



MSc Banking and Finance

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	MSc Banking and Finance
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	Master of Science Postgraduate Diploma Banking and Finance Postgraduate Certificate Banking and Finance
6. Year of validation/Year of amendment	2019
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	FT/PT

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Applicants must have a good honours degree (2:2 and above) from a UK University, or the equivalent from a recognised overseas University, or an equivalent recognised qualification. The equivalence of qualifications from outside UK will be determined according to NARIC guidelines.

This programme targets graduates who have an accounting, business economics, finance, or economics undergraduate degree. Student with an undergraduate degree with an applied quantitative element in the field of statistics, mathematics, engineering, physics, computing or science will also be considered. It aims to provide these graduates with the theoretical and quantitative knowledge and skills to pursue an academic or a professional career in banking.

Students whose first language is not English will need to demonstrate English language proficiency in addition to the other entry requirements. A minimum score of 6.5 IELTS (with a minimum of 6.0 in each component) or an equivalent qualification recognised by Middlesex University must be obtained.

We accredit prior experiential learning and welcome mature applicants with suitable life skills and work experience

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to develop students' existing skills by advanced study in the areas of banking and finance and to provide a theoretical framework to understand, interpret and analyse contemporary issues in domestic and international banking, finance and economics. It will develop students' competence in applying advanced quantitative techniques to the practice of banking and finance, and the ability to test and evaluate banking/finance/economic models using a large range of research methods, data and techniques of analysis. These skills will enable students to undertake academically rigorous independent research and enhance the students' capacity to communicate ideas, arguments and research findings effectively in written form.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. Advanced banking, finance and economic theory, current developments and issues in financial markets;
2. The role, operations and regulation of financial intermediaries;
3. The structure and workings of domestic and global financial markets;
4. Key theoretical concepts and practical techniques in finance, accounting, and data management used in the management of risks faced by domestic and international financial institutions;
5. Advanced econometric, statistical, and computational techniques methods for the estimation, interpretation, and evaluation of results obtained using banking, financial and economic data;
6. Key empirical literature in the fields of banking, finance, and financial economics.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through guided reading of textbooks, academic journals and in-class exercises, lectures, workshops and seminars.

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by presentations, examinations and written assignments and through the research and writing undertaken to complete their dissertation.

B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Criticise, compare and evaluate competing theories in the fields of banking, finance, and financial economics;
2. Synthesise theoretical and practical understanding in problem solving exercises and case studies;
3. Present cogent, reflective and, where appropriate creative arguments that demonstrate advanced understanding of banking and finance;
4. Critically interpret and evaluate financial information and data;
5. Formulate empirically testable banking, financial and economic models and use econometric software to test them.
6. Conduct an independent and original line of enquiry in identifying and researching a dissertation topic;

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills by working through a series of real life problems and seeking solutions; by reading and interpreting research articles; by listening and discussing a series of topics and theories; by identifying suitable research articles to support their learning and their dissertation; and by applying theory to a specific problem and producing a significant piece of work based on their analysis.

Assessment methods

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by coursework which requires them to access data, analyse, and interpret it and write reports. Also the planning, implementation and production of a dissertation will give students ample opportunity to think, plan and identify their weaknesses and work through these to solve specific problems.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

Full time:

FIN4510 Banking and Financial Institutions (30)

Term 1

FIN4740 Applied Econometrics (15)

FIN4450 Portfolio Theory & Equity Analysis (15)

FIN4470 International Financial Markets (15)

Term 2

FIN4730 Fixed Income Securities (15)

FIN4550 Applied Corporate Finance (15)

FIN4480 International Risk Management (15)

FIN4700 Research methods and dissertation (60) (Spring-Summer terms)

Part time:

Year 1:

FIN4510 Banking and Financial Institutions (30)

Term 1

FIN4450 Portfolio Theory & Equity Analysis (15)

Term 2

FIN4550 Applied Corporate Finance (15)

Year 2:

Term 1

FIN4740 Applied Econometrics (15)

FIN4470 International Financial Markets (15)

Term 2

FIN4730 Fixed Income Securities (15)

FIN4480 International Risk Management (15)

FIN4700 Research Methods and Dissertation (60) (Spring – Summer Terms)

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 7

COMPULSORY

Students must take all of the following:

FIN4510 (30 credits)

FIN4450 (15 credits)

FIN4550 (15 credits)

FIN4470 (15 credits)

FIN4480 (15 credits)

FIN4730 (15 credits)

FIN4740 (15 credits)

FIN4700 (60 credits)

OPTIONAL

None

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must pass 120 credits before progressing to the dissertation

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)

Module level/Module code: ALL

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

Middlesex University Assessment Regulations apply to this programme.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support

None

16. Future careers (if applicable)

The programme is designed to allow students whose career choices lie in the financial services sector to develop their analytical skills, acquire a body of knowledge, and be exposed to the frontiers of the subject.

Potential careers span a wide range in investment and commercial banking, hedge fund management, trading in equity, bond, derivatives and foreign currency markets, risk management in financial institutions.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

In addition to Middlesex University's Progression and Support Team, Learning Resources staff and Counsellors, programme specific support is provided through Welcome; numeracy support; exam technique classes; programme web-site and on-line discussion boards.

Support will be provided to develop both written and spoken English for International students, and help develop confidence in essay writing and study skills. Self-access materials will be directly linked on the programme page.

Middlesex University is committed to breaking down any barriers which might prevent a disabled person from actively participating in the academic life. This extends to the provision of learning support and support in relation to assessment for people with disabilities.

Middlesex University in Dubai has a dedicated employability centre linking students with local employers.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system) N310

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s) Finance and Economics

20. Reference points

- QAA Guidelines for programme specifications
- QAA Benchmark Statement for Finance (2016)
- QAA Qualifications Framework
- Middlesex University Regulations (2018-19)
- Middlesex University Learning Framework – Programme Design Guidance, 2015

21. Other information

Opportunities available to students:

Sage and Bloomberg Certification/Capital IQ

Financial Markets Lab

Distinguished Lecture Series

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations

Curriculum map for MSc Banking and Finance

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Skills

A1 Advanced banking, finance and economic theory, current developments and issues in financial markets;

B1 Criticise, compare and evaluate competing theories in the fields of banking, finance, and financial economics;

A2 The role, operations and regulation of financial intermediaries

B2 Synthesise theoretical and practical understanding in problem solving exercises and case studies;

A3 The structure and workings of domestic and global financial markets;

B3 Present cogent, reflective and, where appropriate creative arguments that demonstrate advanced understanding of banking and finance;

A4 Key theoretical concepts and practical techniques in finance, accounting, and data management used in the management of risks faced by domestic and international financial institutions;

B4 Critically interpret and evaluate financial information and data;

A5 Advanced econometric, statistical, and computational techniques methods for the estimation, interpretation, and evaluation of results obtained using banking, financial and economic data;

B5 Formulate empirically testable banking, financial and economic models and use econometric software to test them.

A6 Key empirical literature in the fields of banking, finance, and financial economics.

B6 Conduct an independent and original line of enquiry in identifying and researching a dissertation topic;

Programme outcomes A1 A2 A3 A4 A5 A6 B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Highest level achieved by all graduates 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7

Module title	Module code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
Banking and Financial Institutions	FIN4510	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
Applied Econometrics	FIN4740				X				X		X	X	
Portfolio Theory & Equity Analysis	FIN4450			X	X		X		X	X	X		
International Financial Markets	FIN4470	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		
Applied Corporate Finance	FIN4550	X		X			X	X	X		X		

International Risk Management	FIN4480		X	X			X	X	X	X			
Research methods and dissertation	FIN4700					X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Fixed-Income Securities	FIN4730	X		X	X		X		X		X		