

# Accounting with Finance with Foundation Year - Undergraduate - 2021/22

**Award Level: BSc**

**UCAS Code: N409**

**Start Date: September 2021**

**Mode of study: Full-time**

**Duration: 4 years**

**Location: Canterbury**

## **Main quote**

This course has made me realise I want go into the investment side of finance, and has helped me to guide and shape my future career.

## **Main quote source**

William, Accounting and Finance graduate

## **Course overview**

**If you're passionate about business, take the first step into higher education with our Accounting and Finance with Foundation Year course.**

Our BSc Accounting and Finance degree gives you a solid grounding in the challenges of managing organisations, information technology and analytical skills alongside finance and accounting fundamentals.

The foundation year will help you to broaden your industry knowledge and enable you to progress to a related undergraduate degree. It aims to help you develop a strong foundation of business knowledge, alongside academic and transferable skills to ensure you get the most out of your degree-level studies.

You'll benefit from Christ Church Business School's extensive links with industry. Guest speakers are regularly invited to share their knowledge with our students, and our 'Business Futures' weeks offer the chance to connect with businesses.

## **Why study (course name)**

Why study Accounting and Finance with Foundation Year?

Our experienced team has created an engaging course which captures the diversity of the national and global dimensions of finance and accounting, so you'll be prepared for all kinds of roles in industry, practice, the service sector or self-employment.

## Text after read more tag

You'll gain experience in applying your knowledge to help solve real-world problems and will develop the skills needed for further academic study and independent learning.

You'll have the opportunity to apply for exemptions from major accounting bodies: ACCA, ICAEW, CIMA, CIPFA, and CPA Australia, and you'll develop specialist accounting knowledge, critical analysis and interpersonal skills are developed through lectures, seminars, workshops and through a variety of assessments.

You can test your skills in a real business environment in our Bloomberg Trading Room, which recreates the high-energy City of London trading environment. This will give you the opportunity learn the language of finance, discover the inner workings of the markets, and stand out to recruiters with "Bloomberg Certification" Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) on your CV. This is free for our students and you can take this during your studies.

## Entry requirements

Applicants should normally have 32 UCAS Tariff points, although those without formal qualifications may be considered on an individual basis, however these students should still apply through UCAS.

Business School students are also required to have GCSE mathematics at Grade C or equivalent.

For more information on the IELTS (International English language Testing System) requirements for this course, [\[please click here to visit our dedicated web page.\]\(https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/study-here/international/english-language-requirements\)](https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/study-here/international/english-language-requirements)

[\[More information about entry requirements.\]\(/study-here/applying/entry-requirements\)](/study-here/applying/entry-requirements)

## All about the course Year 1 text

During the foundation year, you'll study six core modules: Contemporary Issues in Business, Management and Marketing, Contemporary Issues in Law, Individual Project, Communication and Academic Skills for HE and Personal and Career Development.

The first year of the degree provides a solid grounding in the challenges of managing organisations and information technology, and you will start to develop the analytical skills needed for employment.

The core modules in Years 2 and 3 will prepare you for a professional career in accounting and finance and the optional modules will allow you to gain a broader understanding of the business world.

You'll explore areas including:

economics financial accounting  
management accounting.

You'll have the opportunity to spend a year on a professional work placement, supported by a dedicated placement officer within the Business School. You can also take the Work-based Learning module in Year 2 to help develop your skills in securing a work placement or internship.

## **Year 0 modules**

### **Communication and Academic Skills for HE (Semester 1)**

The aim of this module is to support you with developing the necessary skills base for engaging with foundation year modules, and to help you identify and develop a range of transferable skills in preparation for studying at degree level. The module aims to develop a reflective approach by helping you identify your own strengths and weaknesses, and plan for your personal, educational and career development.

### **Personal and Career Development (Semester 2)**

The aim of this module is to support you with developing the necessary skills base for engaging with foundation year modules, and to help you identify and develop a range of transferable skills in preparation for studying at degree level. The module aims to develop a reflective approach by helping you identify your own strengths and weaknesses, and plan for your personal, educational and career development.

### **Contemporary Issues in Business, Management and Marketing**

This module prepares you for the academic study of business, management and marketing. You'll study contemporary and emerging business issues and you'll develop personal, academic and professional skills to prepare you for work in the modern business environment. You will start to put into practice the study skills that are required at university level and will begin to use tools of analysis to discuss important contemporary issues. You'll also explore the importance of issues around work and people in organisations by looking at basic human resource management functions, activities and issues.

### **Contemporary Issues in Law**

The module aims to provide you with a basic understanding of contemporary issues in law. You'll be introduced to several contemporary issues through the perspective of different areas of legal study. You'll be able to investigate a range of contemporary issues that require the application of legal rules and structures to develop their awareness of the implications and limitations of different areas of law in regards to specific issues.

### **Individual Project**

This module gives you the opportunity to investigate, under supervisory guidance, a particular topic or issue related to material covered in the subject-specific modules. A major aim of the project is to help you prepare for your chosen degree.

### **Contemporary Issues in Accounting – Business Foundation Year Students**

The aims of the module are to introduce you to the basic mechanics and processes of financial accounting in both theory and practice. You'll learn about the importance of financial and management accounting procedures in running a business effectively and the contemporary issues that are currently affecting these disciplines.

## **Year 1 modules**

### **Introduction to Financial Accounting**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module provides you with an understanding of accounting with a focus on limited liability companies. You'll be introduced to key accounting topics including double entry and you'll learn how to prepare financial statements for private limited companies.

### **Economics**

Core module - (20 Credits)

You'll explore the fundamental economic issues stemming from the scarcity of resources. The relationship between business and the economic problem is analysed by means of micro and macroeconomic models to equip you with an understanding of decision-making at the levels of the market, the firm and the nation.

### **Business and Information Analysis**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module is designed to help you develop a range of statistical and computing skills.

### **Managing People in Organisations**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module focuses on the behavioural aspects of people management in organisations. By the end of the module, you'll be able to evaluate objectively and understand organisational behavioural situations and determine the best course of action from a range of perspectives.

### **Introduction to Management Accounting**

Core module - (20 Credits)

The aim of the module is to develop an understanding of the sources and uses of accounting information within organisations. You'll develop a sound understanding of the cost accounting and decision-making techniques of management accounting and the role of accounting control systems in organisations.

### **Academic Skills for Success**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module provides you with an introduction to business concepts and models, and the information sources needed to research, analyse and apply these concepts to the practice of business. It includes an overview of contemporary and emerging business themes including the changing macro-environment, emergence of new economies and inter-relatedness of the global trade, the structure and organisation of different industry sectors e.g. services, SMEs. You'll learn about sustainability, enterprise, innovation, corporate social responsibility and the impacts of globalisation on different business sectors.

## **Year 2 modules**

### **International Financial Reporting**

Core module - (20 Credits)

You'll study advanced topics in financial accounting and will develop knowledge and skills in understanding and applying accounting standards, particularly in the preparation of financial statements of entities, including groups.

### **Management Accounting**

Core module - (20 Credits)

You'll study the fundamental concepts and techniques of management accounting and how to apply these techniques in an appropriate way. You'll also learn how to critically evaluate the strengths and limitations of these techniques. You'll explore how management accounting information may be used for the purposes of planning, decision making, performance measurement and control within organisations, to further the organisation's strategic objectives.

### **Foundations of Finance**

Core module - (20 Credits)

You'll examine how practical techniques and tools are used within a corporate setting. This will involve exploring the principles of financial management in maximising shareholder wealth. You'll focus on the sources of finance and appraisal techniques of investment projects. You'll also learn how decisions on capital structure and management, along with dividend policy, impact on company valuation.

### **Employability Skills**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module develops your skills in seeking and obtaining a work placement or when looking for a graduate role in the future. The overall aim is for you to develop skills to help you succeed in a professional career in a graduate role.

### **Corporate and Business Law Optional module**

- (20 Credits) You'll learn about the general legal

framework, and specific legal areas relating to

business, so you're able to recognise when it is

necessary seek further specialist legal advice.

You'll also explore compliance with the codes of

ethics for professional accountants.

### **Human Resources Management**

Optional module - (20 Credits)

You'll analyse human resource management concepts, operational human resource activities and responsibilities, and will relate these to a range of organisational contexts.

### Digital Business

Optional module - (20 Credits)

In this module, you'll explore the impact of emerging information and communication technologies on business activities. You'll study how technologies, and in particular data, can be deployed to enhance business activities.

### Management and Leadership

Optional module - (20 Credits)

You'll explore: the context within which management and leadership takes place; the historical context within which the fundamental principles of management arise; the context of the external environment which impacts on organisational strategy and may cause ambiguity in relation to organisational objectives, policies, working practices, ethical considerations and management approaches. You'll also explore a range of different perspectives on management and leadership with focus on particular managerial/leadership issues that lead to ambiguities and problems.

### Innovation and Enterprise Management

Optional module - (20 Credits)

The aim of the module is to provide you with an understanding of creativity, innovation and problem-solving processes in organisations, and how these contribute to business sustainability and competitiveness. You'll develop an awareness of how entrepreneurial skills and capabilities impact on and relate to business start-up, development and management.

### Research Methods

Optional module - (20 Credits)

This module is designed to enable you to develop your skills and expertise in quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and to independently design and conduct an effective piece of research.

### Excel in Finance

Optional module - (20 Credits)

The aim of this module is to bridge the gap between theory and practice in finance-related topics. You'll study the theory of a set of specific financial topics, and the quantitative implementation of these topics using Microsoft Excel. Topics covered may relate to domains of statistics, time series analysis, portfolio management, capital budgeting and financial statement analysis.

### Employment Law

Optional module - (20 Credits)

You'll learn about the legal frameworks that underpin people practices and policies in organisations, and will gain an understanding of the context within which these frameworks operate.

## **Year 3 modules**

### **Financial Markets and Risk Management**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module aims to develop your understanding of the role of securities in the financial markets and how the economic environment impacts the value of financial securities. It introduces you to the special regulatory requirements and the accounting implications into being an investor in those securities. You'll be exposed to the importance of identifying the greatest source of risk and how this risk can be managed using derivative instruments and how different investment products are tailored to the needs of different clients.

### **Audit and Assurance**

Core module - (20 Credits)

This module introduces you to key auditing techniques. You'll explore the importance of the audit function and the independent examination of financial information of any entity, whether profit oriented or not, and irrespective of its size or legal form.

### **Financial Management for Accountants**

Optional module - (20 Credits)

The aim of this module is to build up an understanding of the treasury function and corporate financial strategy, and to develop the practical skills for dealing with the corporate financial issues. The module covers corporate financial issues related to: financial management function; financial management environment; investment appraisal; business finance; business valuation; working capital management and risk management.

### **Contemporary Accounting Issues**

Optional module - (20 Credits)

You'll study developments in company accounting and disclosure from a critical perspective, and will explore the evolution of international accounting standards and their implications for users. You'll review controversial issues in the treatment of accounting transactions and will develop the skills required for the interpretation of accounting and other relevant information.

### **Knowledge Management**

Optional module - (20 Credits)

This module will cover the nature of knowledge including typologies of knowledge and the distinction between tacit and explicit knowledge. You'll explore knowledge as an intangible asset and you'll measure and evaluate the contribution of knowledge to the strategic management of the organisation, as well as the role of knowledge in business functions. You'll examine ethical issues in knowledge management and the nature and protection of intellectual property.

### **Strategic Management**

Optional module - (20 Credits)

The aim of the module is to provide you with an understanding of the impact of the business environment and the resources of the organisation, both human and material, on strategic planning and choice. This will enable you to consider strategic alternatives, evaluate their suitability and become aware of the complex issues involved in implementing strategy and managing strategic change.

### Business Ethics

Optional module - (20 Credits)

You'll study the nature of ethics, exploring traditional and postmodern ethical theories, and how they are applied in modern business processes. You'll study topics such as corporate social responsibility, sustainability and the environment, professionalism and integrity, ethics and technology, financial scandals, whistle blowing and other emerging issues, by reference to case studies.

### Individual Study

Optional module - (20 Credits)

The aim of the module is to provide you with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth study in an area of your choice related to a business

### Service Management

Optional module - (20 Credits)

In this module, you'll learn about the complex demands made on service management organisations and the challenges that staff within them face. You'll develop an understanding of the environments in which they operate and the different constraints placed on them. You'll also study the process of servitisation, managing the service encounter, service quality, service level, customer management and capacity management.

### Portfolio Management

Optional module - (20 Credits)

You'll study the principles of modern portfolio theory and the key components in constructing a portfolio. You'll explore the application of theory to the development of equity-based portfolios and will go on to the diversification of portfolios, to include other asset classes such as currency and bonds. You'll examine the role of derivatives in portfolio management and will analyse different methods of active portfolio management. You'll undertake an analysis of portfolio performance using various industry recognised performance attribution measures.

### New Venture Creation

Optional module - (20 Credits)

This module aims to provide a practical perspective on the development and planning processes involved in the creation of a new venture, either as a new business start-up or as a new product or service development within a public or private organisation setting. It aims to develop an understanding and awareness of business models underlying successful new business ventures, and the potential of business model innovation.

### Dissertation



### Optional module - (40 Credits)

The aim of the module is to provide you with the opportunity for the practical application of theory to a business-oriented problem and to develop your research skills.

### Organisational Change

#### Optional module - (20 Credits)

The aim of this module is to help you understand the context for change and develop a critical understanding of theories and practice related to change. This aim will be complimented by an in depth understanding of the paradigm of complexity and how this can be applied to understand organisations and organisational change.

### International Business

#### Optional module - (20 Credits)

The fast-changing domestic and global environments put constant pressure on organisations and their managers to find new and improved ways to maintain and increase performance. This module is designed to provide you with a critical understanding of the strategic issues in a global business environment. It offers a global perspective with a focus on understanding the global economy, the globalisation process, and its impact on international organisations. It will enable you to evaluate and contrast the opportunities and constraints facing businesses in different areas of the world. The module also aims to help you develop a deeper understanding of the issues faced by businesses in emerging and developing markets.

### Taxation

#### Optional module - (20 Credits)

Taxation plays an important role in society. This module provides an introduction to the most common taxes in the UK: income tax, corporation tax, VAT and capital gains tax. You'll study the basic rules of taxation and you'll explore taxation in government policy.

### **Learning and teaching quote**

This course prepares our students for a career in accounting and finance, and equips them with the necessary skills in order to develop and fulfil their intellectual and personal potentials.

### **Learning and teaching quote source**

Ahmad Alshehabi

### **Learning and teaching quote job title**

Programme Director, Accounting and Finance

### **Learning and Teaching tab 1 label**

Teaching

## **Learning and teaching tab 1 text**

Our teaching team will share with you their expert knowledge, experience and research insights during stimulating lectures, seminars and practical workshops.

You'll typically have around 12 contact hours per week, depending on your module choices, in addition to independent learning.

Seminars in smaller groups will enable you to discuss and develop your understanding of topics covered in lectures and you'll also be supported by your academic personal tutor.

In Year 2, you'll undertake a minimum of 4 weeks or 120 hours placement with an external organisation as part of the compulsory Work-based Learning module.

Your final year project will be based on a live brief from a relevant industry.

All courses are informed by the University's [\[Learning and Teaching Strategy 20152022\]\(/asset-library/Courses/Learning-and-Teaching-Strategy-2015-2022.pdf\)](#).

## **Learning and teaching tab 2 label**

Independent study

## **Learning and teaching tab 2 text**

Each week you'll need to undertake 15 hours of independent learning and assessment activity. Typically, this involves reading journal articles and books, undertaking research in the library, working on projects and preparing for coursework assignments/examinations, workshops and seminars.

Your module tutor will direct you towards specific readings and/or activities to complete.

You'll also undertake independent research during Year 2 for an Extended Essay and in Year 3 for your Dissertation. You'll work under the supervision of a member of the course team, who you'll meet with regularly.

## **Assessment text**

The course provides you with opportunities to test your understanding of the subject informally before you complete the formal assessments that count towards your final mark. Each module normally contains at least one piece of practice or 'formative' assessment for which you receive feedback from your tutor. Practice assessments are developmental and any grades you receive for them do not count towards your module mark.

There is a formal or 'summative' assessment at the end of each module. Assessment methods include written examinations and a range of coursework assessments such as essays, reports, portfolios, performance, presentations and your final year major project. The grades from formal assessments count towards your module mark.

The balance of assessment by examination and assessment by coursework depends on the optional modules you choose. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework is as follows:

## **Careers text**

Many graduates go on to study accounting at professional level. However, this exceptionally versatile degree can open doors to a variety of roles in business. Excellent mentoring by our experienced team will guide and prepare you for your first business or professional accountancy role.