

# FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

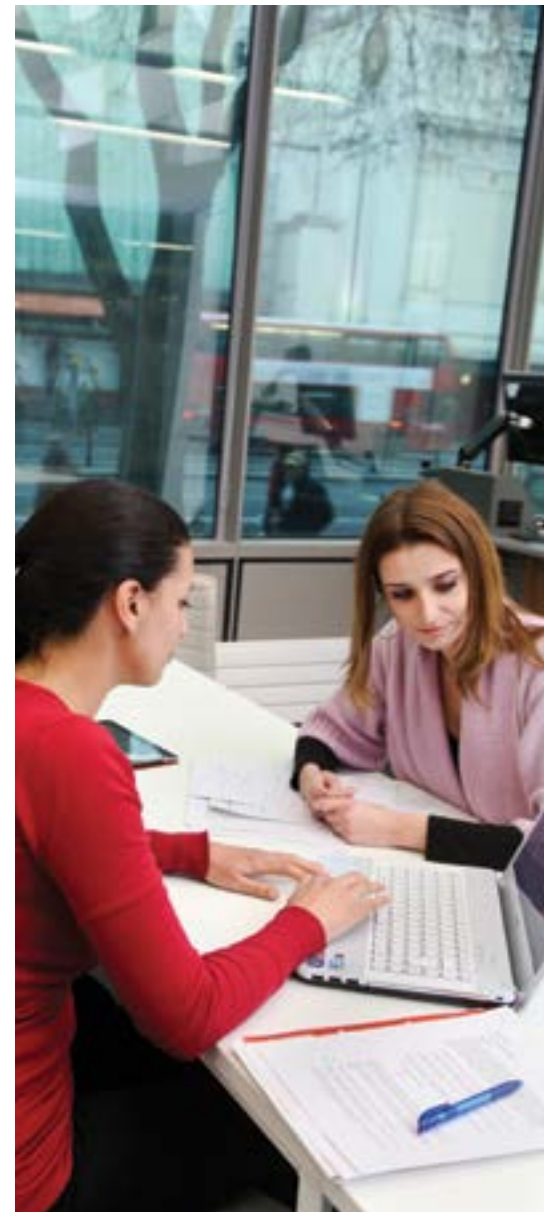
The Accounting, Finance and Governance (AFG) department's full-time Masters programmes draw on the teaching excellence and research expertise of our academic and professionally qualified staff.

The Global Financial Services Industry is complex and is facing new challenges. At the same time, accelerated demand for talent has created opportunities for new careers. Our courses have an international focus and provide distinctive skills-sets to meet future needs. The department has invested in a purpose built Financial Markets Suite and continued to nurture strong partnerships with professional bodies (CISI and ACCA).

Our taught programmes are uniquely designed to enhance the value of a Masters academic qualification with professional skills. Developing these critical learning and employability skills is at the heart of our student-centred learning approach to grow talent for the global financial services industry.

If you are studying for the Investment and Risk Finance MSc (MScIRF), you will be automatically registered for the student membership of the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI) – a financial services professional body. The CISI has recognised Westminster Business School as a Centre of Excellence. The Finance and Accounting MSc degree offers up to nine exemptions from ACCA foundation level examinations. The University is an ACCA Gold approved learning partner.

The Department also offers a postgraduate Masters in finance, with pathways to advance specialist learning in areas of International Finance and Banking.



Westminster is the Centre of Excellence for the **Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI)**



# FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING MSc

This course has been designed to develop the knowledge, skills, research interests and career prospects of those who work, or wish to work, in finance, treasury management or accountancy. It's especially useful if you're a graduate with little or no accounting experience, as it offers the opportunity to study modules which will cover this shortfall.

If you are a graduate member of a UK accountancy body, or an overseas equivalent, you may claim up to four exemptions from this Masters by applying for Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning, see p216. This would enable you to complete the taught part of the course in one semester.

The course provides exemptions from nine of the papers of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) exams. The Westminster Business School is an ACCA Gold approved learning partner and one of the few UK institutions where you can qualify for so many ACCA exemptions on completion of a one-year course. Furthermore, graduates of the course have the chance to enter the Gateway route of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). On successful completion of the Gateway examination, you will gain exemptions from 11 of the 16 CIMA examinations.

## Course content

As a postgraduate finance student you will have access to the Financial Markets Suite, which uses the Bloomberg computer system to monitor real-time financial market movements and trends. It's a resource available to very few UK universities, and one which provides a modern and progressive teaching environment combining finance theory with practice.

A highlight for many students are the social events organised throughout the course which provide an opportunity for networking with fellow students and alumni.

**Length of course:** One year full-time starting in September or January

**Location:** Central London (Marylebone)

**Faculty:** Westminster Business School

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page 216

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/finance-and-accounting-msc](http://westminster.ac.uk/finance-and-accounting-msc)

## Core modules

- Financial Accounting Policy and Practice
- Financial Management and Corporate Valuation
- Managerial Accounting
- Project (Finance and Accounting)
- Research Methods in Finance and Accounting
- Taxation Principles and Practice

## Option modules

You must choose a total of three options modules. Normally, the three must come from the following list. However, you may choose one module from anywhere within the University subject to the Course Leader's approval.

- Auditing Assurance and Professional Ethics
- Corporate Governance and Business Ethics
- Data Analysis
- Financial Derivatives
- Financial Information Systems
- Financial Markets and Institutions
- Fixed Income Analysis and Trading
- International Risk Management
- Modern Portfolio Management

## Internship Programme

You can take the internship programme in addition to option modules. The 8-12 weeks accredited internship in London-based organisations will help you gain invaluable work experience. You will be able to take your internship during the summer period or alongside your studies. You will be responsible for finding your own internship with the support of the Business Experience Team.

## Associated careers

The majority of our graduates go on to successful careers in accounting, with many having secured employment in a 'Big 4' accountancy firm. Other graduates have achieved employment in the fields of finance, banking, in the public sector or in general management careers, as well as going on to run their own business.



# FINANCE, BANKING AND INSURANCE MSc

In the aftermath of the 2007-2009 financial crisis, most organisations in finance, banking and insurance are undergoing major changes. These organisations are actively seeking postgraduates who are disciplined in these fields. Westminster Business School is one of just a handful of UK universities to offer a Masters degree in Finance, Banking and Insurance, leaving our graduates' skills sought after on the job market.

Studying the Finance, Banking and Insurance MSc will enable you to pursue a wide range of careers in the financial services industry and to study further for professional institute exams.

This year-long full-time programme is designed for students who want to work in the areas of finance, financial services and banking, investment banking, retail banking, insurance, re-insurance and hedge funds as private client advisors and financial analysis both in the public and private sectors.

## Course content

The course is designed to give you an essential understanding of the role and operations of the finance, banks and insurance companies. The course is delivered by highly qualified individuals with extensive research experience and strong industry links.

During your studies, you will acquire essential knowledge and skills that will set the foundations for a successful career in the financial services sector, and you will gain access to our ever-growing alumni network which will support your career development following your graduation. A highlight for many students are the field trips and social events organised throughout the course which provide an opportunity for networking with peers, alumni and industry professionals.

You will benefit from free access to part of the material on the course reading list and an online subscription to the *Financial Times*.



**Length of course:** One year full-time, starting in September

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**Entry requirements:** see page 216

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/finance-banking-and-insurance-msc](http://westminster.ac.uk/finance-banking-and-insurance-msc)

## Core modules

- Compliance and Law in Banking and Insurance
- Global Banking
- Insurance Markets and Operations
- International Risk Management
- Modern Finance
- Research Methods
- Project

## Option modules

- Advanced Topics in Insurance
- Banking Risk and Operations
- Financial Derivatives
- Financial Markets and Institutions
- Fixed Income Analysis and Trading
- Forecasting Markets and Risk Modelling
- International Financial Reporting
- Modern Portfolio Management

## Internship Programme

You can take the internship programme in addition to option modules. The 8-12 weeks accredited internship in London-based organisations will help you gain invaluable work experience. You will be able to take your internship during the summer period or alongside your studies. You will be responsible for finding your own internship with the support of the Business Experience Team.

## Associated careers

The majority of graduates will go into successful careers in the areas of finance, financial services, investment banking, retail banking, insurance, re-insurance and hedged funds as private client advisors and financial analysis both in the public and private sectors.

The course is designed to provide you with expertise in international finance and enable you to pursue a career within the finance profession. As well as the strong disciplinary base in international finance, you will draw on other cognate disciplines including accounting, quantitative methods and economics, and so be able to work with specialists in other areas and present findings and analysis to non-specialists. The course is open to people with no detailed prior knowledge of international finance, although this is desirable.

### Course content

During your studies, you will have access to a significant resource in the Financial Markets Suite, which uses the Bloomberg computer system to monitor real-time financial market movements and trends. It's a resource available to very few UK universities, and one which provides a modern and progressive teaching environment combining finance theory with practice.

In addition, as a student on this course you will receive a student membership to Chartered Management Institute (CMI) and access to the CMI professional network, opportunity to attend events and get the latest news from the sector of leadership and management.



**Length of course:** One year full-time, starting in September

**Location:** Central London (Marylebone)

**Faculty:** Westminster Business School

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**Entry requirements:** see page 216

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/global-finance-msc](http://westminster.ac.uk/global-finance-msc)

### Core modules

- Behavioural Finance
- Data Analysis
- Financial Markets and Institutions
- Global Financial Markets
- International Risk Management
- Modern Finance
- Project
- Research Methods in Finance and Accounting

### Option modules

**Choose one from the following:**

- Corporate Governance and Business Ethics
- Fixed Income Analysis and Trading
- Forecasting Markets and Risk Modelling
- International Financial Reporting
- Managerial Accounting
- Modern Portfolio Management

### Internship Programme

You can take the internship programme in addition to option modules. The 8-12 weeks accredited internship in London-based organisations will help you gain invaluable work experience. You will be able to take your internship during the summer period or alongside your studies. You will be responsible for finding your own internship with the support of the Business Experience Team.

### Associated careers

Our international courses will develop your knowledge and management skills to enable you to pursue a career in multinational companies, overseas trade and any international organisation in general management, in relevant aspects of the economics of international business, or as international finance specialists.

Many graduates return to their countries of origin and are employed in developing international business opportunities, or government institutions, while other graduates develop their careers with international charities and other non-governmental organisations.

## INVESTMENT AND RISK FINANCE MSc

This course provides a thorough theoretical and practical grounding in the key aspects of investment and risk finance, delivered in an intensive learning environment. You will learn how to apply the knowledge and theory you have gained in class to real-world problems facing the international financial services industry and the corporate financial management community.

The learning and skills development is integrated with resources available in our Financial Markets Suite (FMS), a state-of-the-art virtual trading room environment, interfaced with the Bloomberg system. Provision of this Bloomberg resource, along with the academic and professional career development opportunities are the main reasons why our students prefer to select this programme.

The Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI) has recognised Westminster Business School as a Centre of Excellence based on the taught elements of this course. All students enrolled on the course are eligible for the student membership of the institute. Some of the benefits include free attendance at CPD events, accessibility to industry news and online resources.

### Course content

The course consists of core modules which help you acquire the ability to perform quantitative investment and risk analyses on a variety of financial instruments and structured products. You'll also learn how to use capital market products in both investment and risk finance applications. As a result you will develop good transferable skills and solve financial problems in a group setting.

The research and project modules are designed to develop your research abilities and create opportunities to explore finance subject areas of your own interest in more depth, applying the analytical and technical management skills you will encounter to real-life situations.

Social events organised throughout the course provide an opportunity for networking with fellow students and alumni.

### Core modules

- Data Analysis
- Financial Derivatives
- Modern Portfolio Management
- Project
- Research Methods in Finance and Accounting
- International Risk Management



**Length of course:** one year full-time, starting in September or in January

**Location:** Central London (Marylebone)

**Faculty:** Westminster Business School

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page 216

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/investment-and-risk-finance-msc](http://westminster.ac.uk/investment-and-risk-finance-msc)

### Sub-core modules

**Choose two or three of the following:**

- Financial Analysis and Valuation
- Financial Markets and Institutions
- Fixed Income Analysis and Trading
- Forecasting Markets and Risk Modelling

### Option modules

**If you take two sub-core modules, you then need to choose one from the following:**

- Financial Accounting Policy
- Financial Information Systems
- International Financial Reporting
- Managerial Accounting
- Modern Finance

You may also take another module from the postgraduate portfolio, at the Course Leader's discretion.

### Internship Programme

You can take the internship programme in addition to option modules. The 8-12 weeks accredited internship in London-based organisations will help you gain invaluable work experience. You will be able to take your internship during the summer period or alongside your studies. You will be responsible for finding your own internship with the support of the Business Experience Team.

### Associated careers

Career choices include security and financial analysis, trading and fund management, capital market sales and administration. Our graduates go on to develop careers in treasury and front office positions in investment banks and securities companies. They occupy management positions as financial analysts, finance and sales administrators or similar jobs in the global financial services sector and the corporate finance world.

# ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS (ACCA)

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) exams are designed to meet the needs of those aiming for a career in accountancy, enhancing their knowledge, skills and professional competence.

Currently we teach nine of the 14 ACCA exams. We do not offer tuition for the five professional-level exams. The classes are designed to cover all material you need to sit the ACCA exams in either June or December.

During your study and once you have passed your ACCA exams, you can look forward to excellent career prospects in a wide range of accountancy-based roles, including chief financial officer, partner in an accounting firm, government finance, forensic accountant, finance director, auditor and business advisor.

## Course content

### Knowledge-level modules

- Accountant in Business (F1)
- Management Accounting (F2)
- Financial Accounting (F3)

### Skills-level modules

- Corporate and Business Law (F4)
- Performance Management (F5)
- Taxation (F6)
- Financial Reporting (F7)
- Audit and Assurance (F8)
- Financial Management (F9)

**Location:** Central London (Marylebone)

**Faculty:** Westminster Business School

**For course fees, funding and entry details:** see the Professional and short courses pages on our website

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/acca](http://westminster.ac.uk/acca)



# Expertise Beyond Expectation

