

Programme Specification (PG)

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| Awarding body / institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Teaching institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Name of final award and programme title: | Master of Science in International Financial Management |
| Name of interim award(s): | N/A |
| Duration of study / period of registration: | 12 Months (Full-Time) |
| Queen Mary programme code(s): | PSIFG/N1Q6 |
| QAA Benchmark Group: | N100 Business and Management |
| FHEQ Level of Award: | Level 7 |
| Programme accredited by: | N/A |
| Date Programme Specification approved: | |
| Responsible School / Institute: | School of Business & Management |

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

N/A

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

N/A

Programme outline

This programme is designed to provide a critical research-led approach to the study of aspects of international financial management, and the changing context in which global financial firms operate.

On this programme, you will develop your ability to apply knowledge and understanding of financial management in a complex global environment – and is an ideal preparation for a career in multi-national business, the financial sector or for pursuing advanced studies. It is a course that does not require specific background knowledge in the field of finance or financial management.

Students take 45 credits of Compulsory modules and 15 credits of Elective modules in Semester 1 and also in Semester 2, then complete their 60 credit Core dissertation module in Semesters 2 and 3.

Aims of the programme

This programme aims to deliver an insider's perspective of the global financial environment and provides knowledge and skills to be able to operate successfully within this complex multinational environment, through the study of financial markets and

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institutions, corporate finance, international finance, investment analysis, decision making and more. By end of the programme, students will be able to:

1. Collect data from multiple sources and analyse them using appropriate quantitative techniques.
2. Solve complex problems in a clear and systematic manner, using a range of relevant knowledge, tools and quantitative techniques.
3. Communicate effectively to an audience using a wide range of delivery methods.
4. Develop a critical understanding of some of the key theories, approaches and issues in the field of global financial management.
5. Have enhanced transferable cognitive skills in relation to the analysis, synthesis and critical evaluation of the knowledge of financial management.

The programme will end with an individual research project and students will write a final dissertation of 10,000 words based on the project, in order to demonstrate their ability to critically and analytically synthesise theories and their practical applications to key issues in financial management.

What will you be expected to achieve?

The School promotes active learning within a context of clear learning objectives. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Most modules have a weekly course element and in some this will require collaborative group work. We expect informal work groups to emerge particularly in the more numerically-based subjects. Clear guidance on basic and supplementary reading is given.

Academic Content:

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| A 1 | Develop a critical understanding of some of the key theories, approaches and issues in the field of global financial management |
| A 2 | Develop the ability to apply knowledge and understanding of business and management to complex issues, both systematically and creatively, to improve business and management practice. |
| A 3 | Inform students about the appropriateness of using qualitative and quantitative research methods in particular contexts |
| A 4 | Conduct research into business and management issues, either individually or as a part of a team, through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting. |

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

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| B 1 | Make use of relevant secondary data (such as found in databases) in addressing the question at hand, with clear justification and with a view to supporting argument . |
| B 2 | Demonstrate the ability to conduct a literature review, critically debate the literature, and evaluate contrasting viewpoints. |
| B 3 | Present findings as well-constructed argument that flows smoothly [applies to written work and oral presentations]. |
| B 4 | Use relevant information technologies for analysis and to present results from empirical analysis (such as graphical representations, statistical analyses, and regression analyses). |

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| B 5 | Identify issues in national and international business setting and apply effective decision making techniques based on the available information. |
| B 6 | Develop a sound understanding of contemporary business/organisational contexts. |
| B 7 | Develop an understanding of theories, models, frameworks, tasks and roles of management together with rational analysis and other processes of decision making within organisations and in relation to the external context. |
| B 8 | Recognise and address ethical dilemmas and corporate social responsibility issues, applying ethical and organisational values to situations and choices. |

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| Attributes: | |
| C 1 | Deliver an advanced study of organisations, their management and the changing external context in which they operate. |
| C 2 | Effective performance within team environments and the ability to recognise and utilise individuals' contributions in group processes and to negotiate and persuade or influence others; team selection, delegation, development and management. |
| C 3 | Enhance lifelong learning skills and personal development so as to be able to work with self-direction and originality and to contribute to business and society at large. |

How will you learn?

Teaching for all modules includes a combination of lectures, seminars and a virtual learning environment. You can expect 2-3 hours of contact time per module, per week. For every hour spent in classes you will be expected to complete further hours of independent study. Your individual study time could be spent preparing for, or following up on formal study sessions; reading; producing written work; completing projects; and revising for examinations.

The direction of your individual study will be guided by the formal study sessions you attend, along with your reading lists and assignments. However, we expect you to demonstrate an active role in your own learning by reading widely and expanding your own knowledge, understanding and critical ability.

Independent study will foster in you the ability to identify your own learning needs and determine which areas you need to focus on to become proficient in your subject area. This is an important transferable skill and will help to prepare you for the transition to working life.

How will you be assessed?

Teaching for all modules includes a combination of lectures, seminars and interaction with the Virtual Learning Environment. A wide range of assessment techniques are used, including coursework, written examinations and a dissertation. Coursework may take the form of an individual and/or group assignment, individual and/or group presentations or invigilated tests.

Modules are typically assessed by a combination of coursework (usually 20-50% of the total mark) and final (two hour) examinations; however there is considerable variation across modules, and some are wholly examined by coursework. Clear guidance on coursework requirements is given emphasising approaches to coursework of various types and the avoidance of plagiarism. Standard College procedures are followed in the setting and marking of examinations and in the determination of overall results.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Students take 45 credits of Compulsory modules and 15 credits of Elective modules in Semester 1 and also in Semester 2, then complete their 60 credit Core dissertation module in Semester 2 and 3.

Teaching:

Each module has an outline description, giving the aims, expected learning outcomes, assessment methods, outline syllabus and indication of primary reading. This information is available online on the Postgraduate webpages of the respective Schools. Students typically have 3 contact hours per week in each module. Within these three hours, each module has its own pattern of lectures, seminars/classes and other activities. Lectures emphasise dissemination of information, explaining the key ideas and determining the sequence and pace of learning. Seminars/classes make for a more active learning experience by facilitating student interaction in discussion, exercises, problem sets, case studies and presentations (as appropriate).

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|--|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Quantitative Research Methods | BUSM014 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Corporate Finance for Managers | BUSM030 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Financial Markets and Institutions | BUSM072 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| International Investment Analysis | BUSM185 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Applied Empirical Methods | BUSM112 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| International Finance | BUSM115 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Financial Reporting | BUSM054 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Financial Analysis and Management Accounting | BUSM107 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Managerial Economics | BUSM051 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Behavioural Finance and Decision Making | BUSM085 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Digital and Real Asset Analytics | MTH741P | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Financial Technology and Accounting | BUSM201 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Dissertation for International Financial Management | BUSM101 | 60 | 7 | Core | 1 | Semesters 2 & 3 |

What are the entry requirements?

A good upper second class honours degree or equivalent in any subject. Some basic quantitative skills and some elementary prior knowledge of finance would be an advantage. IELTS 7.0 (with 6.0 in writing) or equivalent is required.

Candidates are expected to have good English language ability and to meet our minimum English language requirements. If you do not meet language or scholarly requirements, it might be possible for you to undertake foundation or pre-sessional programmes that will prepare you for the masters programme at Queen Mary's Mile End Campus in London.

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

There are both formal and informal channels of feedback within the School.

Each PGT programme has a dedicated Programme Director who also acts in most instances as the Academic Advisor for students in that programme. Students are introduced to their Programme Director during the induction week and are encouraged to approach them for academic advice or to discuss issues and/or concerns during their time of study.

Students may also speak with or write to the Director of Postgraduate Taught Programmes about their issues and concerns or to provide feedback.

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The Committee consists of student representatives from each programme in the School together with appropriate representation from staff within the school. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. The School's Staff-Student Liaison Committee meets formally once each semester. The minutes of the meetings are published to the School and the action points for these are noted and responded to accordingly.

Feedback from SSLC meetings, module evaluations and the PTES results are also considered by the School's Education Committee which has oversight on matters relating to the delivery and quality of taught programmes at School level.

The School operates a structure to address complaints raised by students and students can directly approach the Head of School if they deem every other channel as not having served their purpose. This information is available to students via the Student handbook, the Virtual Learning Environment and the School's website.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review (APR) of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES and module evaluations.

What academic support is available?

The School of Business and Management aims to provide a high quality teaching and learning environment. Teaching will be by research-oriented staff complemented where appropriate by Teaching Fellows, who will combine specialist knowledge of their subject with a critical attitude to its delivery. Students will, accordingly, be working in a challenging, supportive environment.

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The induction week prior to the start of Semester A provides introductory talks on all of the services and support mechanisms available within the School and College.

Students on this programme will be supported by the individual staff members running modules on this program in terms of immediate advice on a specific module: course content, assignments and exam structure. Students are also assigned an Academic Advisor whom they are encouraged to consult for academic related support and a dedicated Supervisor for their core dissertation module. Beyond this, the Administrative Staff also provide support services for non-academic matters.

The School uses various channels of communication to provide updates on teaching timetables, module information, events and support services (e.g. Plasma Screens, notice boards, Virtual Learning Environment).

Programme-specific rules and facts

How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations and guidance for examiners
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one study skills tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Access to specialist mentoring support for students with mental health issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

The School works closely with the Careers Service to locate possible work placements/ internships and to prepare students for the recruitment process (e.g assistance in creating effective CVs to reach potential employers, interview skills).

The qualities and skills a graduate from this programme might be expected to have include a range of cognitive and intellectual skills together with techniques specific to business and management, and relevant personal and interpersonal skills. These include:

- The ability to think critically and creatively: organise thoughts, analyse, synthesise and critically appraise. This includes the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately
- The ability to conduct research into business and management issues either individually or as a part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting
- Effective performance within team environments and the ability to recognise and utilise individuals' contributions in group processes and to negotiate and persuade or influence others; team selection, delegation, development and management
- Ability to recognise and address ethical dilemmas and corporate social responsibility issues, applying ethical and organisational values to situations and choices.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Jenny Murphy

Person responsible for management of programme:

Tara Velez

**Date Programme Specification produced / amended by
School / Institute Learning and Teaching Committee:**

**Date Programme Specification approved by Taught
Programmes Board:**