



## MSc in Corporate Finance

**T**he MSc in Corporate Finance provides you with invaluable, up-to-date financial and analytical skills that are relevant to international contexts. The programme is timely and forward-looking, with an emphasis on emerging issues as they affect financial standards and reporting. Completion of the programme will equip finance professionals with an advanced, academic credential that will help to access opportunities at the higher levels of companies and organisations.

### PROGRAMME OUTLINE

- The MSc in Corporate Finance will equip you with a comprehensive suite of financial skills that are recognized and sought after by companies and other organisations around the world. The qualification is delivered via a carefully judged blend of practice, theory and case-based learning.
- The reporting requirement of the programme is structured around the widely adopted International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Thus you will be introduced to, and gain an in-depth understanding of, the latest standards of accounting analysis and reporting methods as they are applied in a global context.
- Importantly, the programme focuses on incorporating quantitative skills into many of the modules, enabling such skills to be learned within the discipline of the application. It also introduced the emerging subjects that will dominate corporate finance for the foreseeable future.
- Six core modules provide a thorough grounding in the field of international, organisational finance. This includes subjects such as Reporting and Analysis, Financial Markets and Institutions, and Treasury Management. You will then specialise by choosing two elective modules in areas such as Islamic Finance, Emerging Markets Finance, and Entrepreneurial Finance.
- You will complete your qualification with an original dissertation. Upon graduation you will have a substantial knowledge of corporate finance and capital markets, along with the skills necessary to deploy that knowledge. You will also be familiar with contemporary and salient aspects of international finance such as ethics. In this way, completion of the MSc in Corporate Finance has the potential to make you attractive, at a decision-making level, to employers around the world.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

- The programme comprises ten modules – two preparatory, six compulsory and two elective – culminating in a dissertation. The first module will be nine weeks in length (two half weeks and seven full weeks). Each subsequent module lasts eight weeks. You take one module at a time in order to study a specific subject in-depth without distractions.
- You will follow two non-credit bearing modules (Student Readiness Orientation and Foundations for Academic Success) that will prepare you for your online learning experience. For more information about these required preparatory modules refer to the [Centre for Student Success document](#).

### A Core modules

- Corporate Finance I
- Corporate Finance II
- International Financial Reporting and Analysis
- Financial Markets and Institutions
- International Corporate Finance
- Treasury Management and Ethics

### B Elective modules

- Finance in Emerging Markets
- Islamic Finance
- Entrepreneurial Finance
- Financial Analysis and Valuation

### C Dissertation

- Students refine their dissertation topic in conjunction with their Personal Dissertation Advisor, an academic supervisor who will provide support throughout the writing process.

### Programme duration

- The programme is 30 months in duration based on the recommended study schedule. Should students need to alter their study path due to work or family commitments they can do so in consultation with a Student Support Manager.

## CORE MODULES

### Corporate Finance I

*Aim: Establish a firm foundation for learning in the area of basic professional practices and concepts in the corporate finance profession.*

- You will be introduced to disciplines such as valuation, cost of capital, project/programme valuation and the time value of money. This includes the analysis of financial statements and the benchmarking of company operations; how to value investment projects; how to determine the cost of capital; how to determine the market value of an organisation using market-based ratios; discounting techniques.

### Corporate Finance II

*Aim: To build on the knowledge and techniques learned in Corporate Finance I*

- This module expands the knowledge and expertise demanded of corporate finance professionals. Subjects covered include: establishing a risk-return adjusted balance sheet through capital structure management; issuing securities such as equity and debt instruments to finance strategies; use of advanced risk mitigation strategies; planning and executing merger and acquisition strategies.

### International Financial and Reporting Analysis

*Aim: Introduce the framework, concepts and practices associated with international financial reporting.*

- This module provides the necessary understanding of financial reporting statements and financial statement analysis to facilitate a grounded understanding of corporate valuation.
- Particular attention will be paid to IFRS reporting standards and analysis. Other topics such as foreign exchange, cash accounting, ratio analysis and trend analysis are introduced, prior to being developed in later modules.

### Financial Markets and Institutions

*Aim: To provide an overview of financial markets and institutions, enabling students to understand and critically assess a broad array of economic and financial information.*

- A wide range of relevant topics will be explored, including the flow of funds from lenders to borrowers. The role of financial intermediaries, investment banks, and securities firms will be emphasised. Money and capital markets are analysed, and you will investigate foreign exchange markets, floating exchange rate regimes, and the role played by multilateral financial organisations in the global economy

### International Corporate Finance

*Aim: To deliver an understanding of the organisational structure of international finance from a corporate perspective.*

- You will study a wide variety of related subjects: international trade policy; payment methods; how foreign exchange impacts on an organization; transfer pricing; sources and use of global funds. You will also gain a practical understanding of how trends in the balance of trade and balance of payments, and the global demand for commodities, affect organisations linked by the global economy.

### Treasury Management and Ethics

*Aim: To explore, from a practical perspective, the tools used in managing the treasury function of an organisation.*

- This module studies the instruments necessary to finance an organisation, including banks as well as the money and capital markets. This will involve topics such as risk mitigation techniques, payment methods, data transfer, and working capital management methods. You will learn how to determine a proper capital structure, manage the costs of long-term capital, and quantitatively evaluate capital resource investments.

## ELECTIVE MODULES

### Entrepreneurial Finance

*Aim: To introduce the global process of entrepreneurship, and determine how to identify and source entrepreneurial financing and funding.*

- Through this case-based module you will discover how financial tools and techniques are extended to match the risk, innovation, and change-rich environment of the entrepreneur. You will also expand your finance management repertoire to include an understanding of how non-traditional sources of financing can be raised and directed to meet an entrepreneurial firm's growth and operational needs. The context is global and cases show how to assess which countries represent the best places to start a business, how to adapt locally, and how to execute for success.

### Finance in Emerging Markets

*Aim: To expand financial management knowledge and practice skills to meet the needs of firms operating in emerging markets.*

- The theory and tools of traditional finance are typically designed for developed world economies with their highly efficient capital and money markets. Yet the emerging world economies represent significant opportunities such as foreign direct investment, product market expansions, mergers and acquisitions, and outsourcing. You will be exposed to the way in which context, culture, institutions and markets differ in emerging markets, and the way in which such factors impact on the approach to business opportunities.

### Islamic Finance

*Aims: To provide an understanding of the unique nature of Islamic Law and culture, and how this impacts on finance, business and contracts.*

- Given the growing importance of Islamic finance in global economies, it is important that students have the opportunity to learn how to financially manage organisations which operate in Islamic markets. This module contrasts the principles of Islamic finance with 'traditional' concepts and determines how the social justice principles associated with Islamic finance affects traditional models and theories. You will also analyse the role of Islamic Law in underlying business behaviours, and determine how Islamic Law affects the selection of financing instruments.

### Financial Analysis and Valuation

*Aim: To deliver an advanced overview of the concepts, theories and practices of business valuation.*

- This module will develop your ability to successfully engage in this important aspect of the business world. You will be exposed to various valuation approaches: company information gathering methods; economic and industry analysis; and financial statement analysis. You will learn how to determine credit worthiness and predict financial distress, and you will integrate value, strategy and economic climate to determine the appropriateness of merger and acquisition strategies.

### DISSERTATION

- The culmination of your programme, this written project demonstrates your mastery and integration of all your previous learning. The dissertation is the cornerstone of the UK university system. It is an original, scholarly work that applies your new knowledge and experience and allows you to prove your mastery of the techniques you have studied.
- Students choose their dissertation topic in conjunction with their Personal Dissertation Advisor, an academic supervisor who will provide support throughout the study and writing process.

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