Programme Specification 2018/19

3660 MSc International Banking and Financial Studies

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of study	Full time
Duration in years	1 full year (12 months) following standard progression for a FT student
Accreditation details	Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
Final award	Master of Science
Name of award	International Banking and Financial Studies
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma
FHEQ level of final award	7
UCAS code	n/a
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Business and Management
Programme Lead	TBC
Date specification was written	11 September 2014
Date Programme was validated	17/09/2014
Date specification last updated	4/5/2018

Programme overview

Brief outline of the programme

The global integration of financial markets has made it increasingly important for multinational companies, banks, fund managers, securities firms, corporate financial advisors, central banks, think tanks and international organisations and institutions to have a clear understanding of the theory and practice of international banking and finance, and how banks affect the economy. Familiarity with the latest techniques in international lending and borrowing, asset and liability management and risk appraisal is also an essential requirement for those involved in the global money and capital markets.

The recent banking crises have also demonstrated the need for those in banking and finance to be aware of the macroeconomic implications of their actions, which tend to feed back to the banking and financial sectors. With these needs in mind, the MSc Programme aims to develop your existing skills by advanced study in the areas of banking and finance, with particular emphasis on the international dimension and the role of the banking sector. The programme offers a coherent theoretical framework for the various subject areas, with particular emphasis on the international dimension and the practical application of financial techniques in a real world setting.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

The programme is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), which is an internationally recognised award of excellence in business education.

Learning and teaching

A range of teaching and learning methods will be utilised to ensure that the learning outcomes have been achieved. These include lectures, seminars, in-class discussions, peer review and feedback and private study.

Assessment

A range of assessment methods are being employed in order to establish the achievement of learning outcomes. Most modules are assessed by a combination of coursework and examination, some are assessed wholly by coursework, and a few are assessed wholly by examination. Most assessments are individually based, although some modules have a group work element. Group assignments are usually marked in the group. This exercise is meant to simulate real-life work situations, where groups need to cooperate and will share the benefits of their joint efforts. Some modules have a practical computer-based assignment, using commercial software

Educational aims of the programme

The International Banking and Financial Studies programme aims to:

- develop your existing skills by advanced study in the areas of finance and banking, with particular emphasis on the international dimension, and the interlinkage of banking with the economy at home and international markets.
- provide an appropriate theoretical framework to analyse and understand contemporary problems in international banking.
- improve the practical application of financial techniques in a real world setting based on a theoretical framework.
- Develop your ability to undertake rigorous, independent research.

Programme learning outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

A1. the institutional structure of financial markets;
A2. the role of banking and financial intermediation;
A3. core theoretical concepts and limitations in risk management;
A4. the ability to synthesize theoretical and practical comprehension of problem-solving exercises and case studies;
A5. the pursuit of an independent and original line of enquiry in researching a selected dissertation topic.

Teaching and learning methods
A1 is covered through lectures and background reading. A2 and A3 are overall outcomes achieved through the various input methods and all forms of assessment. A4 is the result of case studies and problem solving exercises discussed during lectures, dealt with in assignments and referred to in the supplementary material. It is also practiced in exam preparation and written exams. Finally, the dissertation also contributes to this learning outcome. A5 is encouraged by the dissertation advisers in particular, but also by many lecturers through their presentation of course material and recent original research.

Assessment methods
Your ability to apply the skills you have learnt is assessed by examinations, as well as through original research work in the form of coursework assignments and, most importantly, the dissertation. Some technical skills will be assessed by the practical application of computer-based work in the majority of dissertations (optional). Specifically, A1 is assessed in exams, coursework and dissertation, A2 and A3 are assessed in exams, coursework and dissertation. A4 is assessed in coursework and multiple-choice tests. A5 is assessed mainly through the dissertation.

B. Subject specific intellectual and research skills

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

B1. synthesise theoretical and practical understanding
B2. present cogent, reflective and, where appropriate, creative arguments that evidence your advanced understanding of the subject
B3. pursue an independent and original line of enquiry in researching your selected dissertation topic.

Teaching and learning methods
B1 is achieved through solving exercises and case studies. B2 is honed in class discussions and assignments. B3 is pursued in the form of assignments and the dissertation. You will learn about and practice the techniques of risk and security management through a mixture of lectures, case studies, individual and group practical exercises and private reading. Your reflective and creative skills are developed in most modules, through exercises, coursework assignments and discussion groups. Your logical and analytical skills are developed through problem-solving activities participation in class discussions, and preparation of assessed work.

Assessment methods
Your ability to apply the skills you have learnt is assessed by examinations and coursework, as well as through original research work, namely the dissertation. Some technical skills will be assessed by the practical application of computer-based work in the majority of dissertations (optional). Specifically, B1 is examined in the form of multiple-choice tests, exams and assignments. B2 is assessed in the form of exams and assignments. B3 is assessed in the form of the dissertation.

C. Transferable and generic skills

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

C1. collect and critically evaluate qualitative and quantitative information;
C2. communicate ideas and arguments fluently and effectively in a variety of written formats;
C3. communicate ideas and arguments orally and through formal presentations;
C4. solve complex problems;
C5. work effectively in groups and teams and recognise problems associated with team working;
C6. manage your time effectively;
C7. use computing and IT resources effectively;
C8. use library and other resources, including the application of bibliographical skills.

Teaching and learning methods
Most modules develop some combination of the above key skills, but other key skills will be explicitly taught in non-assessed short modules, for example oral presentation skills and teamworking. The dissertation involves creativity, information acquisition, assessment skills and significant report writing skills. Specially, C1 is pursued through lectures, reading and work on assignments and the dissertation. C2, C3 and C4 are pursued through lectures, class discussions and assignments, as well as the dissertation work. C5 is pursued through group assignments. C6 is pursued through the challenges of successfully completing the degree programme within the limited time available. C7 is pursued, where appropriate, in all aspects of the programme. C8 is pursued in class preparation, exam preparation and the work for the assignments and dissertation.

Assessment methods
Presentations, group work or practical computer work will be assessed in some modules. Coursework requires the submission of well-structured, concisely written, word-processed analysis. Specifically, C1 will be assessed in multiple-choice tests, course work assignments, exams and the dissertation. C2, C3 and C4 will be assessed in assignments, exams and the dissertation. C5 will be assessed in the form of the assignment. C6 will be assessed through multiple-choice tests, assignments, exams and the dissertation. C7 and C8 will be assessed through the assignments and the dissertation.

Programme structure

This twelve month Masters degree programme is offered on a full-time basis only and all students must complete 90 ECTS (180 CATS) to be eligible for the award. All modules are at Masters level and all core modules must be passed. The taught module period lasts nine months 60 ECTS (120 CATS). This period is followed by three months' work on a dissertation 30 ECTS (60 CATS). The dissertation is an opportunity for students to develop and execute a piece of research into any area relevant to the IBFS programme.

MANG6019 International Banking is a double-module 15 ECTS (30 CATS), taught across both semesters. The module content is summarised briefly as follows as an example (details are available in module descriptions):

Part 1 (Semester 1)
1. Overview of markets and players
FX, money markets, loan syndication, securitisation, Eurocurrency markets, expectations hypothesis, settlement risk, liquidity risk, credit risk, term structure of interest rates, bond markets, investment funds, hedge funds
2. Instruments and their use
Bond markets; FX: Spot, Forward, Options; interest arbitrage; hedging; futures; shorting, securities lending, interest rate swaps
3. Banking, micro perspective
Risks in banking, managing banks' balance sheets, bank regulation, credit derivatives

Part 2 (Semester 2)
1. Traditional view: The link between banks and the economy
What makes banks special? Recurring banking and economic crises
2. Capital flows and balance of payments
3. Credit view
4. Problems with the traditional approach
5. An Alternative Approach:
Methodology. History of Money and Banking. Banking and Economic Activity. Recurring Banking and Economic Crises. Central Banking. Predatory Lending; Lending to LDCs. IMF policies

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Summary structure of the programme

See Appendix 3

Assessment mapping

See Appendix 2

Additional costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. Costs that students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for are included in **Appendix 4.**

Progression requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for **Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Standalone Masters programmes** as set out in the University Calendar.

Intermediate exit points

You will be eligible for an interim exit award if you complete part of the programme but not all of it, as follows:

Qualification	Minimum overall credit in ECTS/CATS credits	Minimum ECTS/CATS credits required at level of award
Postgraduate Diploma	at least 60/120	45/90
Postgraduate Certificate	at least 30/60	20/40

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia)
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career Destinations, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Union Southampton provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; Union Southampton provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- A dedicated study skills development induction programme for new entrants in their first week, including a library tour.
- A personal academic tutor
- Programme handbooks
- Module support material (increasingly in electronic form).
- MSc work room and computer facilities

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation surveys for each module of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report
- A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- Higher Education Review by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education

Career opportunities

Graduation, especially with merit or distinction in this programme, has in the past been a successful stepping stone to:

- employment in the financial sector, including with banks, investment banks, securities companies, asset management firms, insurance companies, financial advisory and consulting firms.
- employment with international organisation, including regional development banks.
- employment with associations and industry representations.
- employment with accounting firms, management consultants and other professions
- employment as journalist or in the media, especially with a financial focus
- careers in think-tanks, government agencies or indeed as researchers in academia (usually after completion of a further, research degree, in particular a PhD)

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Professor Neil Kellard **Institution**: University of Essex/Essex Business School

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their personal tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook (or other appropriate guide) or online at www.sbs.ac.uk.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration, however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Revision History

1. Validation approved by FPC on 15 October 2014
2. Transferred onto new template 06/08/2015
3. Updated onto new template 26/09/2015
4. New External Examiner added for 2015/16 Cohort
5. Transferred onto new template 14/03/2017

Appendix 1

3660 MSc International Banking and Financial Studies learning outcomes mapping document

Core = (Cr), Optional Core = (OCr), Compulsory = (Cm)

Module Code	Module Title	Knowledge and Understanding					Subject Specific Intellectual Skills			Generic/Transferable Skills							
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8
MANG6019	International Banking (Cr)	X			X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MANG6022	Corporate Finance 1 (Cm)		X					X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MANG6023	Corporate Finance 2 (Cm)		X					X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MANG6020	Financial Risk Management (Cm)			X			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MANG6008	Quantitative Research Methods in Finance (Cm)				X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X
MANG6095	Dissertation (Cr)				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X

Appendix 2

3660 MSc International Banking and Financial Studies assessment mapping document

Core = (Cr), Optional Core = (OCr), Compulsory = (Cm)

Module Code	Module Title	Assessment 1	Assessment 2
MANG6019	International Banking (Cr)	Semester 1 - Multiple Choice Test (MCT) 15% Semester 2 - Multiple Choice Test (MCT) 15%	Semester 1 Exam (2 hours) -35% Semester 2 Exam (2 hours) -35%
MANG6022	Corporate Finance 1 (Cm)	Group Assignment (4,000 words) 30%	Exam (2 hours) 70%
MANG6023	Corporate Finance 2 (Cm)	Group Assignment (3,000 words) 30%	Exam (2 hours) 70%
MANG6020	Financial Risk Management (Cm)	Group Assignment (3,000 words) 30%	Exam (2 hours) 70%
MANG6008	Quantitative Research Methods in Finance (Cm)	Group Assignment, Empirical Project (4,000 words) 30%	Exam (2 hours) 70%
MANG6095	Dissertation (Cr)	Individual Assignment (15,000 words) 100%	

Appendix 3

3660 MSc International Banking and Financial Studies programme structure

All Core and Compulsory modules must be taken.

You should choose Option modules totalling 15 ECTS/30CATS. You must choose either: 2 options in semester 1 and none in semester 2 or: 1 option in semester 1 and 1 in semester 2. All Option modules are offered subject to availability and timetabling constraints.

MANG6095 Dissertation supervision starts in Semester 2 and should be submitted in September 2019.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	**ECTS**	**CATS**	**Core, Compulsory or Option**	**Modules**	**ECTS**	**CATS**	**Core, Compulsory or Option**
MANG6019 International Banking (Year long module)					15	30	Core
MANG6022 Corporate Finance 1	7.5	15	Comp	MANG6095 Dissertation	30	60	Core
MANG6021 International Finance	7.5	15	Option	MANG6008 Quantitative Research Methods in Finance	7.5	15	Comp
MANG6142 Introduction to Portfolio Management & Exchange Traded Derivatives	7.5	15	Option	MANG6020 Financial Risk Management	7.5	15	Comp
MANG6221 Stock Market Analysis	7.5	15	Option	MANG6023 Corporate Finance 2	7.5	15	Comp
MANG6239 Behavioural Finance	7.5	15	Option	MANG6018 Derivative Securities Analysis	7.5	15	Option
				MANG6222 Fixed Income Securities Analysis	7.5	15	Option

Appendix 4

3660 MSc International Banking and Financial Studies additional costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for the items listed in the table below.

In some cases you will be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.

Main Item	Sub-section	PROGRAMME SPECIFIC COSTS
Approved Calculators		Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved models are Casio FX-570 and Casio FX-85GT Plus. These may be purchased from any source and no longer need to carry the University logo.
Stationery		You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationary items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks		Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Printing and Photocopying		In most cases, written coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations are submitted online and by hard copy. The costs of printing a hard copy for submission of such coursework will be the responsibility of the student. The cost of photocopying will also be the responsibility of the student. https://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing