



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

## MSc Accounting & Finance

Course Code: MSCAF

2024/25

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

# MSc Accounting & Finance (MSCAF)

## Material Information Summary for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed: 12/23

---

### General Information

**Award** Master of Science Accounting and Finance

**Contained Awards** Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting & Finance  
Postgraduate Certificate in Accounting & Finance

**Awarding Body** Leeds Beckett University

**Level of Qualification & Credits** Postgraduate (180 credits)

**Course Lengths & Standard Timescales** Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below:  
The format is:

- 1 year (full time, campus based)
- 2 years (part-time, campus based)

**Part Time Study** PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.

**Location(s) of Delivery** City Campus, Leeds

Some sessions may be delivered online or at Headingley campus, as appropriate.

**Entry Requirements** Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to  
[admissionsenquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:admissionsenquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## Course Fees

Course fees and additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter.  
Enquiries may be directed to [fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

## Policies, Standards and Regulations [www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information/](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information/)

This course adheres to the Academic Principles and Regulations set out by the University. Awards of distinction and merit may be made to students who meet the following criteria:

### Distinction

The award of a distinction may be made to those students who have attained:

- an average of 70% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

### And/or

- at least half of all taught modules\* at the level of distinction in assessments contributing to the final award plus a 60-credit major project module at distinction.

### Merit

The award of merit may be made to those students who have attained:

- an average of 60% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

### And/or

- at least half of all taught modules\* at the level of merit in assessments contributing to the final award plus a 60-credit major project module at distinction.

*\* For the purposes of this regulation, taught modules are outlined as all modules with the exception of the 60-credit major project module*

## Key Contacts

**Your Course Director** Dr Justine Simpson

**Your Academic Advisor(s)** Dr Justine Simpson

**Your Course Administrator** Jill Buckle ([accountingadminPG@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:accountingadminPG@leedsbeckett.ac.uk))

## Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

**Professional Body** Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

### Accreditation Summary

The course is accredited by the ACCA and graduates looking to continue on to a professional qualification will be able to gain exemption from some ACCA papers. On completion, students will be eligible for exemption from:

- *Business and Technology*
- *Management Accounting*
- *Financial Accounting*
- *Corporate and Business Law*

Exemptions from *Performance Management*, *Financial Reporting* and *Financial Management* are also possible with a pass mark in specified modules.

**Professional Body** Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

### Accreditation Summary

On completion of this course students will be eligible to apply for the CIMA Gateway examination. Students must register as a CIMA student (using the 'gateway route' option) and submit documents proving eligibility for this route.

## Course Overview

### Aims

The route is designed for students planning a career in accounting and finance without a relevant academic background. However it is open to all and graduates of accounting and/or finance may also find the route of value. Non-relevant graduates are expected to have had some exposure to business concepts either in their degree or in the workplace.

The course is designed for students who wish to build on their existing knowledge in the field and also to fast-track those who have not previously studied the subject but would like to gain specialist knowledge in accounting and finance. The course equips students with a well-developed understanding of both international financial reporting and management accounting. The course explores both the theoretical

principles underpinning these subjects and the issues and challenges faced by companies when applying them. In addition to accounting, the course is designed to enrich knowledge in other areas including corporate governance, risk, ethics and critical perspectives in accounting and finance.

The course is accredited by the ACCA so for students looking to continue onto a professional qualification, on completion of the course they will gain exemptions from appropriate ACCA papers. On completion students are also eligible to complete the CIMA Gateway Exam which if passed, enables them to progress straight to the strategic level of the professional qualification. The course has five core modules and students select one elective in Semester 2.

The course provides a sounds basis for students who wish to follow a career as an accountant, auditor, tax adviser or a more general business role, with a number of students successfully obtaining employment in finance related roles upon completion of the course.

Employers are consulted as to the skills they are looking for in graduates to ensure that the course retains relevance. Professional accounting qualifications are reviewed to ensure up to date and appropriate syllabuses are offered.

Subjects studied in the classroom are related to work-based case studies and sets of financial statements to assist in learning work-related skills.

### Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate a critical, ethical and reflective approach to the domain of accounting and finance.
2	Critically evaluate, synthesise and apply advanced and contemporary theories and techniques within accounting and finance to a range of complex and open-ended business issues, problems and situations.
3	Apply with a degree of creativity and sophistication, intellectual, transferable and subject/professional skills to a range of complex and open-ended business problems and situations.
4	Evaluate and apply with due regard to ethical considerations, research methodologies relevant to their area of study and make informed judgements in the absence of complete data.
5	Learn interdependently and independently and accept responsibility for subsequent career and continuing professional development.
6	Demonstrate originality in the application of theory and techniques, drawn from earlier studies, through the production of a significant piece of high-level independent research.

## **Teaching and Learning Activities**

### **Summary**

The teaching and learning strategy to be used by each module is given in each Module Specification.

The modules use a variety of methods; typically each block will consist of a mix of tutorials, group and individual activities, workshops and case study analysis where appropriate students will be given opportunities to relate the material covered to the workplace. The integration of students is seen as an important opportunity for students to learn by sharing their and their peers experience through discussion.

Modules at this level will be characterised not only by the inclusion of more advanced knowledge, but also by being more open-ended in the realistic situations in which students are required to identify and tackle problems. The utilisation of problem-solving skills, together with the complementary encouragement of independent learning, will shift the mix of work away from that done in class and towards that done outside. To further assist students a number of developments are underway in the Business School; for example, learning packs of pre-reading and delivery of guidance and practice are a central part of the programmes.

## Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

<b>Level 7 (Full Time, September start)</b>			
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>
Corporate Reporting (20 credits)	Y	Corporate Governance, Risk and Ethics (20 credits)	Y
Management Accounting Information Management (20 credits)	Y	Critical Perspectives in Accounting and Finance (20 credits)	Y
Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Y	Options from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment and Fund Management</li> <li>• Financial Decision Analysis</li> <li>• Managing Financial Resources</li> <li>• Corporate Strategy</li> <li>• Entrepreneurship</li> <li>• Applied Econometrics: Time Series</li> <li>• Professional Practices in Sustainability</li> <li>• Risk Management</li> </ul>	N
Dissertation (60 credits) <b>OR</b>  Work-Based Organisational Consultancy Project (60 credits)			N

<b>Level 7 (Part Time, September start) Year 1</b>			
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>
Corporate Reporting (20 credits)	Y	Corporate Governance, Risk and Ethics (20 credits)	Y
Management Accounting Information Management (20 credits)	Y	Critical Perspectives in Accounting and Finance (20 credits)	Y
<b>Level 7 (Part Time, September start) Year 2</b>			
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>	<b>Core (Y/N)</b>
Corporate Finance (20 credits)	Y	Option from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment and Fund Management</li> <li>• Financial Decision Analysis</li> <li>• Managing Financial Resources</li> <li>• Corporate Strategy</li> <li>• Entrepreneurship</li> <li>• Applied Econometrics: Time Series</li> <li>• Professional Practices in Sustainability</li> <li>• Risk Management</li> </ul>	N
Dissertation (60 credits) <b>OR</b> Work-Based Organisational Consultancy Project (60 credits)			N

### **Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities**

The number of hours of workload generally equates to 1800 for Masters programmes, 1200 for PG Diplomas and 600 for PG Certificates, corresponding to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point.

On this course students will be assessed predominantly by coursework, with some examinations. At the end of the course, students may choose between producing a dissertation or a work-based project.

<b>Overall Workload</b>	
-------------------------	--



Teaching, Learning and Assessment	288 hours
Independent Study	1512 hours
Placement	0 hours

## Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at [studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk), telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.