



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Econ) (Hons) Economics, Finance and Banking

Quality Assurance, Academic Standards and Quality and Partnerships

Department of Student and Academic Administration

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	BSc (Econ) (Hons) Economics, Finance and Banking
Final Award	BSc
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U1826PYC / LN13
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	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Business and Law
School/Department/Subject Group	Accounting, Economics and Finance
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	Portsmouth Business School
Course webpage including entry criteria	Economics, Finance and Banking
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	None
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	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) (Honours) Economics, Finance and Banking course aims to supplement a knowledge of economics with a more specific focus on its application to the banking and financial sectors. The programme equips the successful graduate sufficiently to embark upon a career in finance or banking.

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 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 finance; thus research-informed teaching is embedded throughout all levels of study.

More specifically, the course aims to:

- Provide an awareness of concepts, principles and tools relating to economics, finance and banking;
- Develop an understanding of the global issues facing international financial and banking sectors, including effective regulation;
- 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, finance and banking. In order to show this, they will be able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Explain the major theories of economics and finance, as well as their relevance and application to practical problems.		

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A2	Deploy appropriate quantitative techniques that enable the understanding of central concepts in economics and finance.	Teaching of core theories of economics and finance, as well as underpinning quantitative skills, is primarily achieved through a programme of lectures supplemented by seminars, workshops and computer labs. Learning is reinforced through guided independent study.	Assessment of core economic, financial and quantitative principles is achieved through a mix of coursework, examination and set exercises. Coursework typically includes a mix of reports, essays and assignments.

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	Make appropriate use of empirical evidence from academic research literature and evaluate the significance and limitations of such evidence.	Students are taught how to conduct a literature review and work with financial and economic data through a combination of lectures, seminars, computer labs and supervisory meetings.	These learning outcomes are mostly assessed via coursework using a combination of written reviews and technical reports requiring the use of specialist software.
B2	Apply appropriate analytical methods to explore the relationships between financial and economic variables.		

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
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C1	Abstract the essential features from a complex system to provide a usable framework for evaluation.	Students are introduced to financial and economic data primarily in computer labs, seminars and workshops. The essential skills of simplification of complex problems and abstraction are introduced via a combination of lectures and seminars. Learning is reinforced through guided independent study.	Students are primarily assessed on the theoretical construction, manipulation and application of financial and 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 or financial 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.		
D2	Produce a clear, well-written report containing an analysis of available evidence.		
D3	Show understanding of the functions and complexity of international banking and financial markets by addressing a realistic problem scenario.		

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D4	Show understanding of the issues surrounding the effective regulation of financial systems.	Transferrable skills are developed through a combination of group and individual tutorials, as well as lectures, seminars and workshops. Students are introduced to financial problems, including regulation, during lectures and seminars in core finance and banking modules. 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.

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 Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025](#)
- [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 Statements](#)
- [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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