



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Accounting & Finance

Course Code: MSCAF

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MSc Accounting & Finance (MSCAF)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 12/2025

General Information

Award	Master of Science Accounting and Finance
Contained awards	Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting & Finance (Level 7) Postgraduate Certificate in Accounting & Finance (Level 7)
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course lengths and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 months (full time, campus based)• 24 months (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 from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
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 .
Course fees	Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

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*

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Accreditation/recognition 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/recognition 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.

Timetable

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.

Key Contacts

Your course director Sujana Shafique (s.shafique@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

Your course administrator Lydia Ball (accountingadminPG@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

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.
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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.

Level 7

Full Time (September Start)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Corporate Reporting	20	1
Management Accounting Information Management	20	1
Corporate Finance	20	1
Corporate Governance, Risk and Ethics	20	2
Critical Perspectives in Accounting and Finance	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	100	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Corporate Strategy	20	2

Investment and Fund Management	20	2
Professional Practices in Sustainability	20	2
Risk Management	20	2
Dissertation	60	Year-long
Work-Based Organisational Consultancy Project	60	Year-long
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	80	

Part Time (September Start – Year 1)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Corporate Reporting	20	1
Management Accounting Information Management	20	1
Corporate Governance, Risk and Ethics	20	2
Critical Perspectives in Accounting and Finance	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	80	

Part Time (September Start – Year 2)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Corporate Finance	20	1
Number of credits of compulsory modules	20	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Corporate Strategy	20	2
Investment and Fund Management	20	2
Professional Practices in Sustainability	20	2
Risk Management	20	2
Dissertation	60	Year-long
Work-Based Organisational Consultancy Project	60	Year-long
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	80	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 7

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.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	294 hours
Independent study	1506 hours
Placement	0 hours