

Programme Specification

Award and title:	BSc (Hons) Economics BSc (Hons) Economics (with placement)
<i>School:</i>	York Business School
<i>Subject area:</i>	Management, Accounting and Economics
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2026-27
<i>in the month(s) of</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	Lord Mayor's Walk
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	N/A
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Certificate of Higher Education Economics Diploma of Higher Education Economics Diploma of Higher Education Economics (with placement) BSc (Ord) Economics BSc (Ord) Economics (with placement)
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	L2N6
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Economics (2023)
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Undergraduate periods of study for full time: Full time – 3 years Full time – 4 years with placement
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	Yes
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	Yes
<i>Opt-in YSJU Placement Year opportunity:</i>	Yes
<i>Excluding a year-long placement/professional experience, are there placement/field trip/work experience(s) totalling 20 days or more?</i>	No

Introduction and special features

Aligned with Quality Academic Assurance (QAA) standards for Economics, our BSc (Hons) Economics programme provides a comprehensive understanding of economic principles, with embedded analytical and applied skills essential for understanding and addressing real economic challenges. The programme is designed to meet both current and future demands of a changing economic environment, ensuring our graduates develop a strong theoretical foundation alongside practical expertise relevant to a range of different industries.

Through an applied approach, you will gain analytical, and problem-solving skills, enabling you to understand economic concepts and apply them to practical scenarios. Aligned with the **YSJ strategy**, our curriculum ensures that all students, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to engage

with economic analysis in a way that is accessible, inclusive, and relevant to a broad range of careers. Our dedicated academic support and diverse learning methods enable all students to develop confidence in critical thinking, evaluation, and decision-making.

In addition to core economic principles, the programme explores contemporary global challenges, including environmental and health policies, international constraints, and the role of individual behaviour in shaping economic outcomes. Our students engage with econometric modelling and quantitative analysis, gaining essential statistical and data-handling skills applicable across multiple sectors. To support individual interests and career aspirations, the programme also offers opportunities to explore concepts from business or finance, allowing you to tailor your learning towards areas that align with your professional goals.

The BSc (Hons) Economics programme is designed to enhance your employability by embedding practical, work-related learning throughout your study. Aligned with the University's **Work-Related Experiential Learning (WREL) strategy**, you will be provided with opportunities to engage with businesses and/or professionals and apply economic concepts to real-world issues. The programme is designed to be accessible to all, offering inclusive career development opportunities that help our graduates to be well-prepared to succeed in a range of industries and economic roles, equipped with the professional and interpersonal skills required in diverse workplaces.

York Business School is a signatory to [the Principles for Responsible Management Education \(PRME\)](#), a United Nations initiative promoting responsible and sustainable management education. The programme integrates corporate responsibility, sustainability, and ethical considerations throughout the curriculum, encouraging students from all backgrounds to engage with pressing global issues and contribute to meaningful economic solutions.

If you are studying on the BSc (Hons) Economics (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:

- Fully funded membership in the Royal Economic Society, providing access to competitions, grants, conferences, job market opportunities, and symposiums.
- Programme of guest speakers and industry experts, including our alumni, consultants, and professionals from organisations such as the Bank of England and private or public institutions.
- Real consultancy project experience, you will have opportunity to work with businesses and apply economic knowledge in a professional setting.
- Live, work-related assessments that allow you to practically apply economic concepts to real-world challenges.
- Gain hands-on experience with data analysis, modelling, and interpretation using industry-standard statistical and econometric software such as Excel, STATA, and R.
- Flexibility to explore business and finance concepts, allowing you to tailor the degree to your interests and career aspirations.
- A 'Year in Industry' (sandwich year) option for students on the "with placement" variant, gaining professional experience.
- Opportunity to study abroad, participate in international summer schools, or engage in global volunteering projects without extending the length of your degree - enhancing your global perspectives, cultural awareness, and employability.
- Opportunity to qualify as a Microsoft Office Specialist, enhancing your digital skills.
- Designed to be accessible and inclusive, ensuring students from diverse backgrounds receive the support needed to succeed.
- Excellent personal and academic support, with a dedicated academic tutor to guide you throughout the programme.

Admissions criteria

You must meet the minimum entry requirements which are published on the programme specific webpage.

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 aims

1. To provide a high-quality and enriching curriculum that blends theoretical and practice-based learning to support your development as an independent researcher with excellent subject knowledge and critical thinking.
2. To deliver an inclusive and intellectually challenging learning environment for all students.
3. To enable you to develop as a lifelong reflective, resilient and confident learner with transferable knowledge and skills to succeed in your future career.

Programme learning outcomes

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

Level 4

- 4.1 **Examine and explain** a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of economic and / or business problems.
- 4.2 **Evaluate and discuss** concepts relevant to the sustainability and equality issues in economic and / or business development.
- 4.3 **Demonstrate** the ability to use appropriate evaluation techniques and discuss the implication of results.
- 4.4 **Find and engage** with evidence and viewpoints for financial and / or economic related issues and make supported assumptions, identify implications and formulate conclusions.
- 4.5 **Discuss** concepts / techniques and apply them in evaluation of the performance of a business and / or economy.
- 4.6 **Construct, communicate and present** coherent arguments, ideas and findings clearly to both specialist and / or non-specialist audiences.
- 4.7 **Demonstrate** transferable skills for employment or further study such as teamwork, reflection, critical thinking and time management.

Level 5

- 5.1 **Identify, evaluate and apply** a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of economic or business problems.
- 5.2 **Analyse and discuss** the impact of economic policies or financial concepts with consideration for their implications on different economic, business and / or environmental problems.
- 5.3 **Demonstrate** the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills including, information gathering, problem solving and analysis.
- 5.4 **Identify and apply** appropriate financial, economic or statistical techniques and research methods, and discuss the findings.

- 5.5 **Demonstrate** the use of research and enquiry to further your understanding of economic concepts, models and techniques.
- 5.6 **Communicate** ideas, arguments, and findings effectively to both specialist and non-specialist audiences, using clear and concise language and appropriate visual aids.
- 5.7 **Demonstrate transferable skills for employment** or further study such as analytical reasoning, time management and teamwork.

Placement variant

PPLO 1 **Demonstrate** sustained professional behaviour in a workplace environment.

PPLO 2 **Recognise** the links between practice and theories relevant to your area of study

Level 6

- 6.1 **Demonstrate critical thinking** skills by analysing complex problems relevant to economics and / or finance, formulating evidence-based arguments, and evaluating policy proposals using theories and data.
- 6.2 **Critically assess** the impact of policies with consideration for their implications on various economic or financial issues.
- 6.3 **Critically apply** principles to analyse contemporary economic issues and evaluate the effectiveness of economic models, concepts and methods in addressing these.
- 6.4 **Utilize** appropriate techniques to collect, analyse, and interpret data to conduct empirical research and make informed recommendations.
- 6.5 **Plan, design, and execute** an independent research project or experiment in economics, synthesizing theoretical knowledge, appropriate research techniques, and critical evaluation to produce a coherent and well-argued analysis.
- 6.6 **Communicate** complex ideas, arguments, and findings effectively to both specialist and non-specialist audiences, using clear and concise language and appropriate visual aids. Work independently to solve problems and present economic, business or financial insights.
- 6.7 **Demonstrate readiness for employment** or further study by **applying** transferable skills such as analytical reasoning, time management, and adaptability to real-world challenges.

Programme structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensable (NC) or compensable (X)
BME4004M	4	1	Principles of Applied Economics	20	C	X
BMB4010M	4	1	Responsible Business	20	C	X
BME4005M	4	1	Equality and Sustainability of Economic Development	20	C	X
BME4006M	4	2	Economic Policy and Practice	20	C	X
BME4007M	4	2	Quantitative Methods for Business and Economics	20	C	X
BME4008M	4	2	Financial Concepts and Planning	20	C	X
BME5003M	5	1	Econometrics Modelling	20	C	X

BME5004M	5	1	Applied Intermediate Economics	20	C	X
Choose 1 module from the following 2 for Semester 1						
BMI5007M	5	1	International Finance	20	O	X
BMA5008M	5	1	Corporate Finance	20	O	X
BMR5004M	5	2	Business Research Methods	20	C	X
BME5005M	5	2	Environmental Economics	20	C	X
BMW5005M	5	2	The Business Lab: Real-World Consulting in Action	20	C	X
For students taking the 'with placement' programme						
BMP5007P	5P	Y	Placement Year	0	C	NC
BMR6008M	6	1&2	Research Investigation	40	C	NC
BME6002M	6	1	Experimental Economics	20	C	X
BME6003M	6	1	Fintech and Digital Disruption in Finance	20	C	X
BME6004M	6	2	Health Economics	20	C	X
Choose 1 module from the following 2 for Semester 2						
BMI6011M	6	2	Rethinking Globalisation	20	O	X
BMA6010M	6	2	Corporate Governance, Ethics and Sustainability	20	O	X

Please note that not all options may be available every year as they depend on student demand and staff availability.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the table above as non-compensable. A non-compensable module is one that must be passed at the relevant level (with a mark of 40) in order to progress.

Learning, teaching and assessment

All modules are delivered through a variety of teaching, learning, and assessment strategies designed to develop both economic expertise and practical analytical skills. These include lectures, seminars, live projects, guest speaker sessions, tutorials, and interactive learning activities that reflect real-world economic challenges. Assessments are structured to mirror professional economic practice, helping you to develop the skills required for careers in policy, finance, business, and consultancy.

You will engage in a diverse range of assessment techniques. These include economic data analysis, policy reports, forecasting exercises, applied research projects, and case study evaluations. You will also develop key professional skills through presentations, consultancy projects, and econometric modelling tasks. While experiments will allow you to test economic theories in practice, portfolios will help you track and reflect on your progress. Many assessments will involve working with economic data, industry-relevant software, and contemporary policy issues, ensuring that your learning is both applied and career-focused.

To support your development, you will have access to formative assessments throughout your studies, allowing you to receive feedback before final submissions. The feedback will help refine your understanding, providing guidance on how to enhance the reasoning, analysis, and problem-solving techniques. Additional study support is available for academic writing and software proficiency, all of which will strengthen your employability and career prospects.

To support students in achieving their career aspirations, the programme's learning and teaching approach is structured as follows:

Level 4:

The main focus of Level 4 is to **build core knowledge and practical skills**. As such you will develop a strong foundation in microeconomics and macroeconomics and essential analytical skills. Alongside economic theory, you will be introduced to basic statistical techniques, equipping you with core skills necessary for economic analysis. In addition, you will be introduced to core concepts related to business (module *Responsible business*) and finance (module *Financial concepts and planning*). The introduction to these concepts will provide exploration of different areas of economics, and a strong foundation for further

specialisation in Level 5, allowing you to tailor your studies based on your career aspirations or areas of interest.

Through live projects and engagement with businesses, you will apply economic concepts to evaluate real-world economic and business problems, developing critical thinking, problem-solving, and transferable skills that will be essential for your future career. Our aim is to ensure that students from diverse backgrounds can relate economic theory to real-life issues and gain practical experience from the very beginning of their studies.

Level 5:

Building on the core skills and economic principles from Level 4, the focus in Level 5 will be on developing **advanced techniques and career-focused learning**. Learning at this Level will deepen your understanding of economic concepts and statistical techniques. The focus will be on data-driven decision-making, enabling you to gather, interpret, and analyse economic data to inform policymakers and businesses.

A key focus of Level 5 is enhancing your employability skills through practical experience. You will have the opportunity to work on a business consultancy project and apply economic insights to real-world challenges faced by firms and organisations. Students with interest in international matters related to business can option for module *International Finance*, while students with interest in finance can option for module *Corporate Finance*. Options in Level 5 will enable you to explore more advanced topics relevant for your career aspirations.

Year in industry – also known as placement year

If you have chosen BSc (Hons) Economics but later decide that you would like to do a placement, you can do this by choosing the University's opt in placement year to run between level 5 and 6.

A placement year you will help you to gain valuable experience in real employment. York St John University will provide you with support to help source a placement which meets your career aspirations; however, **it is your responsibility to secure your own placement**. Support will be available through central University services such as the Careers and Employability Team. Students who undertake the year in industry often return for level 6 more focused on their studies and deemed more job ready by employers. You will be prepared for your placement year through activities throughout level 5, which will assist you to prepare for applying for and undertaking a placement. This will include CV and cover letter writing, as well as interview skills. You will work with the central University services with the support of an academic tutor to identify placement opportunities. On achieving a year in industry placement, you will need to liaise with the careers and placements team to enable checks around insurance to take place before starting the placement. You will be expected to demonstrate your achievement while on placement through a reflective poster which explores the interconnectivity of university learning and learning in the workplace. To undertake a year in industry placement you will need to have achieved the minimum requirements for progression at level 5 and will also have to satisfy the following criteria:

- You must have no outstanding modules from level 4 or 5.
- You must demonstrate a good level of professionalism in your academic conduct within the university, to the point where your course lead is willing to agree your suitability for the proposed placement.

During the year in industry placement, you will be allocated a mentor from within the University, who will monitor your progress throughout the placement. This may include MS Teams/email conversations. You will have a minimum of one field visit which will include a conversation with the employer. There will also be three keeping in touch (KIT) days based on campus where you will be able to meet up with other on placement students, reconnect with friends on campus, and have some sessions about managing your placement and transition back into university life. (NB if your placement is abroad, you will be able to join through virtual means).

Level 6:

After developing strong analytical and practical skills in the first two levels, your final year will focus on **independent research, application of techniques** and ability to present well-reasoned conclusions – key skills valued by employers.

You will undertake an independent *Research Investigation*, working closely with a dedicated supervisor who will provide guidance and feedback. This project allows you to apply knowledge and research skills to a topic of your choice, developing expertise in an area that aligns with your interests and career goals. You will also

explore different perspectives in economics, particularly the role of individual behaviour in economic decision-making. The *Experimental Economics* module will examine how behaviour of individuals can shape economic outcomes, allowing you to design and execute an economic experiment on topic of your choice.

Module *Health Economics* will equip you with the skills to evaluate and propose solutions to economic issues related to healthcare provision, resource allocation, and policy implementation. You will explore pressing challenges of healthcare systems.

Students with interest in international matters related to business, can opt for the module *Rethinking Globalisation*, while students with interest in finance can opt for the module *Corporate Governance, Ethics and Sustainability*. Options in your final year will enable you to further specialize your knowledge and understanding and support your career aspirations.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [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-compensable.

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

- The exit award of BSc Ordinary is not available to students entering at Level 6

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission, Culture and Values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [The Code of Practice for Assessment](#).
- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Date written / revised: February 2025

Programme originally approved: