

Programme Specification 2025-26

1.	Programme title	MSc International Banking and Finance
2.	Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a	Teaching institution	Middlesex University London, Middlesex University Dubai
3b	Language of study	English

4a	Valid intake dates and mode of study
-----------	---

Mode of Study	Cohort	Delivery Location	Duration
Full-time (FT)	Semester 1	Hendon	1 Years
Part-time (PT)	Semester 1	Hendon	2 Years
Part-time (PT)	Semester 2	Dubai	2 Years

4c	Delivery method	On Campus/Blended Learning
-----------	------------------------	----------------------------

5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body (if applicable)
N/A

6.	Apprenticeship Standard (if applicable)	N/A
-----------	--	-----

7. Final qualification(s) available
Target Award Title(s)
MSc MSc International Banking and Finance
Exit Award Title(s)
PGCert MSc International Banking and Finance
PGDip MSc International Banking and Finance

8. Academic year effective from	2025-26
--	---------

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Applicants must have a good honours degree (2:2 and above) from a UK University, or the equivalent from a recognised overseas University, or an equivalent recognised qualification. The equivalence of qualifications from outside the UK will be determined according to NARIC guidelines.

The programme is aimed at students with an undergraduate degree in accounting, finance or economics as well as those with an undergraduate degree with an applied quantitative element, such as statistics, mathematics, engineering, physics, computing or the sciences. Students whose first language is not English will need to demonstrate English language proficiency in addition to the other entry requirements. A minimum IELTS score of 6.0 overall, with a minimum of 6.0 in Reading and Writing and minimum of 5.5 in Listening and Speaking, or an equivalent qualification recognised by Middlesex University must be obtained.

The University aims to ensure that its admissions processes are fair, open and transparent and aims to admit students who, regardless of their background, demonstrate potential to successfully complete their chosen programme of study where a suitable place exists and where entry criteria are met. The University values diversity and is committed to equality in education and students are selected on the basis of their individual merits, abilities and aptitudes. The University ensures that the operation of admissions processes and application of entry criteria are undertaken in compliance with the Equality Act.

We take a personalised but fair approach to how we make offers. We feel it's important that our applicants continue to aspire to achieving great results and make offers which take into account pieces of information provided to us on the application form.

This includes recognition of previous learning and experience. If you have been working, or you have other learning experience that is relevant to your course, then we can count this towards your entry requirements and even certain modules once you start studying.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

The programme aims to:

- provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in banking, private equity and the financial markets;
- develop students' competence in applying advanced quantitative and computational techniques to the practice of international banking and investment management;
- provides students with the ability to test and evaluate finance models using a range of research methods, data and techniques of analysis;
- develops students' critical and analytical powers to evaluate and understand the theoretical underpinning on which finance relies;
- enhance students' capacity to communicate ideas, arguments and research findings effectively; and
- the dissertation or project will allow students to develop their ability to undertake academically rigorous independent research.

11. Programme learning outcomes

Programme - Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have a knowledge and understanding of:

1. advanced banking, finance and economic theory, current developments and issues in financial markets
2. the role, operations and regulation of financial intermediaries
3. the structure and operation of domestic and global financial markets and risk management techniques
4. advanced statistical, econometric and computational techniques used to analyse and interpret banking, financial and economic data
5. key empirical literature in the fields of banking, finance and financial economics
6. key concepts in accounting, and data management and their application to corporate finance and portfolio management
Programme - Skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:
7. critically evaluate financial information and data from a range of different sources including electronic databases and use this to support their learning
8. present cogent, reflective and, where appropriate creative arguments that demonstrate advanced understanding of banking, finance and financial economics
9. demonstrate numeracy, software and technical skills for complex problem-solving situations
10. formulate empirically testable models in the fields of banking, finance and economics, and use econometric software to test them
11. effectively organise, structure and manage a research or practical project at an advanced level, including undertaking critical appraisal of relevant literature

12. Teaching/learning methods
Whole group workshops will contextualise concepts and put them into practice using in-class exercises. Students consolidate their knowledge and understanding through guided reading of textbooks and by reading and interpreting journal articles. In seminars and computer labs students learn cognitive skills by working through a series of real life problems and seeking solutions. In classes they will also learn by discussing topics and theories and use these to identify suitable research articles to support their learning and their dissertation. In their dissertation or project they will apply theory to a specific problem and produce a significant piece of work based on their analysis.
Approx. number of timetabled hours per week (at each level of study, as appropriate), including on-campus and online hours : FT 12 & PT 6 Approx. number of hours of independent study per week (at each level of study, as appropriate): FT 38 & PT 19

13. Employability
13a Development of graduate competencies

13b Employability development

Development of graduate competencies:

The programme is designed to engage students' curiosity and learning with topics that require both technological agility and problem solving skills. Students will develop resilience and adaptability through engaging in assessment tasks and learn to communicate with empathy and inclusion through class discussions and presentations. Collaborative innovation and entrepreneurship are designed into assessments while leadership and influence will be acquired through completing the dissertation or project. The project will develop skills to solve practical business challenges.

Employability development:

MSc International Banking and Finance is designed to allow students whose career choices lie in banking, finance and financial economics to develop their analytical skills, acquire a body of knowledge, and be exposed to the frontiers of the subject, such as ethical and green finance.

13c Placement and work experience opportunities (if applicable)

N/A

13d Future careers / progression

Potential careers span a wide range including investment analyst, fixed income trader, quant trader or treasurer in areas of the financial services industry such as investment and commercial banking, hedge fund management, the equity, bond and foreign currency markets, corporate treasury management, derivatives and risk management & credit analyst.

Some students may wish to continue their studies by embarking on a PhD.

14. Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by presentations, written assignments and through the research and writing undertaken to complete their dissertation or project. Students' cognitive skills are assessed by coursework which requires them to access data, analyse, and interpret it and write reports. The planning, implementation and production of a dissertation or project will give students ample opportunity to think, design and identify the weaknesses in their topic and the work through these to solve them.

Formative assessment is in the form of drafts and class exercises that directly support the summative work. It is ongoing through the term.

15. Programme Structure (level of study, modules, credits and progression requirements)

Structure is indicative for Part-time routes.

Students must take all of the compulsory modules and choose following programme requirements from the optional modules.

Non-compensatable modules are noted below.

Available Pathways

Not Applicable

Year 1**Year 1 Level 7 FT and PT**

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
FIN4465	Compulsory	Big Data and Financial Modeling 2025-26	15 at Level 7
FIN4480	Compulsory	International Risk Management 2025-26	15 at Level 7
FIN4535	Compulsory	Banking Regulation and Practice 2025-26	30 at Level 7
FIN4455	Compulsory	Investment Analysis & Portfolio Management 2025-26	30 at Level 7
FIN4740	Compulsory	Applied Econometrics 2025-26	15 at Level 7
FIN4470	Compulsory	International Financial Markets 2025-26	15 at Level 7

Year 1 Level 7 FT Project Options

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
FIN4700	Optional	Research Methods and Dissertation 2025-26	60 at Level 7
ACF4000	Optional	Applied Professional Project 2025-26	60 at Level 7

Year 2 PT

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
FIN4470	Compulsory	International Financial Markets 2026-27	15 at Level 7
FIN4740	Compulsory	Applied Econometrics 2026-27	15 at Level 7
FIN4480	Compulsory	International Risk Management 2026-27	15 at Level 7

FIN4465	Compulsory	Big Data and Financial Modeling 2026-27	15 at Level 7
---------	------------	---	---------------

Year 2 Project Options

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
FIN4700	Optional	Research Methods and Dissertation 2026-27	60 at Level 7
ACF4000	Compulsory	Applied Professional Project 2026-27	60 at Level 7

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

16. Programme-specific support for learning

Learning Enhancement Team
Learning Resources
Health and Wellbeing support
Programme Handbook and Module Handbooks
Progression and Support Team
MyLearning
Financial Markets lab

17. HECos code(s)	100107: Finance
-------------------	-----------------

17. HECos code(s)	100827: Banking
-------------------	-----------------

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

19. University Regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: [Policies | Middlesex University](#)

Middlesex university regulations apply to this programme: Policies | Middlesex University (mdx.ac.uk)

20. Reference points

- QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Quality Code for Higher Education
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- Middlesex University Regulations 2024-25
- 2031 Learning Framework
- University Graduate Competencies

21. Other information *(if applicable)*

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 they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

22. Curriculum map for MSc International Banking and Finance

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

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

A1	advanced banking, finance and economic theory, current developments and issues in financial markets;
A2	the role, operations and regulation of financial intermediaries;
A3	the structure and operation of domestic and global financial markets and risk management techniques;
A4	advanced statistical, econometric and computational techniques used to analyse and interpret banking, financial and economic data;
A5	key empirical literature in the fields of banking, finance and financial economics;
A6.	key concepts in accounting, and data management and their application to corporate finance and portfolio management.

Skills

B1	critically evaluate financial information and data from a range of different sources including electronic databases and use this to support their learning
B2	present cogent, reflective and, where appropriate creative arguments that demonstrate advanced understanding of banking, finance and financial economics
B3	demonstrate numeracy, software and technical skills for complex problem-solving situations
B4	formulate empirically testable models in the fields of banking, finance and economics, and use econometric software to test them
B5	effectively organise, structure and manage a research or practical project at an advanced level, including undertaking critical appraisal of relevant literature

Programme learning outcomes - Highest level achieved by graduates

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level of study	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
--------------	-------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Level - 7

Banking Regulation and Practice	FIN4535	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	
Investment Analysis & Portfolio Management	FIN4455	x		x			x	x	x	x		
Big Data & Financial Modelling	FIN4465				x			x		x	x	
International Financial Markets	FIN4470	x	x	x				x	x	x		
International Risk Management	FIN4480		x	x				x	x	x		
Applied Econometrics	FIN4740				x			x		x	x	
Research Methods & Dissertation <i>or project below</i>	FIN4700					x		x	x	x	x	x
Applied Professional Project	ACF4000					x		x	x	x	x	x