

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance (with placement)

<i>School:</i>	York St John Business School
<i>Subject area:</i>	Business Management
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2025-26
<i>in the month(s) of:</i>	September, February (Level 6 entry) ¹
<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 Institute of Management Accountants
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Exit awards for BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance Certificate of Higher Education Accounting and Finance Diploma of Higher Education Accounting and Finance Diploma of Higher Education Accounting and Finance (with placement) BA (Ord) Accounting and Finance BA (Ord) Accounting and Finance (with placement) Exit awards if transferred to BA (Hons) Business with Accounting Certificate of Higher Education Business with Accounting Diploma of Higher Education Business with Accounting Diploma of Higher Education Business with Accounting (with placement) BA (Ord) Business with Accounting BA (Ord) Business with Accounting (with placement) BA (Hons) Business with Accounting BA (Hons) Business with Accounting (with placement) Exit awards if transferred to BA (Hons) Business and Accounting Diploma of Higher Education Business and Accounting Diploma of Higher Education Business and Accounting (with placement) BA (Ord) Business and Accounting BA (Ord) Business and Accounting (with placement) BA (Hons) Business and Accounting BA (Hons) Business and Accounting (with placement)
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Accounting (2016); Finance (2016)

¹ Direct entry to Level 6 is available in September and February, but entry to other Levels is restricted to September

<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Undergraduate periods of study for full-time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-time for 3 years or 4 years with placement
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with foundation year</i>	Yes
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No
<i>Placement year opportunity:</i>	Yes

Introduction and special features

This course 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) exemptions from up to nine of the skills and knowledge papers and CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants) up to eight exemptions.²

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 use of ICT, academic and research skills to enhance the learning process.

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.

As signatories to PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education), York Business School are committed to integrating corporate responsibility and sustainability within all operations. PRME is a United Nations initiative seeking to inspire and champion responsible management education, research and thought leadership globally. Issues such corporate responsibility, sustainability and ethical behaviour are core to the principles of York Business School and as such are embedded throughout all our programmes.

Aligned with our Work Related Experiential Learning Framework and the professional accounting bodies including the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants(CIMA) the BA(Hons) Accounting and Finance Programme has been designed to deliver a range of practical accounting skills , these are embedded in your learning and assessments to enhance your future employability in a range of accounting and finance roles such as financial accountant, auditor or management accountant.

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

- Up to nine exemptions with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants²
- Up to eight exemptions with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants²
- A 'Year in Industry' (sandwich year) for those on the with placement variant

² Subject to passing the relevant modules in accordance with ACCA requirements or CIMA requirements and approval by the professional bodies.

- Opportunity to qualify as a Microsoft Office Specialist
- Taught by a small yet highly qualified and approachable accounting and finance faculty
- 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
- Throughout the course there is regular opportunity to engage with a range of practising accountants, organisations, employers and entrepreneurs and take part in work related experiences
- Programme of guest speakers which will enhance your learning and links with the business community
- Opportunity to compete in business simulation activities

Admissions criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for undergraduate study. In addition, you must have:

- GCSE Maths at Grade 4 or C

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.yorks.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 [Recognition of prior learning \(RPL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aim(s)

The aims of the programme 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

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

Knowledge and understanding

- 4.1 Describe and explain a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of accounting and finance problems
- 4.2 Describe and identify accounting and finance decisions in a variety of organisational contexts

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 4.3 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

- 4.4 Exhibit skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others
- 4.5 Demonstrate the use of research skills to gather information

Key transferable skills

- 4.6 Demonstrate own learning with guided support to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities

Level 5

Knowledge and understanding

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

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 5.3 Demonstrate the application of range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Five study including, information-gathering, problem-solving, analysis, and evaluation

Practical/Professional skills

- 5.4 Exhibit the achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others
- 5.5 Demonstrate the use of research and enquiry to further your understanding

Key transferable skills

- 5.6 Show independence in analysis, evaluation and learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities

Level 6

Knowledge and understanding

- 6.1 Apply a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of accounting and finance problems
- 6.2 Synthesise and evaluate strategic and tactical accounting and finance decisions in a variety of organisational contexts
- 6.3 Critically evaluate accounting and finance thinking through a piece of research

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 6.4 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

- 6.5 Exhibit the achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others in a professional manner
- 6.6 Conduct research and enquiry to further your understanding and to inform management decision-making

Key transferable skills

- 6.7 Manage your own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities

Programme structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
BMI4001M	4	1	Principles of Applied Economics	20	C	X
BMA4001M	4	1	Financial Accounting Fundamentals	20	C	X
BMA4002M	4	1	Professional Accounting and Academic Skills	20	C	X
BMA4003M	4	2	Financial Accounting	20	C	NC
BMF4002M	4	2	Developing Analysis Techniques	20	C	X
BMA4004M	4	2	Management Accounting	20	C	NC
For students taking the 'with placement' programme						
BMB5009P	5P	Y	Placement Year	0	C	NC
BMF6001M	6	1	Strategic Corporate Finance	20	C	X
BMA6002M	6	1	Strategic Management Accounting	20	C	X
BMA6003M	6	2	Advanced Financial Reporting	20	C	X
BMA6005M	6	2	Contemporary Issues in Corporate Governance	20	C	X
Students choose between BMR6002, <u>or</u> BMA6001 and BMA6004						
BMR6002M	6	1&2	Research Investigation for Accounting	40	O	NC
BMA6001M	6	1	Auditing and Assurance Practice	20	O	X
BMA6004M	6	2	Taxation	20	O	X

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 five you undertake 7 modules, designed to further expand and deepen your knowledge and skills base within the Accounting and Finance field.

At level six, you have the option undertake 40 credits worth of research or 40 credits of specialist study (Auditing and Assurance Practice, and Taxation). You will complete a total of either five modules if you choose to undertake the 40 credit Research Investigation, or six modules if you choose to undertake the two specialist accounting modules which will enable you to maximise your exemptions

Continuing professional development

You are strongly encouraged to undertake Continuing Professional Development throughout your studies to prepare you for the world of work. You will develop a range of academic and professional skills through a range of activities, exercises and events under the guise of 'Success Lab' which will help you to progress through the course and into the job market and provide the work-based skills employers require.

Success Lab, a three-year programme that runs alongside your degree, has been developed in partnership with leading graduate recruiters and industry leaders. You will attend events and short courses that are offered in addition to your degree. We will offer you additional qualifications and experience in areas that are important for employers such as public speaking, Sage accounting and copywriting.

You will be offered the chance to attend exhibitions and make visits, to take part in our leadership and management programme and to attend a series of inspiring lectures with executive speakers. In the past we have hosted CEOs and Chief Executives from Pandora, Royal Mail, ASDA and Welcome to Yorkshire among others.

Learning, teaching 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 Financial Accounting Fundamentals and 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 Contemporary Issues in 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 two hour 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.

As a graduate searching for employment, you will likely come across the term transferable skills. Employers value these skills because they can be used in so many ways in the workplace. If you want to secure a graduate opportunity, you are going to have to demonstrate a specific set of skills needed for the role. Some of these skills will be specific to the industry while others (transferable skills) are those that you can build on and develop throughout your career. York Business School, seeks to develop and enhance your skills in communication, problem solving and team working through teaching, learning and assessment activities and the opportunities to engage in a range of activities which will not only support this but which will provide clear evidence of your achievement of them.

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 as non-compensatable.

In addition, the following programme-specific regulations apply in respect of progression and graduation:

Exit awards

- A number of modules within the Accounting and Finance programme are classed as non-compensatable, which means that the modules must be achieved to be able to progress to the next level.

At level four, these are *Financial Accounting* (BMA4003M) and *Management Accounting* (BMA4004M).

At level five these are *Financial Reporting* (BMA5001M), *Financial Planning and Control* (BMA5003M), and *Performance Management* (BMA5006M).

- Students who are not able to progress due to the scaffolding nature of modules, but meet the general University progression standards, will be transferred at the end of level 4 to BA (Hons) Business with Accounting, or at the end of level 5 to BA (Hons) Business and Accounting) including placement variants) (see appendix one)
- The exit award of BA Ordinary is not available for students entering at Level 6

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

Date written / revised: June 2019

Programme originally approved: July 2019

Appendix 1

BA (Hons) Business and Accounting **BA (Hons) Business and Accounting (with placement)**

Exit awards

- Diploma of Higher Education Business and Accounting
- Diploma of Higher Education Business and Accounting (with placement)
- BA (Ord) Business and Accounting
- BA (Ord) Business and Accounting (with placement)

Programme aims

1. Equip you with an understanding of the role of business and accounting in organisations and society
2. Enable you to be a graduate who is able to function ethically and be capable of enhancing the quality of decision making across a range of organisations

Programme learning outcomes

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

Level 4

Knowledge and understanding

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

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 4.3 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

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

Key transferable skills

- 4.6 Demonstrate own learning with guided support to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level 5

Knowledge and understanding

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

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 5.3 Demonstrate the application of range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Five study including, information-gathering, problem-solving, analysis, and evaluation.

Practical/professional skills

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

Key transferable skills

- 5.6 Be independent in analysis, evaluation and your own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level 6

Knowledge and understanding

- 6.1 Apply a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of business-related problems.
- 6.2 Synthesise and evaluate strategic and tactical decisions in a variety of organisational contexts.
- 6.3 Critically evaluate an aspect of business thinking through a piece of research.

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 6.4 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

- 6.5 Exhibit the achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds in a professional manner.
- 6.6 Conduct research and enquiry to further your understanding and to inform management decision-making.

Key transferable skills

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

Programme structure

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BMA4002M	4	1	Professional Accounting and Academic Skills	20	C	X
BMA4003M	4	2	Financial Accounting	20	C	X
BMF4002M	4	2	Developing Analysis Techniques	20	C	X
BMA4004M	4	2	Management Accounting	20	C	X
BMA5001M	5	1	Financial Reporting	20	C	X
BMA5002M	5	1	Business and Commercial Law	20	C	X
BMA5003M	5	1	Financial Planning and Control	20	C	X
BMA5004M	5	2	Auditing Fundamentals	10	C	X
BMA5005M	5	2	Principles of Taxation	10	C	X
BMF5003M	5	2	Corporate Finance	20	C	X
BMA5006M	5	2	Performance Management	20	C	X
For students taking the 'with placement' programme						
BMB5009P	5	Y	Placement Year	0	C	NC
BMR6002M	6	1&2	Research Investigation for Accounting	40	O	NC
BMF6001M	6	1	Strategic Corporate Finance	20	O	X
BMA6002M	6	1	Strategic Management Accounting	20	O	X
BMB6001M	6	1	Operations and Project Management	20	O	X
BMB6002M	6	1	Developing Organisational Strategy in the Digital Age	20	O	X
BMA6001M	6	1	Auditing and Assurance Practice	20	O	X
BMA6003M	6	2	Advanced Financial Reporting	20	O	X
BMA6004M	6	2	Taxation	20	O	X
BMA6005M	6	2	Contemporary Issues in Corporate Governance	20	O	X
BMB6013M	6	2	Business Ethics and Sustainability	20	O	X
BMB6007M	6	2	Strategic Leadership for Innovation and Change	20	C	X
BMD6003M	6	2	Technological Issues in Digital Era	20	O	X
BMH6005M	6	2	Dissecting Work and Organisational Psychology	20	O	X

BA (Hons) Business with Accounting

BA (Hons) Business with Accounting (with placement)

Exit awards

- Certificate of Higher Education Business with Accounting
- Diploma of Higher Education Business with Accounting
- Diploma of Higher Education Business with Accounting (with placement)
- BA (Ord) Business with Accounting
- BA (Ord) Business with Accounting (with placement)

Programme aims

1. Equip you with an understanding of the role of business and accounting in organisations and society
2. Enable you to be a graduate who is able to function ethically and be capable of enhancing the quality of decision making across a range of organisations

Programme learning outcomes

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

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Practical/professional skills

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

Key transferable skills

- 4.6 Demonstrate own learning with guided support to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level 5

Knowledge and understanding

- 5.1 Compare and contrast a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of business problems.
- 5.2 Analyse and discuss tactical decisions in a variety of organisational contexts.

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 5.3 Demonstrate the application of range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Five study including, information-gathering, problem-solving, analysis, and evaluation.

Practical/professional skills

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

Key transferable skills

- 5.6 Be independent in analysis, evaluation and your own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level 6

Knowledge and understanding

- 6.1 Apply a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of business-related problems.
- 6.2 Synthesise and evaluate strategic and tactical decisions in a variety of organisational contexts.
- 6.3 Critically evaluate an aspect of business thinking through a piece of research.

Cognitive and thinking skills

- 6.4 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

- 6.5 Exhibit the achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds in a professional manner.
- 6.6 Conduct research and enquiry to further your understanding and to inform management decision-making.

Key transferable skills

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

Programme structure

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BMA4003M	4	2	Financial Accounting	20	C	X
BMF4002M	4	2	Developing Analysis Techniques	20	C	X
BMA4004M	4	2	Management Accounting	20	C	X
For students taking the 'with placement' programme						
BMA5001M	5	1	Financial Reporting	20	O	X
BMA5002M	5	1	Business and Commercial Law	20	O	X
BMA5003M	5	1	Financial Planning and Control	20	O	X
BMB5001M	5	1	Management Practice in Disruptive Times	20	C	X
BMH5001M	5	1	Managing a Diversity and Inclusion in the Technological Revolution	20	C	X
BMR5001M	5	2	Management Research Methods	20	C	X
BMF5003M	5	2	Corporate Finance	20	O	X
BMA5006M	5	2	Performance Management	20	O	X
BMB5006M	5	2	Leading and Developing High Performing People	20	O	X
BMW5001M	5	2	Professional Placement	20	O	X
BMW5002M	5	2	Business, Creativity and Opportunism Skills for the Workplace of Today	20	O	X
BMB5009P	5	Y	Placement Year	0	C	NC
BMR6001M	6	1&2	Research Investigation	40	C	NC
BMF6001M	6	1	Strategic Corporate Finance	20	O	X
BMA6002M	6	1	Strategic Management Accounting	20	O	X
BMB6001M	6	1	Operations and Project Management	20	O	X
BMB6002M	6	1	Developing Organisational Strategy in the Digital Age	20	O	X
BMA6003M	6	2	Advanced Financial Reporting	20	O	X
BMA6005M	6	2	Contemporary Issues in Corporate Governance	20	O	X
BMB6013M	6	2	Business Ethics and Sustainability	20	O	X
BMB6007M	6	2	Strategic Leadership for Innovation and Change	20	C	X
BMD6003M	6	2	Technological Issues in Digital Era	20	O	X
BMH6005M	6	2	Dissecting Work and Organisational Psychology	20	O	X