WELCOME

I’d like to offer you a warm welcome to the University of Aberdeen Business School. At the Business School, we always strive to build our courses on the latest research and the online MSc Finance is no different. When you join the programme, you’ll be joining a school with a strong expertise in many fields of business and finance research.

We’re home to a whole host of subject-specialists in management, accounting, economics and, most importantly for you, finance. With a wealth of expertise in fields like corporate finance, markets, derivatives and trading, our Finance department has the strength and capacity to bring additional knowledge to our MSc programme that you wouldn’t necessarily get in other kinds of universities or in another business school.

Another thing that sets us apart is our international reach and approach. We have an international staff bringing different perspectives from a variety of backgrounds and this diversity is something we harness to provide better courses to our students. We publish in international journals, attend conferences around the world and actively contribute to the ever-growing body of finance research globally.

It’s this huge body of knowledge that we aim to use to help you grow as a finance professional within the programme and succeed in the industry. That’s something I think we can be proud of at the University of Aberdeen, and something you can be proud of when you take part in the programme — you’re joining this international community, you are becoming part of the thinking and this research-led approach that moves people and industries forward.
ABOUT US

“Transforming the world with greater knowledge and learning.”

OUR VISION

Founded in 1495, the University of Aberdeen is one of only six ancient UK universities, along with Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews.

It’s our mission to enrich people’s lives through teaching and research - social, cultural and economic impact is at the heart of everything we do.

We’ve also made it our aim to provide a personalised student experience, allowing students to thrive in a culture of equality and diversity.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

ALUMNI IN MORE THAN 190 COUNTRIES

500 YEARS

80,000 ALUMNI

5 NOBEL PRIZES

OUR RESEARCH

Our research continues to have a measurable impact on the world. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework, 76% of our research was rated world-leading or internationally excellent.

#2 IN THE UK FOR RESEARCH IMPACT IN BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES*

* Ranking from the most recent Research Excellence Framework
WHY CHOOSE US?

#1 100% ONLINE

Unlike many other online degrees, the online University of Aberdeen programmes have absolutely no face-to-face, residential or attendance-based elements - which means there's no need to travel or take time off work.

#2 UNLIMITED TUITION

While on the programme, you’ll have continuous ongoing communication with your subject specialist tutor using our in-built messaging system, so that you can quickly and easily get in touch without having to rely solely on email or phone contact.

Here you’ll be able to post as many messages as you need to, view your entire discussion and receive a response from your tutor in less than 24 hours, Monday to Friday.

#3 UNLIMITED SUPPORT

Our Student Support team will be on hand to help you every step of the way for the duration of your online studies.

Your Programme Coordinator is dedicated to helping you keep your studies on track. You can message them from within the study site or reach them immediately by phone during office hours. Should you need it, the technical support is also just a click or a phone call away.

#4 FULLY FLEXIBLE

Many online MSc programmes require you to log-in at specific times for scheduled or “live” lectures and tutorials – we know that our students have busy lives, so the MSc Finance is designed to completely fit around your own schedule.

There are no fixed lectures and tutorials, allowing you to fit the week’s study material into your own timetable and communicate with your tutors at times that suit you.

#5 NO ADDED COST

When you join the MSc Finance, you can expect no additional costs, paid “add-ons” or exam fees – all content, resources and support are included in your tuition fee, regardless of how you choose to pay.
As a student of the University of Aberdeen, you’ll earn your MSc Finance completely online, from wherever you are in the world, with no face-to-face classes to attend.

Our online study platform has been specifically designed to enable you to:

- Log in at any time, from any device
- Access all of your courses and learning materials
- Benefit from unlimited one-to-one feedback, guidance and support
- Interact with your fellow students in secure online forums
- Receive ongoing feedback and course grades
- Message our dedicated student and technical support teams at any time

THE DASHBOARD
This is your personal hub for organising your studies. It includes a calendar, to-do list, notifications stream and an overview of the other students in your cohort.

LEARNING PATH
This is where you’ll access your learning materials, divided into sections (which you can bookmark for quick access later). You’ll also find informal activities designed to get you thinking about each topic in more detail.

THE STUDIO
The Studio is where you’ll collaborate to undertake group activities. Here you can upload course work into shared albums, create and collaborate on shared documents, and provide feedback on each other’s work.

THE FORUMS
This is where you’ll discuss ideas and network with your fellow students. You can create topics at any time for group discussion, and in some courses you’ll find that forum activities form part of your learning experience.

YOUR TUTORIAL AREA
This is where you’ll upload your coursework and receive ongoing, one-to-one feedback and advice from your tutors. You can message your tutors at any time and expect a response within 24 hours, Monday to Friday.
WHAT YOU’LL LEARN

MASTER CORE DISCIPLINES
As an MSc Finance student, you’ll gain a deeper knowledge of core financial theory, developing key skills in areas such as corporate finance, portfolio analysis, asset valuation, derivatives and risk management.

Key Courses
Corporate Finance, Asset Pricing and Portfolio Management, Derivatives and Risk Management.

EARN CREDITS FOR CFA STUDY
If you choose, you can earn credits towards your MSc Finance by studying for the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) credential - whether you choose to sit the exams or not.

If you do choose the courses which include CFA study, you’ll benefit from training and exam preparation from leading CFA prep provider Fitch Learning.

Key Courses
Professional Finance A, Professional Finance B (both optional)
PERFORM IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS
Learn how to assess a company’s performance for investors, using Excel and other econometric software to carry out detailed financial analysis.

You’ll learn how to use the key valuation approaches in finance, while also gaining an understanding of their assumptions and limitations.

Key Courses
Financial Analysis, Fixed Income Analysis

EXPLORE INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS
Explore recent and future areas of development in finance, in areas such as Fintech, Big Data, Regulation and International Banking.

You’ll develop an understanding of the modern banking industry and the latest evolutions in financial technology, and will also have the option to explore international finance and recent changes in regulation.

Key Courses
Fintech and Big Data, International Finance (optional), International Banking, Financial and Banking Regulation (optional)

PRACTICE ETHICAL AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCE
See how your decisions impact global financial markets as you become familiar with financial codes of conduct and corporate citizenship.

You’ll gain an appreciation of the implications of corporate financing decisions, and learn how microeconomic theory can be used to consider the welfare effects of price changes.

Key Courses
Corporate Finance, Economics for Finance, Fintech and Big Data, Financial and Banking Regulation (optional)

UNDERSTAND FINANCIAL MARKETS
Develop an in-depth understanding of how financial markets function, exploring international issues and the causes of financial crises.

Key Courses
Accounting for Finance, Corporate Finance, Economics for Finance, International Finance (optional)
The MSc Finance is assessed entirely by coursework. We believe that assessment should be a core part of your learning — allowing you to use your knowledge, skills and experience in context.

There are three types of assessment, each of which will mirror real-life professional practice:

**THEORY INTO PRACTICE**
Critique and adapt a new theory or framework in your own professional context.

**REFLECTIVE PRACTICE**
Reflect on your learning experience and acquired knowledge to advance your financial management skills.

**PRACTICAL WORK**
Apply knowledge and tools, for example by valuing a company or carrying out an econometric analysis.
OUR STUDENTS

72% INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

34 AVERAGE AGE

AGE RANGE: 24 - 53

48/52 % FEMALE/MALE

STUDENTS BY INDUSTRY:

- 28% Finance, Accounting & Banking
- 12% Government & Non-Profit
- 12% IT & Technology
- 12% Healthcare, Medicine & Pharmaceuticals
- 8% Energy & Utilities
- 8% Consumer Goods
- 8% Transport, Shipping and Logistics
- 4% Sales
- 4% Real Estate
- 4% Hospitality, Entertainment, Travel & Tourism

A SELECTION OF THE COMPANIES OUR MSC FINANCE STUDENTS REPRESENT:

[Image of company logos]
The MSc Finance attracts students from a wide variety of professions. Here’s a selection of the positions held by our current students when they applied to the programme:

- Project Officer
- Commercial account manager
- Head of Value Chain Strategy
- Executive Director
- Associate Director
- Sales Executive
- Manager of Financial applications
- Engineer
- Real Estate Manager
- Director of Sales and Marketing
- Tax Consultant
- Financial Controller
- Junior Accounts Assistant
- Regional Operations Manager
- Global Assignment Consultant
- Financial Analyst
- Inventory analyst associate

STUDENTS BY PREVIOUS DEGREE FIELD:

- 32% Business
- 28% Accounting & Finance
- 12% Professional Qualification/No Degree
- 8% Social Sciences
- 8% Engineering
- 4% IT & Technology
- 4% Law
- 4% Natural Sciences
PAUL-OLIVIER KLEIN
MSc FINANCE PROGRAMME LEAD

Paul-Olivier Klein is a Lecturer in Finance at the University of Aberdeen Business School and the Programme Lead for the online MSc Finance programme. He holds a Ph.D. in Finance from the University of Strasbourg, France, having previously completed Master’s degrees in Corporate and Market Finance and Islamic Finance from the same institution.

His research interests cover corporate finance, fixed-income, banking, macrofinance, Islamic finance, liquidity creation, stock markets and emerging markets in China and Malaysia. His works have notably been published in the Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization, in The World Economy and in the Economics of Transition. Over the course of his Ph.D. studies, he was a visiting researcher at the University of Konstanz, HEC Montréal and the Bank of Finland.

In his role as Finance lecturer at the Business School, Paul-Olivier teaches courses in Portfolio Analysis and Financial Analysis to our postgraduate finance students, and Financial Markets and Regulation to our undergraduate students. As your Programme Lead for the online MSc Finance, he has academic oversight of the programme and I’m responsible for ensuring the overall academic integrity of the curriculum.

ANGELA BLACK
COURSE COORDINATOR, INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

Angela Black is a Professor of Finance at the University of Aberdeen and the Course Coordinator for the International Finance course on the MSc Finance programme. She specialises in teaching business finance, corporate finance, investment analysis, international finance and portfolio analysis; and has taught these subjects on undergraduate, postgraduate and MBA programmes.

Angela enjoys working closely with finance professionals and has been a pension trustee and an investment adviser to professional boards; She has also chaired charitable trust committees. Her research interests lie in the area of asset pricing, corporate finance and the relationship between stock markets and the “real” economy. Her publications include more than 26 research papers in peer reviewed journals and have she has written articles on personal finance for the media. Angela’s work has been cited in the Financial Times. Editorial responsibilities include associate editor for the Journal of Banking and Finance, the International Review of Finance and the British Accounting Review.

JEREMIE BERTRAND
COURSE DEVELOPER, FINANCIAL AND BANKING REGULATION

Jeremie Bertrand is a research engineer at EDHEC Business School in France and a Course Developer for the Financial and Banking Regulation course on the online MSc Finance programme. Jeremie’s research interests focus on the issues of regulation of FinTech and lending, and he has conducted extensive research on the risk of discrimination in FinTech algorithms.

Regulations will impact you on a daily basis as a finance professional, and Jeremie believes it’s especially important for students to study regulation because the industry standards are evolving year on year, especially in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.
FRANK HONG LIU
COURSE COORDINATOR, PROFESSIONAL FINANCE

Frank Hong Liu, a professor of banking and finance at the University of Aberdeen Business School. He was previously a lecturer and senior lecturer at the University of Glasgow and a research associate at Bangor University. In addition to his role at the Business School, he also holds visiting positions at Stern Business School (New York University), Columbia Business School (Columbia University) and Erasmus School of Economics (Erasmus University Rotterdam).

Frank’s areas of focus are bank regulation, systemic risk, the impact of banking on the real economy, microfinance and security issuance. His recent research focuses on examining how regulation and policy changes may have an unintended consequence on stakeholders. These changes vary from bank regulation, government policy to the financial industries, and even policy change on the second-child in China.


OLGA KLINKOWSKA
COURSE COORDINATOR, FIXED INCOME ANALYSIS

Olga Klinkowska is a Lecturer in Business Finance and Corporate Finance at the University of Aberdeen Business School, and the Course Coordinator for the Fixed Income Analysis course on the online MSc Finance programme. Olga’s research interests are mainly focused on Asset Pricing and Empirical Finance, although she also has an interest in Financial Econometrics and Applied Econometrics.

Her research works have covered topics including stock return unpredictability, the relationship between stock prices and commodity prices, and consumption risk in government bond returns - and these have been published in the Journal of Asset Management, Journal of Forecasting, SSRN Electronic Journal and the Journal of Empirical Finance.

ROBERT DUNCAN
COURSE DEVELOPER, FINTECH AND BIG DATA

Robert Duncan is a Lecturer in Finance at the University of Aberdeen Business School and Course Developer for the Fintech and Big Data course on the online MSc Finance programme. After qualifying as an accountant in 1975, he then spent decades in industry with a particular interest in the application of computing systems to both management and financial information.

Robert has developed a range of tailored courses for a variety of companies to ensure that they and their staff could take full advantage of computer systems, and in 2011 he received my MA in Computing before going on to earn my PhD in Computing Science in March 2016, with a specialty in cyber security in the cloud. His research interests are focused on developing cyber security solutions for industry which are particularly geared towards management and finance.
We believe that students who choose to gain their degree online should receive more support than on-campus students, not less – which is why we place such an emphasis on providing an exceptional level of online support and tuition.

As an online student with The University of Aberdeen Business School you have unlimited access to one-to-one tuition through a private online discussion. This is an ongoing communication between you and your tutor which you can refer back to at any time during your studies. You can communicate with your tutor at any time, and as often as you need to – there is no limit to the number of questions you can ask or to the number of messages you can post.

Student–tutor communication is asynchronous, which means you don’t have to login at a specific time and you can take time to consider your questions and comments. Asynchronous communication also allows your tutor to review your work and provide you with meaningful feedback and advice. You can normally expect to receive a response from your tutor to any message that you post within 24 hours, Monday to Friday.

Meet Your Programme Coordinator

EWAN CONNOR
MSc FINANCE
PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

As the Programme Coordinator for the MSc Finance distance learning programme, Ewan will be your first point of contact for any non-subject specific enquiries and he’s focused on helping you to succeed.

Ewan has oversight of all aspects of the programme, and will therefore be able to provide you with any advice and guidance you might need for the duration of your MSc Finance Studies.
**FEES & FUNDING**

**FEES**

The standard tuition fee for the MSc Finance programme is £15,900*.

There are three payment options.

Depending on where you reside, you could be eligible for loan funding or other financial help. University of Aberdeen alumni are also entitled to a discount on tuition fees.

Pay per Module:
- 12 Instalments of £1,325*
- (one instalment every two months)

- 3 Instalments of £5,300*

- 1 Instalment of £15,900*

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**CFA FEES**

If you choose the courses which include CFA study, there is an additional fee for the learning materials delivered by FitchLearning:

- CFA 1: £640
- CFA 2: £750

Payments are due at the start of Blocks 1 and 2.

**Please note:** If you choose to study the courses which include CFA material, you’ll still need to arrange and pay for your own CFA exams should you choose to sit them. Visit the CFA website for the latest exam fees and dates and to find your nearest test centre.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The University of Aberdeen not only offers me the flexibility I needed, it also has an excellent reputation. The support I get is outstanding.

Silvana Dardikman
Real Estate Manager, Switzerland

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

The Msc Finance is open to applicants of any background. You can enrol even if your undergraduate degree is in a different discipline, but it is beneficial to provide evidence of numerical or quantitative skills.

We assess all candidates on an individual basis, but to be eligible you’ll normally meet the following requirements:

- UK second-class honours degree or equivalent
- Non specific professional experience is required
- English language skills (assessed during admissions)

*If we need evidence of your English language skills, we may ask you to take one of the recognised tests such as IELTS.

To find out if you’re eligible, visit our website and use our quick eligibility checker to get feedback from an Admissions Advisor within 24 hours:

Check your Eligibility
GET IN TOUCH
For more information on any of our programmes, please contact us by phone or email:

+44 (0)1224 515270
admissions-onlineidi@abdn.ac.uk

UPLOAD YOUR CV
If you would like initial feedback on your eligibility, simply upload your CV and an Admissions Advisor will respond within 24 hours (Monday-Friday).

online.abdn.ac.uk/business/masters-in-finance