

## Programme Specification

### I. Programme Details

<b>Programme title</b>	<b>MSc Accounting and Finance</b>	
<b>Final award</b> ( <i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the <a href="#">Taught Degree Regulations</a></i> )	<b>UG – FHEQ level 6</b>	<b>PGT – FHEQ level 7</b>
	BA <input type="checkbox"/>	MA <input type="checkbox"/>
	BSc <input type="checkbox"/>	MSc <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	LLB <input type="checkbox"/>	MRes <input type="checkbox"/>
		LLM <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other ... <input type="checkbox"/>	
	If other, please specify FHEQ level: ...	
<b>Mode of delivery</b>	Distance-learning <input type="checkbox"/>	On-campus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Professional body accreditation</b> ( <i>if applicable</i> )		
<b>Academic year this specification was created</b>	2019-2020	
<b>Dates of any subsequent amendments</b>		

### II. Programme Aims: What will the programme allow you to achieve?

1. To provide a career entry opportunity for full-time students as well as a career development opportunity for practising accountants, auditors, managers, business consultants and finance experts from various backgrounds, to enhance and develop their accounting and finance skills.
2. To provide students with the opportunity to critically examine the scope of generic accounting & finance; contemporary issues in international financial reporting, evaluation of management accounting and applied corporate finance.
3. To develop in students, advanced understanding of accounting and finance issues for the private and public sectors, both nationally and internationally.
4. To provide students with a balanced theoretical analysis with practical application to develop a critical and questioning approach to the conceptual underpinnings of accounting and finance.
5. To enhance students career prospects with sought-after financial skills
6. To equip students with the necessary background, knowledge and experience to carry out academic research in accounting and finance discipline.

### III. Programme Learning Outcomes: What will you learn on the programme?

There are four key areas in which you will develop:

<b>Learning Outcomes: Knowledge</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The knowledge of the sources, uses and management of finance.</li> <li>2. The use of accounting and other information systems for managerial applications.</li> <li>3. The development, management, application and implementation of information systems and their impact upon organisations.</li> <li>4. Tools and techniques for transforming accounting and finance data into useful information for business analysis and decision support.</li> <li>5. The importance of sustainability issues, including an understanding of the challenges and opportunities arising from the activities of people and organisations on the economic, social and environmental conditions of the future.</li> <li>6. The dynamics of the global economy and international business and an awareness of cultural, legal/regulatory, political, and economic differences across countries and an appreciation of accounting and finance issues from a global perspective.</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching methods will vary from module to module, however generally, modules within this programme will combine tutor-led input with interactive group activities, case studies and scenarios where students can explore relevant concepts.</li> <li>• The lectures will provide information and knowledge about theories and techniques and will help students develop an initial understanding that forms the basis for further study.</li> <li>• The weekly seminar sessions will allow students to put their learning into practice and check their learning through a variety of problem-solving exercises, critical discussions and group/individual research and class presentation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formative assessment will include the testing of students' knowledge during class presentations and through both groups working and individual working throughout the programme.</li> <li>• Summative assessment will be achieved through the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coursework essays, presentations and through unseen examinations.</li> <li>2. Although, assessments methods will vary from module to module. However, essays consist of an open-ended essay question, case analysis, project work or article-based analysis.</li> <li>3. These assessments are designed to enable students to demonstrate the degree of their in-depth understanding of the specific topics.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
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<b>Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Being able to think critically and be creative: manage the creative processes in self and others; organise thoughts, analyse, synthesise and critically appraise. This includes the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately</li> <li>2. Being able to solve complex problems and make decisions: establish criteria, using appropriate decision-making techniques including identifying, formulating and solving business problems; and the ability to create, identify and evaluate options; the ability to implement and review decisions</li> <li>3. Being able to use accounting and finance information and knowledge effectively in order to abstract meaning from information and to share knowledge, including the use of quantitative skills</li> <li>4. Ability to critically review empirical research in accounting and finance issues.</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures</li> <li>• Interactive group activities,</li> <li>• Use of real-life case studies and scenarios to explore relevant concepts</li> <li>• Researching and analysing relevant journal articles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coursework essays</li> <li>• Class presentation</li> <li>• Unseen examination</li> </ul>

<b>Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop a critical awareness of the current financial reporting environment, taking into account the different interests of external users, owners and management.</li> <li>2. Being able to use both quantitative and qualitative techniques in order to analyse and evaluate issues relating to financial valuation in areas such as securities valuation, mergers and acquisition.</li> <li>3. The ability to recognise and address ethical dilemmas, corporate social responsibility and sustainability issues, applying ethical and organisational values to situations and choices.</li> </ol>

<p>4. Effective performance within team and the ability to recognise and utilise individuals' contributions in group processes and to negotiate and persuade or influence others; team selection, delegation, development and management.</p> <p>5. The ability to conduct research and enquiry into business and management issues either individually or as part of a team through research design, the collection and analysis of qualitative data, synthesis and reporting.</p> <p>6. Leadership and performance management: selecting appropriate leadership style for different situations; setting objectives, motivating, monitoring performance, coaching and mentoring.</p>	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures</li> <li>• Interactive group activities,</li> <li>• Use of real-life case studies and scenarios to explore relevant concepts</li> <li>• Researching and analysing relevant journal articles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coursework essays</li> <li>• Class presentation</li> <li>• Unseen examination</li> </ul>

Learning Outcomes: Transferable skills	
<p>1. A capacity for independent thought and self-managed learning</p> <p>2. Analytical skills for critical evaluation and critical appraisal</p> <p>3. Problem identification and problem-solving skills</p> <p>4. Effective communication: networking, listening, oral and written communication of complex ideas and arguments, using a range of media, including the preparation of business reports, presentation skills, including appropriate academic practices such as referencing.</p> <p>5. High personal effectiveness: critical self-awareness, self-reflection and self-management; time management; conflict resolution, displaying commercial acumen, the ability to continue to learn through reflection on practice and experience.</p> <p>6. Soft skills: understanding the needs of others and empathy towards them; sensitivity to diversity in people and in different situations.</p>	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures</li> <li>• Interactive group activities,</li> <li>• Use of real-life case studies and scenarios to explore relevant concepts</li> <li>• Researching and analysing relevant journal articles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coursework essays</li> <li>• Class presentation</li> <li>• Unseen examination</li> </ul>

General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes
<p>Masters programmes (with the exception of two-year full-time MAs) consist of 180 credits, made up of taught modules of 30 or 15 credits, taught over 10 or 20 weeks, and a dissertation of 60 credits. The programme structure shows which modules are compulsory and which optional.</p> <p>As a rough guide, 1 credit equals approximately 10 hours of work. Most of this will be independent study (see <a href="https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/">https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/</a>) such as reading and research, preparing coursework, revising for examinations and so on. Also included is class time, for example lectures, seminars and other classes. Some subjects may have more class time than others – a typical example of this are language acquisition modules.</p> <p>At SOAS, most postgraduate modules have a one-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar every week, but this does vary. More information can be found on individual module pages.</p>

MSc Accounting and Finance 2020/21 Programme Grid

	MSc Accounting and Finance							
	2020/21 Programme Grid							
credits	Disertation							
module code	60							
module title								
FHEQ	level 7							
status	core module							
credits	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
module code	15PFMC111	15PFMC088	15PFMC071	15PFMC062	15PFMC107	15PFMC105	15	15
module title	Professional Integrity for the Accountancy and Finance Practitioners	+ Managerial Accounting	+ Risk Management	+ Research Methods in Management	+ Financial Statement Analysis for Investors	+ Emerging Market Finance	+ from Section A below	+ from Section B below
FHEQ	level 7	level 7	level 7	level 7	level 7	level 7	level 7	level 7
status	core module	core module	core module	core module	core module	core module	guided option	guided option

List of modules (subject to availability)

Section A

Code	Title	Credits	Term
15PFMC058	<a href="#">Financial Law for International Managers</a>	15	1
15PFMC061	<a href="#">International Securities Regulation</a>	15	1
15PFMC104	<a href="#">Advanced Issues in Financial Reporting</a>	15	1

Section B

15PFMC069	<a href="#">Corporate Governance</a>	15	2
15PFMC070	<a href="#">International Corporate Finance</a>	15	2
15PFMC106	<a href="#">Entrepreneurial Finance</a>	15	2