

Programme specification

BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance with placement



<i>School:</i>	York Business School		
<i>Entry in:</i>	2019	<i>In:</i>	September
<i>Awarding Institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Teaching Institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Delivery Location:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Programme/s Accredited by:</i>	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants Chartered Management Institute		
<i>Exit Awards:</i>	BA (Hons) Business Administration BA (Hons) Business Administration with placement BA (Ord) Accounting and Finance BA (Ord) Accounting and Finance with placement Diploma of Higher Education Accounting and Finance Diploma of Higher Education Accounting and Finance with placement Certificate of Higher Education Accounting and Finance		
<i>UCAS Code / GTTR / Other:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>Joint Honours Combinations:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>QAA Benchmark Group(s):</i>	Accounting (2007); Finance (2007)		
<i>Mode/s of Study:</i>	Full-time 3 years or 4 years with placement		
<i>Language of Study:</i>	English		

Introduction and Special Features

This programme is designed as an academic programme of study, structured to provide you with the full range of academic and critical thinking skills applicable to the study of accounting and finance, and also provide you with an extensive range of technical skills required by an accountant. As such the programme will give you a foundation for future study with professional bodies particularly ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) papers F1 - F5, F7 and F9.

This programme provides you with the opportunity to understand, analyse and interpret financial decision-making in an organisational context. The programme combines a comprehensive grounding in key aspects of accounting and finance and consists of a range of modules which aim to give you a broad understanding of accounting and finance. The programme integrates the ICT, academic and research skills, culminating in the production of an independent study in semester 2 at Level 6. This provides the opportunity for you to integrate your academic skills in live practice.

The programme not only has a focus on the conceptual aspects of accounting and finance but also applied features of accounting. This will therefore equip you with the knowledge, understanding, key and specific skills and technical abilities required to make you employable in graduate positions in accounting, finance, business, management and a wide range of other employments. In particular the development of skills in problem-solving and analytical ability

using a range of financial and accounting methods and concepts will positively differentiate you from graduates of business and management courses.

If you are studying on the BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance (with placement) variant you will undertake a Year in Industry (also known as a sandwich year or placement year), in between your second and third year.

Special features

- Seven exemptions with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants¹
- Accreditation with the Chartered Management Institute giving you a professionally recognised qualification alongside your degree
- A 'Year in Industry' (sandwich year) for those on the with placement variant
- Opportunity to qualify as a Microsoft Office Specialist
- Taught by a small yet highly qualified and approachable accounting and finance team. You will be allocated an academic tutor to support you throughout the programme.
- Access to a range of specialist resources including, Financial Information Database (FAME) and Financial Times Interactive and business simulation software to support learning and research
- Systematic development of employability skills through a Continuing Professional Development framework (additional qualification on successful completion)
- Throughout the course there is regular opportunity to engage with a range of practising managers, organisations, employers and entrepreneurs and take part in work related experiences and internships
- Programme of guest speakers which will enhance your learning and links with the business community
- Opportunity to compete in business simulation competitions both within the University and on national / international scales

Admissions Criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Accredited Prior \(Experiential\) Learning \(APL/APEL\)](#).

We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme Aims

The BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance Programme is based on the philosophy that development should be incremental.

The programme encourages you to develop the skills and competences of a future professional accountant. To do this, you should be capable of making accounting and finance based decisions at both a strategic and at a tactical level, emphasising the complexity and dynamics of accounting and management and taking cognisance of the integrative nature of the various factors which impinge upon business decisions. The programme incorporates frameworks for reviewing, reflecting, analysing and critiquing existing individual and organisational practices linked with accounting and finance.

The outcome of this process will be a critical appreciation of accounting and finance, in order to: make justified decisions; apply those decisions in a variety of contexts; communicating the decisions and make integrative links between disciplines and across organisations.

The aims of the programmes are to:

1. equip you with an understanding of the integral role of accountancy in organisations and society;
2. enable you to develop the skills and resilience needed for an accounting, finance or other business related career in a rapidly changing business and social environment;
3. provide a vocationally relevant degree with significant levels of professional exemptions;
4. facilitate the development and demonstration of your intellectual skills namely information-processing, analysis, synthesis, critical appraisal, creativity and innovation, and the ability to manage and make accounting and finance decisions in situations of ambiguity and uncertainty, within the context of the guiding principles of the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME);
5. provide you with the opportunity to engage in a suitable and independent piece of scholarly research that further develops their higher order cognitive and employability skills;
6. enable you to be a graduate who is able to function ethically and be capable of enhancing the quality of accounting and finance processes and decision making across a range of organisations.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Level Four

On successful completion of the level four you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Describe and explain a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of accounting and finance problems.
2. Describe and identify accounting and finance decisions in a variety of organisational contexts.

Cognitive and Thinking Skills

3. Demonstrate the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Four study including, information-gathering, analysis and problem identification.

Practical/Professional Skills

4. Exhibit the development of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds.
5. Demonstrate the use of research skills to gather information.

Key Transferable Skills

6. Develop your own learning with guided support to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level Five

On successful completion of level five you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Compare and contrast a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of accounting and finance problems.
2. Analyse and discuss tactical accounting and finance decisions in a variety of organisational contexts.

Cognitive and Thinking Skills

3. Demonstrate the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Five study including, information-gathering, problem-solving, analysis, and evaluation.

Practical/Professional Skills

4. Exhibit the development and achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds.
5. Demonstrate the use of research and enquiry to further your understanding.

Key Transferable Skills

6. Develop independence and your own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level Six

On successful completion of level six you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Apply a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of accounting and finance problems.
2. Synthesise and evaluate strategic and tactical accounting and finance decisions in a variety of organisational contexts.
3. Critically evaluate accounting and finance thinking through an extended piece of research.

Cognitive and Thinking Skills

4. Demonstrate the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to undergraduate level study including, information-gathering, problem-solving (incorporating creativity and innovation) and the skill to critically analyse, synthesise, and evaluate information and data to aid management decision-making.

Practical/Professional Skills

5. Exhibit the development and achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds in a professional manner.
6. Conduct research and enquiry to further your understanding and to inform management decision-making.
7. Demonstrate the use of management skills (e.g. delegation, negotiation and leadership).

Key Transferable Skills

8. Manage your own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Programme Structure

At level four, the six compulsory modules are designed to give you a grounding in the key theoretical areas of accounting and finance.

At level six, you study a minimum of three compulsory modules directly related to your award. Alongside this you undertake 40 credits worth of research or 40 credits of additional specialised modules. You will complete a total of either five modules if you choose to undertake the 40 credit dissertation, or six modules if you choose to undertake one of the alternative routes which consist of two 20 credit modules (as opposed to the 40 credit dissertation).

Modules for the Programme

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Status of Module*
1BME01	4	1	Introduction to Economics	20	C
1BMA01	4	1	Accounting and Organisations	20	C
1BMA02	4	1	Introduction to Financial Accounting	20	C
1BMF02	4	2	Quantitative Analysis	20	C
1BMA03	4	2	Financial Accounting	20	C
1BMA04	4	2	Introduction to Management Accounting	20	C
2BMA01	5	1	Business and Commercial Law	20	C
2BMA02	5	1	Financial Reporting*	20	C
2BMA03	5	1	Financial Planning and Control*	20	C
2BMF02	5	2	Corporate Finance*	20	C
2BMA07	5	2	Introduction to Auditing	10	C
2BMA06	5	2	Introduction to Taxation	10	C
2BMA05	5	2	Performance Management*	20	C
3BMA10	6	1+2	Dissertation	40	C ¹
3BMA11	6	1	Developing a Business Research Project	20	C ¹
3BMA13	6	1	Developing an Organisation Based Project	20	C ¹
3BMA01	6	1	Strategic Management Accounting*	20	C
3BMF02	6	1	Strategic Corporate Finance*	20	C
3BMA12	6	2	Business Research Project	20	C ¹
3BMA14	6	2	Organisation Based Project	20	C ¹
3BMA02	6	2	Corporate Governance	20	CA
3BMA03	6	2	Advanced Financial Reporting*	20	CA
3BMA04	6	1	Advanced Auditing	20	C ¹
3BMA05	6	2	Advanced Taxation	20	C ¹
3BMB16	6	1+2	Business Creation Project	40	C ¹

*C: compulsory, CA: compulsory for award, O: option

Note that to study abroad you must meet the university's standard study abroad requirements.

¹ Students must take 40 credits from either: a) Dissertation or; b) Developing a Business Research Project *and* Business Research Project or; c) Developing an Organisation Based Project *and* Organisation Based Project or d) Business Creation Project or, e) Advanced Auditing *and* Advanced Taxation

All students undertaking a placement must have successfully completed each module contained within years 1 (Level 4) and 2 (Level 5) of their programme before undertaking a placement/year in industry

Continuing Professional Development

You are strongly encouraged to undertake the Certificate in Professional Development alongside your studies to prepare you for the world of work. You will be able to develop a range of academic and professional skills through a range of activities, exercises and events (which includes undertaking a 20 day work related activity) which will help you to progress through the course and into the job market, and provide the work based skills employers require. Many of the University's graduate attributes will be further enhanced through this activity.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

All modules are delivered utilising a range of teaching, learning and assessment strategies including lectures, seminars, guest speakers, tutorials, workshops and a range of events and learning activities.

You are supported initially in the use of guided learning strategies in Level 4 developing towards autonomous, well-judged use of collaborative and independent learning strategies in Levels 5 and 6.

Throughout the programme you will be introduced to a range of different teaching and learning strategies. For example, in Level 4 you will be introduced to the foundations of core accounting and finance concepts through Introduction to Financial Accounting. At Level 5 (for example) there will be evidence of practice-based learning (Financial Planning and Control) in which you will be expected to engage in practical based activities. Finally, at Level 6 (for example) you will demonstrate your skills through practice and enquiry-based learning giving you the opportunity to develop creative and innovative solutions to problems through Advanced Financial Reporting and Corporate Governance.

You will undertake a variety of assessments which include the use of written assignments (often in the form of reports), individual and group presentations, exams and tests, and practical activities. (Please note that there will be a higher proportion of formal examinations in comparison to other awards which is due to ACCA requirements which stipulate 2hour exams in order to attract the relevant exemption). An essential part of the assessment is to encourage both learning and the development of skills as well as preparing you for the requirements of the workplace.

You will have opportunities for formative assessment and feedback to inform your work prior to submission and you will receive detailed feedback on assessments to help you develop and continuously improve your performance whilst on the programme. Advice will be provided in relation to development, further areas for research and guidance on how to enhance your knowledge of business and practice.

You will have the opportunity for study support including academic writing and research skills to enhance employability and career development in the field of accounting and finance.

Progression and Graduation Requirements

The University's [general regulations for undergraduate awards](#) apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section.

All students undertaking a placement must have successfully completed each module contained within years 1 (Level 4) and 2 (Level 5) of their programme before undertaking a placement/year in industry

Students who achieve the standard requirements for an honours degree who do not achieve the compulsory for award modules will be awarded the degree of BA (Hons) Business Administration.

Internal and External Reference Points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

Further Information

Further information on the programme of study may be obtained from:

- Admissions entry profile (Admissions)
- Programme validation document (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Regulations (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Student programme handbook (school)
- Module handbooks (school)

Date written / revised:

QSC PASP approved replacement L5 mods and additional L6 mods on 15.1.19 wef sem 2, 18/19