising, analysing and reporting financial transactions to permit informed judgements and decisions by users of the information. Finance looks at how company managers and investors make financial decisions, how they manage their risk, and how financial markets function.

The MSc in Accounting and Finance provides students with an understanding of both the theoretical framework and practical skills necessary to work in the global financial environment.

CONTENT

The programme offers the opportunity to pursue appropriately advanced studies in both accounting and finance, equipping the students for careers in financial institutions, management consulting, industry or government bodies. The modules included in the programme aim to develop capacities of critical assessment of literature and methods, and the ability to communicate, orally and in writing, on topics in accounting and finance. They provide a stimulating suite of learning activities that introduce students to contemporary theories and practice.

The development of transferable skills will shape the teaching and learning on the programme. The successful completion of coursework, for instance, will require students to gather information from a range of sources, as well as select and assimilate the relevant knowledge and complete tasks within deadlines. The students will also acquire the ability to write projects and an MSc dissertation, which aims at developing the skills of reading and summarising academic articles. The students will be able to analyse financial statements, apply investment strategies, and understand the role of accounting in both profit and not-for-profit organisations. The contents provided during the programme will also be useful to those who wish to pursue PhD studies in accounting and finance.

Programme Modules

Semester 1 (CATS)

- Financial Management (15) *Understand the implications of the economic environment, critically evaluate different sources of business finance and Explore and apply the key techniques of investment appraisal.*
- Principles of Corporate Finance (15) *Understand the issues confronting corporations when making investment and financing decisions.*
- International Financial Accounting and Reporting (15) *Apply international financial reporting standards in the production and presentation of external financial reports and be familiar with alternative recognition rules and valuation bases.*
- Case Studies in Accounting and Financial Management (15) *This course builds upon the previous modules to understand the practical application of international financial reporting standards to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements*

Semester 2 (CATS)

- Accounting and Performance Management in Public-Sector and Not-For-Profit Organisations (15) *Understand key differences between businesses, public sector organisations and not-for-profit-organisations (including strategies) in relation to performance management and governance.*
- Management Accounting and Control (15) *Describe and evaluate cost behaviour patterns; explore and apply the key concepts of budgeting, controlling and variance analysis.*
- Research Methods and Techniques (15) *Understand and apply qualitative and quantitative research methods and techniques to different research contexts and develop your own research proposal.*

Semester 3

- Route 1 (60 CAT points)
- Traditional Dissertation (100%)

Route 2 (60 CAT points)

- Academic Research Project

Modules are subject to change.

ASSESSMENT

A variety of methods, including individual and group work, presentations, case studies, class tests and dissertation will be used. Both summative and formative assessment methods are adopted throughout all modules, which span from practical computer based work, to class tests, group and individual presentations and academic essays. Timely feedback is provided on the students' performance.

CAREERS

This Master's programme provides the basis for both profession and research orientated careers, as well as skills and knowledge required to progress into management careers in the accounting and financial services. It opens a wide range of career opportunities in banking, accounting and auditing, government, corporate finance, investment analysis and academia.

WHY QUEEN'S?

Trading Room

The Corporate Finance module is taught in the Trading Room. Students have access to Bloomberg software, a market leader in financial news, data and analytics, which is used by many financial institutions.

Software

Students will use and have access to software such as Stata, Excel, Matlab, and databases such as Thomson One Banker, DataStream and Bloomberg.

Accreditation and Exemptions

The programme is accredited by ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), the global body for professional accountants. Students will be exempt from exams F1 (Accountant in Business), F2 (Management Accounting), F3 (Financial Accounting), F4 (Corporate and Business Law), F5 (Performance Management), F7 (Financial Reporting), F8 (Audit and Assurance), and F9 (Financial Management).

The CIMA accelerated route will allow students to take the CIMA Master's gateway assessment on completion of the MSc Programme. Exemptions are recognised for:

CIMA Certificate Level

BA1 Fundamentals of Business Economics
BA2 Fundamentals of Management Accounting
BA3 Fundamentals of Financial Accounting
BA4 Fundamentals of Ethics, Corporate Governance and Business Law

CIMA Operational Level

P1 Management Accounting

CIMA Management Level

P2 Advanced Management Accounting
F2 Advanced Financial Reporting

Students who do not wish to take the gateway route are eligible for exemptions from the certificate level and will enter directly into the operational level objective tests of the CIMA professional qualification.

Guest Speakers

Students have the opportunity to hear from industry professionals who regularly deliver guest lectures and have the opportunity to network afterwards.

Student Managed Fund (SMF)

Students are invited to join the Student Managed Fund where they will have a unique opportunity to manage a real money investment portfolio of £30,000. Queen's Management School is one of only a handful of universities in the UK and Ireland to offer this experience which is a game changer when it comes to graduate employability.

Queen's Management School is committed to the continuous improvement and enhancement of all of its degree programmes. New modules may be developed and included to replace or enhance those which are mentioned here.

“The first-rate computer facilities, Bloomberg and DataStream access and programmes such as IBM SPSS enhanced my study experience and expanded my IT skills. Additionally the regular recruitment fairs and networking events have eased my entrance into the employment market.”

Sally Denton,
MSc Accounting and Finance

APPLY NOW

go.qub.ac.uk/pgapply

CONTACT

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