



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

# COURSE SPECIFICATION

## BSc (Econ) (Hons) Economics

**Quality Assurance, Academic Standards and Quality and Partnerships**

**Department of Student and Academic Administration**

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## COURSE SPECIFICATION

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

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>BSc (Econ) (Hons) Economics</b>
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U1824PYC / L100
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	3 years, 4 years with placement
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2019 intake onwards
Awarding Body	<a href="#">University of Portsmouth</a>
Teaching Institution	<a href="#">University of Portsmouth</a>
Faculty	<a href="#">Faculty of Business and Law</a>
School/Department/Subject Group	<a href="#">Portsmouth Business School</a>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	School of Accounting, Economics and Finance
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="#">Economics</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	None
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	Level 6

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 [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

The B.Sc. (Econ) (Hons) Economics course aims to equip students with skills and knowledge that will enable them to practise as a professional economist. The programme also seeks to provide students with suitable foundations for pursuing a postgraduate qualification in economics.

The course is based around developing key skills in numeracy, abstraction and modelling, which allows students to solve problems and make policy recommendations with confidence. Dedicated Personal Development Planning modules that are core to each level of study develop a sense of self-worth in our students, preparing them for professional careers in areas relating to economics, business and finance. In addition, a significant majority of the teaching staff associated with these courses are undertaking world class, impactful research in economics and thus research-informed teaching is embedded throughout all levels of study.

More specifically, the course aims to:

- Provide an awareness of economic concepts and principles, with examples of their application to global issues;
- Present a stimulating, challenging and rewarding environment;
- Contain a clearly defined core, which is accompanied by a range of optional units;
- Equip students with analytical, quantitative, research and communication skills;
- Allow students the opportunity to apply to undertake a work placement;
- Encourage personal development planning (PDP) through the operation of dedicated units and close collaboration with the University's Careers and Recruitment services.

## 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:

Graduates will have knowledge and understanding of economics. In order to show this, they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Demonstrate an understanding of core economic theories and principles.	Teaching of economic and quantitative methods is primarily achieved by lectures supplemented by seminars, workshops and surgery sessions. Learning is reinforced through guided independent study.	Assessment of core principles is achieved through a mix of coursework, examination and set exercises. Coursework typically includes a mix of reports, essays and assignments.
A2	Deploy relevant quantitative methods in the area of economics.		

**B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:**

Graduates will have critical thinking skills. In order to show this, they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
B1	Synthesise current research literature in a particular area of economics.	Students are taught how to conduct a literature review and work with economic data through a combination of lectures, seminars, computer labs and supervisory meetings.	Students are mainly assessed on these learning outcomes through coursework; via a combination of written literature reviews and technical reports requiring the use of specialist software.
B2	Select and apply appropriate statistical approaches in order to undertake an analysis of economic data.		

**C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:**

Graduates will be problem solvers with a creative, entrepreneurial mind-set. In order to show this, they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Abstract the essential features from a complex system to provide a usable framework for evaluation.	The essential skills of simplification of complex problems and abstraction are introduced via a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops and computer labs. Learning is reinforced through guided independent study.	Students are primarily assessed on the theoretical construction, manipulation and application of economic models through written examinations and set-exercises. The practical implementation and use of data is primarily assessed through coursework, mostly in the form of written reports and essays.
C2	Organise and present economic data to frame an appropriate problem and identify a solution.		

#### D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

Graduates will be effective communicators.

Graduates will be global citizens with an awareness of how issues of ethics, sustainability and responsibility affect professional practice.

In order to show this, they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Deliver an effective oral presentation.	Key skills are developed through a combination of group and individual personal development planning tutorials, as well as lectures, seminars and workshops. Learning is reinforced through guided independent study.	Assessment is via a combination of examination and coursework. Coursework assignments may be individual or group-based and typically take the form of presentations, reports, essays and reflective personal development planning portfolios.
D2	Produce a clear, well-written report containing an analysis of available evidence.		
D3	Assess the performance of the UK and other countries in the global economy.		
D4	Show understanding of the issues surrounding the socially optimal use of scarce resources.		

#### 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.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides support to students in the form of personal tutors who guide students through personal development planning, as well as a dedicated course management team and regular office hours offered by all members of academic staff. Students are also supported in the development of study skills by a Faculty Study Support Team and have the opportunity to receive additional help and support with quantitative subjects via the university's Maths Café programme.

#### 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 for Economics](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
- 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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