Programme Specification

BSc Finance with Foundation **UCAS Code: N3F1**

For students entering Foundation year in September 2026 **UFFINFY**

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	4 years
Accreditation	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) EFMD Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Finance

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in the financial services industry. Students on this programme will gain a deep understanding of financial concepts, markets and the financial services industry in general. The programme has a practical focus and it explores real-world financial applications. Students have the opportunity to learn about various specialized areas of Finance and can tailor their studies to suit their interests.

Students begin the programme on the Foundation Year (Part 0), learning the knowledge and skills required to undergraduate study in Finance in Part 1. Part 1 focuses on the fundamental concepts of Finance. After Part 1, students would have the option to stay on the programme, or they might wish to switch to one of the pathways and specialize in one of the following areas: (1) Investments; (2) FinTech; (3) Sustainable Finance or (4) International Business. After Part 2, students can choose to continue with Part 3 or transfer onto a programme which offers a Study Abroad Year or Placement Year. This provides an opportunity to undertake an additional year either in a work placement or studying in an overseas university. Additionally, the knowledge and skills gained within the programme offer the students the opportunity to continue their studies at graduate level.

Foundation year:	Students will develop the foundational transferable skills which will help them succeed in their later studies. Modules will introduce students to core concepts in business and management and develop their confidence and knowledge of mathematics and statistics.

Part 1:	The aim of Part 1 is to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of Finance and practical tools that they will need to cope with the challenges of the fast-paced financial services industry. The students will learn about financial markets, Ethics in the financial industry, concepts of Economics and Accounting, as well as about Quantitative Techniques in Finance.
Part 2:	The aim of Part 2 is to provide students with a deeper understanding of the core concepts in portfolio management, financial modelling and corporate finance. Also, students can choose from a wide range of optional modules.
Placement/Study abroad year:	Students may be permitted to transfer to a programme with Study Abroad / Placement Year.
Part 3:	The aim of Part 3 is to provide students with an understanding of more advanced topics in Finance, such as risk management of derivative products. It also gives students the opportunity to specialise in some of the most exciting areas of finance according to their preferences and professional aspirations.

Programme Learning Outcomes - BSc Finance with Foundation

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	Demonstrate an appropriate academic knowledge of the fundamental concepts at the core of Finance as well as in specific areas of Finance, such as Investments, FinTech, Sustainable Finance or International Business, for students wishing to specialize;
2	Analyse qualitative information and process quantitative data;
3	Demonstrate critical thinking skills;
4	Recognise and value diversity and multiculturalism by engaging in team-working;
5	Discuss their roles and responsibilities as individuals to support organisational activity which encourages positive outcomes and results in a fairer and inclusive society;
6	Explain the global context in which organisations operate;
7	Recognise the need for continuing professional learning and development throughout their studies and career;
8	Demonstrate confident, credible communication regardless of the mode of transmission;
9	Evaluate and/or apply leading edge practices in finance;
10	Discuss and/or demonstrate sound business practice;

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

In addition to the learning outcomes stated above if you are on a placement or study abroad programme you will have the opportunity to develop the following learning outcome:
N/A

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Foundation modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
EN0LFC	Learning for Change: Academic Skills and Sustainable Development	40	0
IC0WDF	Conquer the World of Data for Finance	20	0
MM0TOP	Transforming Organisations Through People: Making Work Work	20	0
MM0TWB	The World of Business	40	0

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AC117	World of Work	20	4
IC101	Introductory Securities and Markets	20	4
IC102	Introductory Finance/Trading Simulation I	20	4
IC103	Introductory Economics for Business and Finance	20	4
IC104	Introductory Quantitative Techniques for Business and Finance	20	4
MM1F27	Business in Practice: Accounting for Managers	20	4

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
IC201	Corporate Finance	20	5
IC204	Portfolio Management	20	5
IC212	Financial Modelling	20	5

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in Henley Business School or modules from elsewhere in the University.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
IC303	Management of Risk	20	6
IC317	Derivative Securities	20	6

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in Henley Business School or modules from elsewhere in the University.

Placement opportunities

Students may be permitted to transfer to a programme with Study Abroad / Placement Year.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught primarily through a mixture of lectures, tutorials, seminars, computer-based workshops and trading sessions, depending on the modules you choose. Some modules may include group work.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)

European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS)

Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework, tests, practicals and oral examinations. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

Foundation Year

To achieve a threshold performance at Part 0, a student will normally be required to:

(i) obtain an overall weighted average of 50% over all modules taken in Part 0; and

(ii) obtain a mark of at least 40% in all individual modules.

In order to pass Part 0 of a specific degree programme and progress from Part 0 to Part 1 of an Ordinary Degree, Bachelor's or an Integrated Master's programme, a student will normally be required to:

(iii) achieve a threshold performance at Part 0

Upon successful completion of Part 0, students may be permitted to transfer to other programmes within Henley Business School.

Part 1
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 1, a student will normally be required to:
(i) Obtain an overall weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1;
(ii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits taken in Part 1; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in modules amounting to 120 credits. (A Fail in a Pass/Fail module will be treated as not meeting the minimum threshold requirement for progression or classification. Pass/fail modules are excluded from weighted average calculations but must be passed to avoid failure of the Part or degree.)

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance;

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

(i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
(ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits. (A Fail in a Pass/Fail module will be treated as not meeting the minimum threshold requirement for progression or classification. Pass/fail modules are excluded from weighted average calculations but must be passed to avoid failure of the Part or degree.)

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Classification

Bachelors' degrees
The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Four year programmes:
Part 2: one-third
Part 3: two-thirds

Details of the classification method is given in detail in the Assessment Handbook under:

- Section 17: Awards (Bachelor's), or
- Section 18: Awards (Integrated Master's programmes). Students who do not progress to Part 4 of the Integrated Master's will normally be subject to the method detailed under Section 17: Awards (Bachelor's)

Please note that there may be a specific version of the above for your year of entry.

Additional costs of the programme

The cost of textbooks and recommended calculator is around £500 over the duration of the programme.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2026.

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.

BSc Finance with Foundation for students entering Foundation year in session 2026/27
10 March 2026
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