

**The London Institute  
of Banking & Finance**

# **BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk**



The London Institute of Banking & Finance is a registered charity, incorporated by Royal Charter.

## Programme Specification

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

UCAS Code	Award	Programme Title	Expected Duration	Mode of Study
N300	BSc (Hons)	Finance, Investment & Risk	3 years 6 years	Full-time Part-time

<b>Credit Count</b>	<b>360 Credits</b>
<b>Awarding Institution</b>	The London Institute of Banking & Finance
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	The London Institute of Banking & Finance and specified collaborative partners
<b>Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points</b>	<p>External</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QAA's UK Quality Code, including Benchmark Statement for Bachelors degrees in Finance (2016)<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Descriptor for a higher education qualification at level 6 in the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ)<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Higher Education Credit Framework for England<sup>3</sup></li> </ul> <p>Internal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The London Institute of Banking &amp; Finance's Code of Practice for Quality Assurance</li> <li>• The London Institute of Banking &amp; Finance Higher Education Credit Framework</li> <li>• The London Institute of Banking &amp; Finance's General and Academic Regulations for Students</li> </ul> <p>In addition, research with the financial services sector has been undertaken to ensure that the learning outcomes of the programme address identified skill and knowledge gaps.</p>

**Date of original production:** September 2017

**Date of current version:** November 2018

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Finance-16.pdf> [last accessed August 2017]

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Framework-Higher-Education-Qualifications-08.pdf> [last accessed August 2017]

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Academic-Credit-Framework.pdf> [last accessed August 2017]

## 2. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### Programme Background

The BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk draws upon the many years of experience held by The London Institute of Banking & Finance in educating professionals in banking as well as our unrivalled understanding of the financial services industry, supported by a strong group of academics with first-hand knowledge and industry experience.

The London Institute of Banking & Finance has made employability a cornerstone of all our programmes and is focused on producing graduates that have the critical combination of knowledge, practical skills and understanding that can be applied in the professional world. The BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk crucially reflects what employers tell us they are looking for from potential recruits.

Our City of London location and close links to the industry provide you with the opportunity to be introduced to, and interact with, financial services employers through visits, industry speakers and practical workshop activities, throughout the programme.

The degree is offered as a three-year programme or alternatively as a four-year programme, including a one-year industry placement, if a sandwich year is taken.

### Programme Aims

The BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk aims to:

1. Develop your knowledge and understanding of key finance and investment practices, financial theories and applications for investment, business planning and risk management, that underpin sound decision-making.
2. Develop your ability to critically analyse, interpret, solve problems, draw independent conclusions, and communicate effectively, both individually and as part of a team.
3. Encourage you to reflect on and evaluate the impact of the changing regulatory and operating environment on finance and investment practices, including the areas of technical change and strategic and risk management.
4. Provide you with opportunities to acquire the necessary skills and competencies to develop professionalism in the context of a role in the financial services industry or to move on to further study within the discipline.
5. Increase your awareness of the importance of strategic, moral/ethical, and economic issues within the financial services sector in general.

### Programme Summary

The first year of the programme provides a strong foundation in a set of subjects crucial to a successful career in the financial services industry, thus encouraging you to relate your studies to the financial sector from an early stage. Differentiating modules include ethics and employability, providing you with the specialised knowledge and skills required in a very competitive sector.

The second year of the programme builds on themes learnt in Year one and equips you with specialised knowledge of theoretical models and applications in finance and investments, thus emphasising the vocational element of our degrees. Differentiating modules include Foreign Exchange Markets, Derivatives & Risk Management, Portfolio Management, and the FinTech and Emerging Markets optional modules.

The third year of the programme enables you to develop your knowledge of the financial services industry to a higher level, with an emphasis on themes such as investment and risk. Differentiating modules include Equity

Investment and Fixed Income & Credit Risk, and a strong group of vocational electives, including Alternative Investments and Private Equity & Venture Capital. The Project is an optional module.

This programme supports the development of your employability attributes throughout its duration as outlined in The London Institute of Banking & Finance's Careers and Employability Strategy. The employability attributes are embedded in the learning outcomes detailed in the next section, specifically under 'Cognitive Abilities & Generic Skills' and 'Values & Attitudes', and comprise: Commercial Awareness, Communication Skills (Listening Skills, Non-Verbal & Verbal), Leadership & Influencing, Numeracy, Planning & Organising, Problem Solving, Analysis & Decision Making, Relationship Building, Resilience, Self-Awareness/Personal Impact, and Team Working.

### 3. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Finance (F).

Please note: The programme intended learning outcomes below are described at the Bachelor with Honours level (Level 6). Programme intended learning outcomes for Exit Awards are given in Section 11.

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to:

#### A. Subject-Specific Knowledge & Skills

- A1.** Discuss the role, operation and function of markets and financial institutions, the nature of the contexts and institutional framework within which they operate, and the products and services they deliver. *F3.2*
- A2.** Critically evaluate and employ subject-specific theories and tools, empirical evidence and concepts relating to finance and investment generally, and how these apply in a practical work environment. *F3.2*
- A3.** Analyse and interpret financial data, and examine the relationship between financial theory and empirical testing. *F3.2*
- A4.** Analyse and assess the risk factors influencing the investment behaviour and opportunities of private individuals. *F3.2*
- A5.** Appreciate the nature of finance and investment as evolving disciplines that need to respond to the constantly changing legal and regulatory environment. *F3.2*

#### B. Cognitive Abilities & Generic Skills

- B1.** Locate, extract, record and analyse data from multiple sources, including appropriate acknowledgement and Harvard referencing. *F4.1*
- B2.** Develop intellectual curiosity and apply higher-level cognitive skills of reflective practice, including critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of arguments and evidence using specific finance tools, and draw reasoned conclusions. *F4.1*
- B3.** Present qualitative and quantitative information together with analysis, argument, and commentary, orally and written, in a form appropriate to the intended audience. *F4.1*
- B4.** Develop strong numerical, statistical, and IT skills, and have a deep knowledge of financial databases. *F4.1*
- B5.** Conduct independent and self-managed learning as well as working effectively and efficiently with others, as leader or team member. *F4.1*

### C. Values & Attitudes

- C1. Demonstrate the ability to plan, organise, and prioritise tasks. *F4.1*
- C2. Develop confidence, self-belief, and resilience, and appreciate the importance of commercial awareness and networking. *F4.1*
- C3. Be an ethical and responsible professional. *F4.1*

## 4. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

The structure of the programme is set out below (all 20-credit modules):

Module Name	C/O*	Pre-Requisite(s)
<b>Year 1 [Level 4]</b>		
4ECO Foundations of Economics	C	
4IBI Introduction to Banking: Institutions, Law, Regulation & Ethics	C	
4FMA Introduction to Financial & Management Accounting	C	
4IQT Introduction to Quantitative Techniques for Business & Finance	C	4PDE
4PDE Personal Development & Employability	C	
4POF Principles of Finance	C	4IBI
<b>Year 2 [Level 5]</b>		
5CFV Corporate Finance & Valuation	C	4IQT and 4POF
5DRM Derivatives & Risk Management	C	4POF
5FEM Foreign Exchange Markets	C	4ECO and 4POF
5POM Portfolio Management	C	4POF
5APE Applied Econometrics	O	4IQT
5EMK Emerging Markets	O	4ECO and 4POF
5FAC Financial Accounting	O	4FMA
5FIT FinTech	O	4ECO; 4IBI and 4POF
<i>Choose two option modules</i>		
<b>Year 3 [Level 6]</b>		
6EQI Equity Investment	C	5CFV and 5POM
6FIC Fixed Income & Credit Risk	C	5DRM and 5POM
6INF International Finance	C	5CFV
6INB Investment Banking	C	4POF; 5CFV and 5DRM
6ALI Alternative Investments	O	4POF
6CAP Capstone Project	O	240 Credits
6COS Corporate Strategy	O	
6PEV Private Equity & Venture Capital	O	4POF
<i>Choose two option modules</i>		

\* C = Compulsory  
O = Option

Note: Delivery of option modules is dependant on minimum student numbers and the mode of delivery.

## 5. TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGY

The learning and teaching strategy of The London Institute of Banking & Finance is designed to ensure that you are encouraged to integrate theory with practice, and challenge each, in line with the organisation's ethos. You are expected to undertake a considerable amount of independent study: reading, industry-related research, and personal reflection. Scheduled classes, webinars and online discussion forums support your developing abilities to critique and challenge models, theoretical frameworks, and any work-based exposure you may have had, via debate, discussion, research and reports, with your lecturer and fellow students. The mix of classroom-based input and discussion and personal research, together with the opportunity to experience workplace practice, accommodate different approaches to learning, and foster a variety of academic skills.

There are three possible modes of study:

### Full-Time Study

- **On-campus:** Learning and teaching via face-to-face lectures, seminars and tutorials primarily at our City of London campus, supported by access to the Virtual Learning Environment and your own independent study.

### Part-Time Study (including Apprenticeships)

- **Online distance learning:** Learning and teaching centred on the Virtual Learning Environment and your own independent study, with both synchronous and asynchronous support from your module lecturer.
- **Flexible learning:** Study via a blend of learning including on-campus, online distance learning, and face-to-face workshops offered at various locations.

### Collaborative Arrangement

Some or all aspects of your module are delivered by a collaborative partner.

### Learning Resources

You will have access to a range of resources, including:

- Lecturer
- Virtual Learning Environment
- KnowledgeBank, our online library
- Readings

## 6. ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK STRATEGY

### Assessment

Progression and Assessment regulations are as set out in The London Institute of Banking & Finance's General and Academic Regulations for Students. Students should also familiarise themselves with The London Institute of Banking & Finance's Code of Practice for Quality Assurance and the Student Charter.

Assessment strategies follow The London Institute of Banking & Finance's Code of Practice for Quality Assurance, Chapter 7: Assessment.

Assessment consists of both formative and summative approaches. The tools used vary across the programme, aiming to provide a mix of examination, assignments, in-class assessment, case-study reports, presentations, debates, peer assessment, portfolios, group work, and individual research.

Details of procedures and deadlines for submission of assessed assignments, penalties applied for late submission and the procedure for requesting an extension to an assignment submission deadline are all published in the Programme Handbook.

### Feedback

During the modules you receive feedback on your progress on completion of formative assignments. You receive feedback forms on completion of summative assignments and after the exams, which include individual and group feedback, as well as the mark for the assignments/exams.

Feedforward, an essential element of the marking activity, is designed to provide key points that aid your development as you progress through your programme of study.

## **7. CREDIT AND AWARD**

### Credit Framework

The BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk is made up of 360 credits. 1 credit approximates to 10 student effort hours, and the total course thus requires an average of 3,600 effort hours. The course consists of 120 credits at Level 4, 120 credits at Level 5, and 120 credits at Level 6. On successful completion of the full programme, students will be awarded the BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk.

Grades for the BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk are awarded in accordance with The London Institute of Banking & Finance's General and Academic Regulations for Students. Students should be aware of the regulations governing the award of credit and the arrangements for compensation and the capping of marks. Students should also be aware of the regulations relating to the resitting of assessment components. This information is contained within sections 7, 8 and 9 of The London Institute of Banking & Finance's General and Academic Regulations for Students. Students may also be able to take individual modules of the course as a part of executive education programmes.

The BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk degree is awarded with First Class Honours, Second Class Honours (Upper and Lower), and Third Class Honours.

The time limit for each level of study on undergraduate programmes is two years for full-time study and three years for part-time study.

### Exit Awards

In line with The London Institute of Banking & Finance's General and Academic Regulations for Students, the following applies:

Students successfully completing one or more levels of an Honours degree but who, for whatever reason, do not complete the whole programme will become eligible for an exit award, such as a **Certificate of Higher Education in Financial Services (CertHE FS)** or a **Diploma of Higher Education in Finance, Investment & Risk (DipHE FIR)**, as appropriate. Non-Honours Bachelor degrees are awarded in line with the credit requirements set out in the General and Academic Regulations for Students. In the event of subsequent achievement of a higher award, then the exit award may be withdrawn.

Note: The London Institute of Banking & Finance does not award interim qualifications. For example, a student registered for an Honours degree will not automatically be awarded a certificate or diploma of higher education on completion of the required number of credits.

## **8. PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION**

Holders of the BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk are eligible to apply for Chartered Associateship of The London Institute of Banking & Finance upon demonstration of relevant working experience in financial services.

## 9. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

Students must be able to satisfy the general admissions criteria of The London Institute of Banking & Finance. Entry requirements for the BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk are:

	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Old UCAS tariff</b>	<b>New UCAS tariff</b>
<b>'A' Levels</b>	AAB - ABB	320 – 280	128 - 112
<b>BTEC</b>	D*DD	380	152
<b>IB</b>	32 - 30	435 – 392	New tariff is at component level
<b>Students are also required to hold:</b>			
<b>GCSEs</b>	<b>Old grading system</b>	<b>New grading system</b>	
<b>Maths</b>	B	6	
<b>English</b>	C	4	
<b>IELTS</b>	<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>Individual Elements</b>	
	6.0	5.5	

All applications will be considered holistically and offers will be based on qualifications, subjects studied, any relevant work experience and personal statements demonstrating a desire to work in the finance and banking industry.

Mature students who do not meet the entry criteria may be eligible to enrol under The London Institute of Banking & Finance mature student process. Students entering under this process will be required to submit a CV supported by a 500-600 word statement indicating why they have chosen to undertake the programme and how it will support their career plans. If invited to progress, an interview may be held.

Entry at Level 5 still requires an applicant to meet the above requirements, however, if the applicant has studied at Level 4/5 at another university consideration is given to accreditation for prior learning (APL). If the applicant is International they also need to meet an IELTS grade of 6.5 overall with no element below 6.0.

Entry at Level 6 is only permitted where we have a specific arrangement with a partner organisation or the applicant has previously studied with us and gained a relevant Diploma of Higher Education.

## 10. GRADUATE DESTINATIONS

Graduates of this course are likely to go on to careers in a wide range of investment banking roles as traders, fund and asset managers, analysts and brokers. The programme is also designed to be an excellent foundation for the CFA Institute's globally recognised CFA award or further specialist studies in Finance at Masters level.

## 11. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THE EXIT AWARDS

### **Certificate of Higher Education in Financial Services (CertHE FS)**

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to:

#### **A. A. Subject-Specific Knowledge & Skills**

**A1.** Discuss the role, operation and function of markets and financial institutions, the nature of the contexts and institutional framework within which they operate, and the products and services they deliver. *F3.2*

**A2.** Explain subject-specific theories and tools, discuss empirical evidence and concepts relating to banking, finance, and investment generally, and understand how these apply in a practical work

environment. *F3.2*

**A3.** Discuss financial data, and examine the relationship between financial theory and empirical testing. *F3.2*

**A4.** Appreciate the nature of banking, finance, and investment as evolving disciplines that need to respond to the constantly changing legal and regulatory environment. *F3.2*

#### **B. Cognitive Abilities & Generic Skills**

**B1.** Locate, extract, record and discuss data from multiple sources, including appropriate acknowledgement and Harvard referencing. *F4.1*

**B2.** Develop cognitive skills of reflective practice, including discussion of arguments and evidence using specific finance tools, and draw reasoned conclusions. *F4.1*

**B3.** Present qualitative and quantitative information together with discussion, argument, and commentary, orally and written, in a form appropriate to the intended audience. *F4.1*

**B4.** Develop strong numerical, statistical, and IT skills, and have a deep knowledge of financial databases. *F4.1*

**B5.** Conduct independent and self-managed learning as well as working effectively and efficiently with others, as leader or team member. *F4.1*

#### **C. Values & Attitudes**

**C1.** Demonstrate the ability to plan, organise, and prioritise tasks. *F4.1*

**C2.** Develop confidence, self-belief, and resilience, and appreciate the importance of commercial awareness and networking. *F4.1*

**C3.** Be an ethical and responsible professional. *F4.1*

### **Diploma of Higher Education in Investment, Finance & Risk (DipHE FIR)**

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to:

#### **A. A. Subject-Specific Knowledge & Skills**

**A1.** Discuss the role, operation and function of markets and financial institutions, the nature of the contexts and institutional framework within which they operate, and the products and services they deliver. *F3.2*

**A2.** Critically analyse and employ subject-specific theories and tools, empirical evidence and concepts relating to finance and investment generally, and how these apply in a practical work environment. *F3.2*

**A3.** Analyse and interpret financial data, and examine the relationship between financial theory and empirical testing. *F3.2*

**A4.** Analyse and assess the risk factors influencing the investment behaviour and opportunities of private individuals. *F3.2*

**A5.** Appreciate the nature of finance and investment as evolving disciplines that need to respond to the

constantly changing legal and regulatory environment. *F3.2*

**B. Cognitive Abilities & Generic Skills**

**B1.** Locate, extract, record and analyse data from multiple sources, including appropriate acknowledgement and Harvard referencing. *F4.1*

**B2.** Develop intellectual curiosity and apply high-level cognitive skills of reflective practice, including discussion and critical analysis of arguments and evidence using specific finance tools, and draw reasoned conclusions. *F4.1*

**B3.** Present qualitative and quantitative information together with analysis, argument, and commentary, orally and written, in a form appropriate to the intended audience. *F4.1*

**B4.** Develop strong numerical, statistical, and IT skills, and have a deep knowledge of financial databases. *F4.1*

**B5.** Conduct independent and self-managed learning as well as working effectively and efficiently with others, as leader or team member *F4.1*

**C. Values & Attitudes**

**C1.** Demonstrate the ability to plan, organise, and prioritise tasks. *F4.1*

**C2.** Develop confidence, self-belief, and resilience, and appreciate the importance of commercial awareness and networking. *F4.1*

**C3.** Be an ethical and responsible professional. *F4.1*

## 12. CURRICULUM MAP OF MODULES AGAINST INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

Year	Module Title and Code		Subject-Specific Knowledge & Skills					Cognitive Abilities & Generic Skills					Values & Attitudes		
	Code	Module title	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	C1	C2	C3
Year 1 (Level 4)	4ECO	Foundations of Economics	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓				✓	
	4IBI	Introduction to Banking: Institutions, Law, Regulation & Ethics	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
	4FMA	Introduction to Financial & Management Accounting		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	
	4IQT	Introduction to Quantitative Techniques for Business & Finance		✓	✓					✓	✓			✓	
	4PDE	Personal Development & Employability		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	4POF	Principles of Finance	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Year 2 (Level 5)	5CFV	Corporate Finance & Valuation		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	5DRM	Derivatives & Risk Management	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓	
	5FEM	Foreign Exchange Markets	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	
	5POM	Portfolio Management	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	
	5APE	Applied Econometrics		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	5EMK	Emerging Markets	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	5FAC	Financial Accounting		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	5FIT	FinTech	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
Year 3 (Level 6)	6EQI	Equity Investment	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	6FIC	Fixed Income & Credit Risk	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	6INF	International Finance	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	6INB	Investment Banking	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	6ALI	Alternative Investments	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	6CAP	Capstone Project		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	6COS	Corporate Strategy		✓				✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
	6PEV	Private Equity & Venture Capital	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	