

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Oliver Jones
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton Business School		
Course Code(s):	FC002P01UV	Full-time	18 EMonth
Course Title:	MSc Professional Accounting and Finance		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Science Professional Accounting and Finance Postgraduate Diploma Accounting Postgraduate Certificate Accounting University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:			
Last Review:	2016/7		
Course Specification valid from:	2014/5		
Course Specification valid to:	2022/3		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Lorraine Morris
Head of Department:	Mr Andrew Groves

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

- A good undergraduate honours degree (second class and above) in accounting which provides exemption from the first nine papers of the ACCA professional qualification from a UK university or overseas equivalent.
- Or, the first nine papers of the ACCA qualification with at least three years of relevant work experience.
- If English is not the applicant's first language, they will need to have an IELTS score of 6.0 or above or evidence of English proficiency equivalent to the above.
- Students may apply for recognition of prior learning (RPL) subject to the guidelines set out in the UWBS RPL Handbook. RPL includes accreditation of prior certificated learning and/or accreditation of prior experiential learning.

Applications are also welcome from individuals who do not possess the above qualifications but who have significant management experience and are able to demonstrate previous non-certificated learning equivalent to the above. In such cases, admission to the programme will be based on an evaluation of the applicant's ability to continue to benefit from and achieve the award.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This course will enable students to have the opportunity to study for both ACCA final level papers and an MSc at the same time, enabling to get both awards in an eighteen month period. The course is a collaboration between the University and Kaplan Financial limited who is one of the world's largest providers of professional accounting education.

In addition to the above course, students will also be given the opportunity to study with Kaplan at the University for the ACCA Strategic Business Leader (SBL), thereby having the opportunity to complete all the professional level papers of the ACCA.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The MSc in Professional Accounting and Finance provides an opportunity for students to both complete their ACCA qualifications and also gain a Masters in Accounting and Finance within an eighteen month period.

This course will provide you with an in depth grounding for your professional and/or academic career in finance, business and accounting. It will develop your strategic understanding and critical thinking of the main finance and accounting theories upon which modern business decisions are made as well as exploring the role and importance of accounting information in the management of corporations. Through your dissertation you will be able to investigate in depth a business, accounting or management issue, applying your research and quantitative skills which have been further developed throughout the course.

Studying for your ACCA papers will be taken with the support and guidance of Kaplan Financial Limited. Kaplan has become one of the world's largest providers of professional accounting education with operations

in more than 30 countries.

In addition, the course will provide you with the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities. These could include, for example, a visit to the London Stock Exchange, and guest lectures from prominent individuals within the financial world.

Intakes:

September

January

Major Source of Funding:

OTHER FUNDING

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2017/8	H	Full Time	£10915.00
2017/8	EU	Full Time	£10915.00
2017/8	Overseas	Full Time	£13600.00
2018/9	Overseas	Full Time	£13870.00
2018/9	H	Full Time	£11130.00
2018/9	EU	Full Time	£11130.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-Time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7MG001	Independent Business Analysis Project	60	CRYRA	Core
7AC003	Advanced Financial and Performance Management	40	INYR	Core

7FC002	International Finance	20	SEM1	Core
7AC004	Corporate Reporting and Governance	40	SEM1	Core

January (Full-Time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7IB003	International Business Environment	20	SEM2	Core

September (Full-Time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7MG001	Independent Business Analysis Project	60	CRYRA	Core
7FC002	International Finance	20	SEM1	Core
7AC003	Advanced Financial and Performance Management	40	INJR	Core
7IB003	International Business Environment	20	SEM1	Core

September (Full-Time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AC004	Corporate Reporting and Governance	40	SEM1	Core

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Framework exemption to permit the inclusion of 40 credit Year Long modules;

7AC003 Advanced Performance and Financial Management.

7AC004 Corporate Reporting and Guidance.

Reference Points:

1. Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (2015) Masters Awards in Business and Management programme framework
2. FHEQ (2016) Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
3. ACCA Professional Body Awards
4. Equality Act (2010).

Learning Outcomes:

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCL01)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, in the business environment and be able to use this to formulate solutions to complex problems.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCL02)

Ability to deal with complex business issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCL01)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, in the business environment and be able to use this to formulate solutions to complex problems.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCL02)

Ability to deal with complex business issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCL03)

Critically analyse the use of some of the key functional areas in support of the development of company activity at operational or strategic levels.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCL04)

Critically analyse contemporary issues, challenges and problems relating to business and management that impact on business and management at functional, strategic and sector levels.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACL01)

Critically evaluate and apply a variety of corporate governance, international finance and accounting theories in an organisational setting.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACL02)

Critically evaluate and appreciate the relevance of accounting information for business performance management.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

Critically assess how the international economic environment affects businesses.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

Synthesise relevant critical thinking through academic research completing an independent research project/dissertation at masters level .

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7AC003	Advanced Financial and Performance Management	MACLO1, MACLO2, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7AC004	Corporate Reporting and Governance	MACLO1, MACLO2, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7FC002	International Finance	MACLO1, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7IB003	International Business Environment	MACLO3, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7MG001	Independent Business Analysis Project	MACLO4

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

A variety of interactive learning activities will support the achievement of the course learning outcomes. Learning will involve both classroom engagement and out of classroom activities including the use of blended learning environments. Flexible and interactive e-learning opportunities will be a feature of learning. Personal reflection and collaborative learning will be vital components of this course and students will be expected to participate fully.

During your studies on this course you will encounter a number of learning activities during a variety of formal lectures, seminars and tutorials. The course may make use of case studies, problem solving activities, discussions (both structured and unstructured), action learning sets, evaluation of online and documentary resources and guest speaker inputs.

In addition to classroom based activities you will have access to an extensive range of online support sessions available through the Learning Centres. These sessions include:

Getting ready for academic study

Reading and note-taking

Critical thinking skills

Writing skills

Referencing and plagiarism

Groupwork and presentations

Exam skills

Throughout your studies you will be expected, and directed, to read from a range of sources, including academic journals. You will work autonomously as well as interactively within group exercises. In order to progress and show knowledge and skill at Master's level requires a significant amount of self-directed as well as lecturer directed reading and this forms a significant part of this course.

Both formative and summative assessment tasks will enhance opportunities for learning. You will receive feedback on formative tasks verbally during workshops and seminars. You will also have the opportunity to participate in debates and discussions on the online learning platform (Canvas) for each module, which will be

moderated by the module leader.

Where appropriate visiting speakers, external visits and real-time (as opposed to text book) case based activities will add a practical dimension to the learning process. Recognising the rich potential learning from the workplace, opportunities to work with organisations will be maximised.

You will encounter a number of learning activities during a variety of formal lectures, seminars and tutorials. This course will make use of case studies, problem solving activities, discussions (both structured and unstructured), action learning sets, evaluation of online and documentary resources and guest speaker inputs. For those students possessing a level of organisational experience, there will be an emphasis on shared knowledge, developed in dialogue and based on practice. For those less acquainted with practice issues more emphasis will be placed on research, case studies and other problem-solving activities. In addition you will go on a structured student visit to the London Stock Exchange.

On this course you will also be given access and work with the MyKaplan platform which is an online platform designed by Kaplan to aid students through their ACCA studies. This platform includes materials, activities, and short videos of the module materials.

Student Support:

In providing flexible and interactive e-learning opportunities to meet student needs, e-learning components will be designed to form an integral feature of the learning, teaching and support. Canvas provides a platform for doing this and will be the primary focus of the online supported learning dimension of the module. In addition to making use of the online databases and other software resources available through LIS and ITS, students will be encouraged to consider the potential benefits of using the VLE as a practical aid to research activity and career planning.

LIS provide user education on how to access printed and electronic resources and provide general academic skills support. Students can attend an individual drop-in session, one-on-one discussion with a Learning and Skills Librarian for advice on areas such as academic writing, assignment planning, exam preparation etc. In addition, there is a regular timetable of bookable workshops covering information and digital literacy skills, including academic referencing. Further details are on the Skills for Learning page'
http://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills_for_learning.aspx

A Personal Tutor is allocated to every student. Personal Tutors maintain regular communication (virtual and/or face-to-face) with each of their designated tutees. Follow up meetings are arranged with students who are not making satisfactory progress or who are at risk of withdrawal. Personal Tutors assist students in their personal and academic development, planning and progression as well as offering students advice and guidance to help them liaise with other staff and support facilities in their school and the University, including study skills support.

The Course Leader will monitor the academic and experiential quality of the Course through Award Boards, Course committees and Student led Councils. The Course Leader also supports and directs students proactively on the Course, both collectively and individually, and responds to inquiries and requests from students with regard to the academic programme of study.

The Faculty Enabling Tutor (FET) liaises with the Student Enabling Centre (SEC) regarding provision for specific disabled students & disseminates information from the SEC on the needs of specific disabled students. The SNT also monitors requests for, and provision of, specific examination and assessment arrangements, publicise FET 'surgery' arrangements and make available time to meet with individual disabled students to enable them to discuss their own school-specific disability issues where necessary. The FET takes a pro-active role in monitoring the welfare and academic progress of disabled students within the school.

Modules which are based upon ACCA materials (7AC003 and 7AC004) will have also the full study materials supplied by Kaplan. This will include MyKaplan platform as well as study texts.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Students will be in a unique position of having an excellent academic and professional qualification taught by market leaders in both fields. They will have the knowledge and ability to succeed in the world of finance.

Studying for the ACCA professional qualification alongside the MSc will greatly enhance a candidate's opportunity to find attractive employment positions. In a recent survey carried out by the ACCA (the largest student survey carried out by a professional body with over 22,000 respondents) it was found that studying for the ACCA qualification helps individuals find new roles. In 59% of cases it reassured the new employer of the technical and business skills of the candidate and in 28% of cases it was a pre-requisite for obtaining the position. ACCA students and affiliates frequently earned salaries that exceed the national average across professions.

The ACCA professional qualification is very portable, in the above survey 34% of respondents had changed jobs in the previous 12 months, most typically in order to gain promotion or a better salary, or in order to get a different experience in their career. In addition 64% of students and affiliates planned to work in another country in the future demonstrating unlimited job opportunities across the world.

In addition, the course will provide a robust grounding for those wishing to pursue doctoral study



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