



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

MSc Accounting and Finance

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

May 2020

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

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

Course Title	<i>MSc Accounting and Finance</i>
Final Award	<i>MSc</i>
Exit Awards	<i>PGCert, PGDip</i>
Course Code	<i>P2548FTC (C2548F) P2548PTC (C2548P)</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>Accounting and Financial Management</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	Portsmouth Business School
Course webpage including entry criteria	MSc Accounting and Finance
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>ACCA and CIMA</i>
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	<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 provide a conversion for those seeking competence in the field of Accounting and Finance, who may not necessarily have a background or training in accounting and who wish to become more effective managers and decision-makers;
- To provide those with a background or training in accounting with a means of building on this through continuing education or continuing professional development;
- To enhance the scholarship of students by equipping them with a range of conceptual and analytical skills which may be applied to the practical problems of business in the private and public sectors;
- To assist in the personal development of students to enable them to improve the contribution they can make to the organisation in which they are, or will be, employed;
- To provide students with a recognised qualification which will improve their career development and promotion prospects.

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.

Knowledge and understanding:

Postgraduates will have a systematic knowledge and critical awareness of the discipline/area of Accounting and Finance.

In order to show this they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Explain the theories and principles supporting the preparation of financial statements in accordance with statutory and regulatory requirements and be able to analyse and interpret financial information.	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions</i>	<i>Essays, reports, exams, presentations</i>
A2	Show an understanding of the concepts and practical implications of various finance theories and financial management in the operation of capital markets.	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions</i>	<i>Essays, reports, exams, presentations</i>

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	Analyse and critically evaluate evidence from a range of sources.	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, exams, presentations
B2	Synthesise information and knowledge both systematically and creatively to improve business and management practice and decision-making.	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions, SimVenture	Essays, reports, exams, presentations

■ 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 commercial problems.	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, exams, presentations
C2	Assess, evaluate, and synthesise evidence concerning accounting information, financial management, risk, and capital markets.	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions	Essays, reports, exams, presentations

■ Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills:

Postgraduates will be effective communicators.

Postgraduates will have a critical awareness of ethical and sustainability issues, including aspects of economic, 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 using a range of media, including the use of information technology, so that they can be clearly understood by others.	Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions, Bloomberg lab, SimVenture	Essays, reports, exams, presentations
D2	Deliver an effective and confident oral presentation of their arguments and conclusions.	Lectures, seminars, group	Presentations

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		<i>work, class discussions</i>	
D3	Critically discuss the impact of international perspectives in a piece of written work.	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions</i>	<i>Essays, reports, exams, presentations</i>
D4	Identify ethical issues and evaluate appropriate ways to resolve these.	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions</i>	<i>Essays, reports, exams, presentations</i>
D5	Approach the solution of sustainability and corporate governance issues with originality of thinking.	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work, class discussions</i>	<i>Essays, reports, exams, presentations</i>

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:

- [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](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **CIMA and ACCA**
- 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.

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