

Programme Specification and Curriculum Map for BSc(Hons) Economics (Financial Economics)



1. Programme title	BSc (Hons) Economics (Financial Economics)
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Programme accredited by	
5. Final qualification	Bachelor of Science (Honours)
6. Academic year	2020/21
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time/Part-time/Thick and thin sandwich

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

For year one admission, Middlesex University general entry requirements apply, including GCSE's (grade A to C) (or equivalent) in mathematics and English language. Applicants whose first language is not English are required to achieve a minimum score of 6.0 in IELTS overall (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component) or an equivalent qualification recognised by Middlesex University.

The equivalence of qualifications from outside UK will be determined according to NARIC guidelines.

Specific programme requirements are 112 UCAS points or equivalent. Students not meeting this may be eligible to join at year zero, the foundation year.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- provide students with a thorough theoretical and practical training in economics, financial economics and econometrics;
- facilitate the development of analytical and quantitative skills in economics and financial economics;
- provide students with a reflection of the theory and application of economics and finance to decision making;
- provide students with an ability to search and analyse data as well as interpret and present empirical findings;
- prepare students to communicate complex economics and finance concepts and techniques to a non-specialised audience;
- provide students with a range of core and transferable skills including analytical, numerical, information technology and autonomous learning skills;
- prepare students for professional careers in consultancy, organisations in financial industry, public and private research organisations and international institutions;
- provide an ideal foundation for postgraduate study.

11. Programme outcomes	
A. Knowledge and understanding	Teaching/learning methods
<p>On completion of this programme successful students will have knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. relevant quantitative methods and computing techniques needed for economic and financial analysis; 2. economic and financial concepts, principles and tools; 3. the nature, sources and uses of both quantitative and qualitative data and the application of appropriate methods for analysing such data; 4. economic and finance policy at both the microeconomic and macroeconomic levels; 5. the application of economics and finance to a variety of applied topics such as financial decision making; 6. verbal, graphical, mathematical and econometric representation of economic and financial ideas and analysis, including the relationship between them. 	<p>Students gain knowledge and understanding through guided reading of textbooks, academic journals and in-class exercises, lectures, workshops, seminars, and specialised computer labs, which are supported by on-line learning resources.</p> <p>Assessment Methods</p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by presentations, examinations and written assignments.</p>
B. Cognitive (thinking) skills	Teaching/learning methods
<p>On completion of this programme successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. articulate, communicate and present economic and finance arguments to both specialist and non-specialist audiences using verbal, graphical and statistical means; 2. discuss, analyse and evaluate government policy and assess the performance of different economies and the global economy; 3. apply economic reasoning to economics and finance topics; 4. select and apply appropriate methods and techniques to enable manipulation, treatment and interpretation of relevant data and interpretation of economics and finance relationship; 5. learn independently and in teams and be capable of critical reflection. 	<p>Students learn cognitive skills through reading the required texts and articles; listening, discussing and presenting a series of topics and theories; identifying suitable research articles to support their learning; organizing and analysing datasets with appropriate software in labs, and applying theory to a specific problem and producing a significant piece of work based on their analysis.</p> <p>Assessment Method</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by all forms of assessment used in compulsory and optional modules, especially in unseen examinations and in various types of coursework, group presentation, exercises and in-class tests.</p>

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The programme is designed to provide students with the technical, analytical skills and critical thinking demanded for post graduate study or good analytical skills that are in demand in financial industry sectors (Banks, Financial companies, Financial institutions, Financial department of different companies). Students exiting the course will have acquired the analytical and quantitative tools expected from a high-quality economics and finance degree and will have the ability to apply these tools to real-life situations in Economics

and Finance. This programme is targeted at students with a good academic background interested in undertaking postgraduate study in economics and finance or working as professional financial analysts.

The programmes are delivered over three years, or four years if an optional industrial placement is taken. For the BSc (Hons) degree students must gain 360 credit points (480 if on placement) 120 of which must be at level 6. The programme is made up of twelve ECS compulsory modules over Years 1, 2 and 3 for all students on the BSc (Hons) programme. Students at Level 4 can progress to Level 5 with a minimum of 90 credits inclusive of the two non-compensatable modules ECS1003 and ECS1004. Students who failed either of the two non-compensatable modules (ECS1003 and ECS1004) will automatically be transferred to BSc Business Economics programme at Level 5. After Year 2, students can choose to switch to BSc(Hons) Economics if they find it more suitable for their interests and career plan.

1. Full time – 3 year programme (360 credits)

Level 4

ECS1011 Economics Principles (30 credits)	ECS1012 Economic Applications (30 credits)	ECS1003 Statistics & Inference (30 credits)	ECS1004 Quantitative Techniques I (30 credits)
--	---	--	---

Level 5

ECS2001 Microeconomics (30 credits)	ECS2002 Macroeconomics (30 credits)	ECS2003 Econometrics (30 credits)	ECS2004 Quantitative Techniques II (30 credits)
---	---	---	--

Level 6

ECS3003 Advanced Econometrics (30 credits)	ECS3350 International Finance (30 credits)	ECS3355 Financial Economics (30 credits)	FIN3160 Investment Analysis (30 credits)
---	---	---	---

2. Full-time – 4 year thick sandwich programme with Placement (480 credits)

Level 4

ECS1011 Economics Principles (30 credits)	ECS1012 Economic Applications (30 credits)	ECS1003 Statistics & Inference (30 credits)	ECS1004 Quantitative Techniques I (30 credits)
--	---	--	---

Level 5

ECS2001
Microeconomics
(30 credits)

ECS2002
Macroeconomics
(30 credits)

ECS2003
Econometrics
(30 credits)

ECS2004
Quantitative
Techniques II
(30 credits)

MBS3331/MBS3332 Work Placement (120 credits)

Level 6

ECS3003
Advanced
Econometrics
(30 credits)

ECS3350
International
Finance
(30 credits)

ECS3355
Financial
Economics
(30 credits)

FIN3160
Investment
Analysis
(30 credits)

3. Full-time – 3 year thin sandwich programme with flexible work placement (480 credits)

Level 4

ECS1011
Economics
Principles
(30 credits)

ECS1012
Economic
Applications
(30 credits)

ECS1003
Statistics &
Inference
(30 credits)

ECS1004
Quantitative
Techniques I
(30 credits)

MBS2333 Developing employability through work experience (60 credits)

Level 5

ECS2001
Microeconomics
(30 credits)

ECS2002
Macroeconomics
(30 credits)

ECS2003
Econometrics
(30 credits)

ECS2004
Quantitative
Techniques II
(30 credits)

MBS3431/MBS3432 Flexible work experience (60 credits)

Level 6

ECS3003
Advanced
Econometrics
(30 credits)

ECS3350
International
Finance
(30 credits)

ECS3355
Financial
Economics
(30 credits)

FIN3160
Investment
Analysis
(30 credits)

4. Part-time mode

Part time students study the programme over a maximum of six years, taking between 60 to 90 credits per year. The order of modules will be discussed on an individual basis with the programme leader based on both prerequisite requirements and your individual needs.

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 4

COMPULSORY

Students must take all of the following:

ECS1011
ECS1012
ECS1003
ECS1004

OPTIONAL

None

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students can progress to Level 5 with a minimum of 90 credits inclusive of the two non-compensatable modules ECS1003 and ECS1004.

Students who failed either of the two non-compensatable (ECS1003 and ECS1004) will automatically be transferred to BSc Business Economics programme at Level 5.

Level 5

COMPULSORY

Students must take all of the following:

ECS2001
ECS2002
ECS2003
ECS2004

OPTIONAL

MBS2333
MBS3331/2
MBS3431/2

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must pass a minimum of 210 credits (exclusive of placement) to progress.

Level 6

COMPULSORY

Students must take all of the following:

ECS3003
ECS3350
ECS3355
FIN3160

OPTIONAL

None

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must pass 360 credits (exclusive of placement) to gain an Honours degree

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)

Module level	Module code
Level 4	ECS1003
Level 4	ECS1004

13. Curriculum map

See Curriculum Map attached at the end of this document.

14. Information about assessment regulations

Middlesex University Assessment Regulations apply to this programme.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

A 12 month placement (MBS3331/MBS3332) is an optional module at the end of Level 5 and is worth 120 credits. Students will have to take the initiative to secure a placement with support from the Middlesex Employability Centre before choosing it as an optional module. The placement forms the basis for an assessed report based on the organisation in which the student is attached. At the start of the placement students are allocated an individual supervisor from the university who provides individual support and advice for the duration of the placement and the project. All projects are double marked. Placements allow the student to gain work experience and also to test out a function or area in which they think their career will progress after graduation. On many occasions the placement will help students with their academic studies when they return to university for their final year. They also provide good opportunities for networking, as a source for references and can even secure future employment after graduation with the employer.

Alternatively, students may opt to take one or two shorter placements, each worth 60 credits, through years 1 and summer (MBS2333) and/or through years 2 and summer (MBS3431/MBS3432). Students will have to secure their shorter placements individually first, then get approval to register them as part of their study. These shorter placements allow the student to gain work experience but to still graduate after three years.

The Employability Centre, CG07, includes an MDX work experience team that can provide support and guidance for placements, internships, work experience opportunities and volunteering. The employability advisor for the Business School who can specifically help you is Elaine Elson, who can be contacted on extension 15341 or by email at E.Elson@mdx.ac.uk

16. Future careers (if applicable)

Economists with analytical and quantitative skills specialized in finance are highly sought after by the private and public financial sector, big and small financial firms, schools and universities, economic and finance policy makers, and organisations. Students exiting the programme could have a career as:

- Applied Financial planner
- Financial Analyst
- Financial Consultant
- Financial related Economist
- Financial Policy Advisor
- Graduate Economist
- Teaching Assistant in Economics and Finance
- Financial Policy Analyst
- Trainee Financial Dealer
- Finance departments for Mobile phone companies, airlines, power industry, etc.

Graduating students with a BSc (Hons) Economics (Financial Economics) Degree will be advantageously equipped to further complement their technical skillset with Middlesex's Economics and Finance Master programmes.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

- Dedicated programme support team
 - English Language support
 - Learning Resources
 - Learning Enhancement Team
 - Personal and professional development sessions
 - Programme Handbook and Module Handbooks
 - Welcome programme
 - Wellbeing service
 - On-line learning environment on MyUnihub
 - Visiting speakers seminar series
 - Learning Resources including specialised software
 - Training on using Bloomberg and Datastream – specialist data base for economic and financial data
 - Access to the Chartered Management Institute web-based activities and resources
 - One-to-one consultation with tutors during their office hours
- Graduate Academic assistants and Student Learning Assistants providing peer supports students' learning.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

L100

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

QAA Subject Benchmark in Economics (2019)

20. Reference points

- QAA Guidelines for programme specifications
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- QAA Subject Benchmark in Economics
- QAA Codes of Practice
- Middlesex University Regulations
- Middlesex University Mission and Vision
- Middlesex University and Business School Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
- Middlesex University Learning Framework – Programme

Design Guidance, 2012

-

21. Other information

Opportunities available to students:
Sage, Datastream and Bloomberg Certification
Distinguished Lecture Series

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the programme handbook and the University Regulations.

Curriculum map for *BSc(Hons) Economics (Financial Economics)*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	relevant quantitative methods and computing techniques needed for economic and financial analysis;
A2	economic and financial concepts, principles and tools;
A3	the nature, sources and uses of both quantitative and qualitative data and the application of appropriate methods for analysing such data;
A4	economic and finance policy at both the microeconomic and macroeconomic levels;
A5	the application of economics and finance to a variety of applied topics such as financial decision making;
A6	verbal, graphical, mathematical and econometric representation of economic and financial ideas and analysis, including the relationship between them.
Skills	
B1	articulate, communicate and present economic and finance arguments to both specialist and non-specialist audiences using verbal, graphical and statistical means;
B2	discuss, analyse and evaluate government policy and assess the performance of different economies and the global economy;
B3	apply economic reasoning to economics and finance topics;
B4	select and apply appropriate methods and techniques to enable manipulation, treatment and interpretation of relevant data and interpretation of economics and finance relationship;
B5	Learn independently and in teams and be capable of critical reflection.

Programme outcomes										
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
Highest level achieved by all graduates										
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module Title	Module Code	Programme Outcomes										
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
Level 4												
Economics Principles	ECS1011 (Core)		x		x			x		x		
Economic Applications	ECS1012 (Core)	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x
Statistics & Inference	ECS1003 (Core)	x		x			x				x	
Quantitative Techniques I	ECS1004 (Core)	x		x		x		x			x	
Level 5												
Microeconomics	ECS2001 (Core)		x		x	x		x		x		
Macroeconomics	ECS2002 (Core)		x		x	x		x	x	x		
Econometrics	ECS2003 (Core)	x		x		x	x	x			x	x
Quantitative Techniques II	ECS2004 (Core)	x		x				x			x	
Developing Employability through work experience	MBS2333 (Optional)					x						x
Level 6												
Advanced Econometrics	ECS3003 (Core)	x		x		x	x	x			x	x
International Finance	ECS3350 (Core)	x	x		x	x	x	x		x		x
Financial Economics	ECS3355 (Core)	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Investment Analysis	FIN3160 (Core)	x	x			x	x	x			x	x
Flexible Work Experience	MBS3431/2(Optional)					x						x
Work Placement	MBS3331/2(Optional)					x						x