

Programme Specification

MSc Regulation and Compliance (Degree Apprenticeship Scheme: PATZRCOMZZBM
Corporate - Open)

For students entering in 2020/21

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	MSc Regulation and Compliance (Degree Apprenticeship Scheme: Corporate - Open) - 36 months
Accreditation	AACSB, EQUIS
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

This practice-oriented Master's degree is intended for students currently working in financial regulation or as senior managers, risk and compliance professionals and internal auditors within the financial services industry and allied work areas. It has been designed to be combined with full-time employment and meets the non-degree apprenticeship standard for 'senior compliance/risk specialists'. It provides a sound theoretical and applied grounding in the craft of regulation and compliance and enables students to develop wider skills in research and communication skills that will prepare them to start or further a career in financial regulation or compliance.

The programme encourages students to examine regulatory structures and concepts both in theory and in the context of recent and past financial crises. Regulatory and compliance skills are developed through creating a holistic and deep understanding of financial firms and markets, the interests of stakeholders, firm business models and strategies, risk-taking and management, culture and ethics, accountability and governance. Students will develop the analytical and technical skills required to challenge current and past thinking on the role of financial institutions and markets; evaluate how regulators and compliance can ensure that financial firms operate in the best interests of all stakeholders; and understand the need for, and likely consequences of, reforms to financial regulation and within firms. The programme is designed to tackle these topics from the perspectives of both regulators and industry, as regulators will benefit from a better understanding of how firms approach compliance and risk management and vice versa.

During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills in line with the University's Strategy for Learning and Teaching. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to communication (both written and oral where students will have the opportunity to improve their communication skills both in the preparation of written assignments and during the interaction with their classmates in the

online discussions that support their learning); interpersonal skills, learning skills, numeracy, self-management, information handling and the use of IT, team working and problem-solving, and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

Module information

The programme comprises 180 credits in nine compulsory modules listed below.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
MQM1RC01	Stakeholders and the Business of Finance	20	M
MQM1RC03	Core Topics in Financial Regulation	20	M
MQM1RC02	Financial Markets and Instruments for Regulators	20	M
MQM2RC04	Governance, Ethics, Culture and Accountability in Financial Services	20	M
MQM2RC05	Strategic Approaches to the Business of Finance	20	M
MQM2RC06	Advanced Topics in Financial Regulation	20	M
MQM3RC07	Research Skills and Methods for Practitioners	20	M
MQM3RC08	Research Project	20	M
MQM3RC09	Being a Reflective Practitioner	20	M

There are no optional modules in this programme.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme is only taught as a part-time course.

Additional costs of the programme

Online access to core reading will be provided and students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of other books or resources with the module convenor before purchasing. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Business School Academic Resource Centre.

Optional modules

None

Placement opportunities

There are currently no opportunities for placements or to study abroad.

Study abroad opportunities

None

Teaching and learning delivery

The programme will be delivered through a variety of taught sessions and self-directed learning via the Canvas Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Rigorous classroom teaching will be provided by skilled lecturers with either academic or practitioner experience, to ensure all learning is inspired by cutting-edge academic research while also being topical, well-grounded in reality, and relevant to the workplace. These taught sessions will build upon extensive pre-and post-class reading and interactive activities delivered via the VLE. This will provide students with a sound theoretical foundation while practical case studies and interactive student discussions or presentations will encourage them to refine and express their own opinions. In the third year, students will also develop their independent research skills in order to conduct a short but original research project and also reflect on their learning and how they have applied it in the workplace.

The method of delivery varies among modules but will consist of a series of lectures and seminar activities, delivered in full-day blocks at a central London location or the University's Greenlands or Whiteknights Campuses. The VLE also provides the capability to deliver sessions remotely where appropriate. The research project module will also include individual meetings with an academic supervisor. Out-of-class support will be provided by the Apprenticeship tutor via the Canvas VLE.

The part-time programme is taught over three 12-week terms each academic year.

Accreditation details

The MSc is not accredited although students taking the MSc as part of the level 6 apprenticeship for Senior Risk and Compliance Specialists will study for an appropriate professional qualification.

Assessment

Modules are assessed via written examination and/or coursework depending on the nature of the module. At a programme level, this has been designed to ensure that they include a variety of assessment methods (written examinations, coursework essays and reports, individual research projects, and group/individual presentations). For more details, see the individual programme MDFs.

Students taking the MSc as part of the level 6 apprenticeship for Senior Risk and Compliance Specialists will also need to complete a professional qualification to be agreed with the employer organisation from an approved list.

Progression

None

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degrees

To pass the MSc students must gain an average mark of 50 or more overall in 180 credits. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and for all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.*

Students who gain an average mark of 70 or more overall and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Distinction. Those gaining an average mark of 60 or more overall and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for a Merit.

For PG Diplomas

To pass the Postgraduate Diploma students must gain an average mark of 50 or more in 120 credits. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits and for all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits.*

Students who gain an average mark of 70 or more and have no mark below 40 will be eligible for the award of a Distinction. Those gaining an average mark of 60 or more and have no mark below 40 will be awarded eligible for a Merit.

For PG Certificates

To pass the Postgraduate Certificate students must gain an average mark of 50 or more in 60 credits. In addition the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.*

**The provision to permit a candidate to be passed overall with a profile containing marks below 40 is made subject to the condition that there is evidence that the candidate applied his or herself to the work of those modules with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause*

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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