



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

# COURSE SPECIFICATION

## *MSc Finance*

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships  
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

**March 2018**

### **Copyright**

The contents of this document are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

# COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

<b>Course Title</b>	<b><i>MSc Finance</i></b>
Final Award	<i>MSc</i>
Exit Awards	<i>PGCertHE, PGDipHE.</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C1144F</i>
Mode of study	<i>Full time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>1 year</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>from September 2020 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Business and Law</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>Economics and Finance</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="#">Portsmouth Business School</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="#">MSc Finance</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI).</i>
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	<i>Level 7</i>

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Module Web Search](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

- To understand core descriptive, theoretical, and practical material in the key finance areas of investments and corporate finance
- To gain advanced understanding of securities analysis and portfolio management, with particular emphasis on asset pricing models and risk management
- To understand the empirical research literature on key theoretical issues and their practical applications and to critically evaluate this research
- To be competent in the application of appropriate econometric techniques
- To be competent to undertake research in the finance area
- To develop transferable skills for employment and lifelong learning
- To develop a critical understanding of professional standards and ethics

## Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

*Postgraduates will have a systematic knowledge and critical understanding of the discipline of Finance.*

In order to show this they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Explain and critically discuss core theories, models, and techniques in finance	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations
A2	Show understanding of the practical applications of core theories, models and techniques in finance	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations

### B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills:

*Postgraduates will be developed critical thinkers.*

In order to show this they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Identify and frame critical questions and problems	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations
B2	Propose and critically evaluate answers and solutions to critical questions and problems intelligently and creatively on the basis of relevant information and knowledge	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations

### C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills:

*Postgraduates will have an entrepreneurial mind-set that allows them to apply their knowledge to solve real life problems in their field, working independently and with originality.*

In order to show this they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
C1	Evaluate, analyse and interpret financial and related information and propose solutions to real life financial decision making problems	Laboratory work, workshops	Examinations
C2	Assess, evaluate and synthesise evidence concerning risk management and financial decision making	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations

### D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills:

*Postgraduates will be effective communicators.*

*Postgraduates will have a critical awareness of ethical and sustainability issues, including aspects of economics, environmental and social responsibility in a global context.*

In order to show this they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate their conclusions on complex issues making appropriate use of media so they can be clearly understood by others	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations
D2	Deliver an effective, confident and professional oral presentation of their arguments and conclusions	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions	Presentations
D3	Critically discuss the impact of international and global perspectives in a piece of written work	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations
D4	Critically evaluate ethical and corporate governance issues and appropriate ways of resolving them	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, examinations, presentations

## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

## Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

## Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

*Insert additional reference points or delete as required*

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for **enter the relevant statement for this course**
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **add name(s) of PSRB(s)**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

## Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

## Copyright

The contents of this Course Specification are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

## Document details

Author	<i>Chris Reid</i>
Date of production and version number	<i>June 2018, V.1</i>
Date of update and version number	<i>29 June 2020, V.2</i>
Minimum student registration numbers	<i>15</i>