

**1. Programme Title(s) and UCAS code(s):**

BSc Financial Economics L115  
BSc Financial Economics with a Year Abroad\*  
BSc Financial Economics with a Year in Industry\*

\*Students may only enter these degree programmes by transferring after the end of year 1

**2. Awarding body or institution:**

University of Leicester

**3. a) Mode of study:**

Full Time

**b) Type of study:**

Campus based

**4. Registration periods:**

BSc Financial Economics:  
The normal period of registration is three years  
The maximum period is five years

BSc Financial Economics with a Year Abroad /Year in Industry:  
The normal period of registration is four years.  
The maximum period of registration is six years.

**5. Typical entry requirements:**

Three A levels normally considered as a minimum. Two AS levels or vocational AS levels will be considered in place of an A level. General Studies and Critical Thinking not accepted.

A/AS Levels: For BA degrees, ABB or equivalent including Maths GCSE level grade B. For BSc degrees ABB or equivalent including Maths A-Level grade B.

Access to HE course: Pass kite-marked course with a substantial number of level 3 credits at distinction, normally a minimum of 30 with some in Business or Economics. Students should also have GCSE Maths grade B for the BA or A-level Maths Grade B for the BSc.

European Baccalaureate: Pass with 77% overall for BA. Pass with 77% overall including 80% in Maths for BSc.

International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma with 30 points and 5 in SL maths for BA. Pass with 30 points and 5 in HL Maths for BSc.

Cypriot Apolytirion: 18.5/20 overall including 17 in Maths, plus grade B in 1 A-level. For BSc, additional A-level needs to be in Maths.

French Baccalaureat: 13/20 overall with 13 in Maths for the BA only. Students taking the international option 12/20 overall with 13 in maths for the BA and 13 in Advanced maths for the BSc.

Lithuanian Brandos Atestatas: Pass with grade 8.5 overall, 75% on maths state exam is also required for the BSc.

Chinese first year degree course: Normally, Pass with an average of 85% with good grades in relevant subjects plus mathematics equivalent to A level grade B for BSc.

#### **6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:**

Direct entry into the second year may be possible for those with advanced qualifications strictly comparable with our degree structure.

#### **7. Programme aims:**

The programme aims to:

- To provide a specialist in-depth understanding of the application of mathematics and statistics to economics and finance through progressive training of students with a background in mathematics.
- To prepare students for employment specifically geared towards the finance sector such as finance and accountancy as well as quantitatively orientated careers in financial economics, research and forecasting.
- To develop skills of critical analysis, problem solving, argument and presentation.
- To provide the key skills relevant for further study at a graduate level.
- To give students following the BSc Financial Economics with a Year Abroad programme the experience of learning in a different cultural environment.
- To provide students following the BSc Financial Economics with a Year in Industry programme with opportunities to obtain relevant work experience and support them in developing a portfolio to demonstrate learning outcomes. Also to enable these students to learn directly about business and the professional application of their studies.
- To develop in students a detailed knowledge of core areas in financial economics at progressively rising levels of analytical and technical complexity.
- To introduce students to techniques of financial economics (such as derivatives pricing, risk management methods and portfolio management).
- To develop in students an ability to use financial software and data sources.

#### **8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:**

- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Economics:  
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Economics.pdf>
- University Employability Strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Development Review Report (November 2012)
- External Examiners' Reports
- First Destination Survey
- Student feedback (NSS 2016)

## 9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</b>		
<b>(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge</b>		
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of the principles underlying Economic/financial analysis and core issues in micro and macroeconomics.</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of mathematical statistics and their application to economics and finance.</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of the application of mathematics to economics and finance.</p>	<p>Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, tutorials, seminars, computer workshops, provision of reading lists and set texts.</p>	<p>Formative assessment: Set exercises and problems, assignments (essays and problems), individual presentations, projects.</p> <p>Summative assessment: Exams, research projects.</p>
<b>(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques</b>		
<p>Demonstrate the ability to manipulate economic, mathematical and statistical equations.</p> <p>Use a range of statistical and econometric software packages designed for the estimation and hypothesis testing of models and theories in economics and finance.</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to apply economic/financial/mathematical theories and techniques in a work place setting (Year in Industry variant only).*</p> <p><i>*The extent to which a student will have the opportunity to do this will vary according to the type of placement.</i></p>	<p>Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, tutorials, seminars, computer workshops, provision of reading lists and set texts.</p> <p>Years 2 and 3: Tutorials, computer workshops, provision of reading lists and set texts.</p> <p>Developing the ability to apply economic/financial/mathematical theories and concepts to real world situations within the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Set exercises and problems, assignments (essays and problems), individual presentations, projects.</p> <p>Summative: Exams, research projects.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>
<b>(iii) Critical analysis of key issues</b>		
<p>Analyse, evaluate and interpret statistical information relating to economics and finance. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of quantitative approaches to economic/financial analysis and research.</p> <p>Perform critical and analytical appraisal of economic/financial arguments and proposals and show the ability to comment and advise on economic events and issues.</p>	<p>Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, tutorial/classes, seminars, computer practical sessions, provision of reading lists and set texts.</p>	<p>Formative: Set written exercises (essays and problems), and computing exercises, assignments and problems.</p> <p>Summative: Exams, research projects.</p>

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<b>(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material</b>		
Clearly arrange and present sets of data relating to economic/financial and statistical concepts.  Report a research exercise.	Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, tutorials/classes, computer practical sessions, provision of module outlines, Study Skills Support material and project guidelines.	Formative: Group & individual computing projects and presentation, essays and assignments.  Summative: Group and individual research projects.
<b>(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight</b>		
Formulate and test concepts and hypotheses.  Plan, conduct and write a computer-based statistical report either directed or on an area chosen by his/herself.	Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, computing practical sessions, tutorial/classes, provision of reading list and set texts.  Years 2 and 3; lectures, tutorial/classes, computer practical sessions, provision of module outlines, Study Skills Support material and project guidelines.	Formative: Set written and computing exercises and problems, assignments, individual presentations, individual research projects.  Summative: Exams, group computing project and Applied Econometrics Project.
<b>(vi) Other discipline specific competencies</b>		
<b>(b) Transferable skills</b>		
<b>(i) Oral communication</b>		
Oral presentation of economic/financial concepts, arguments and issues and discussion of statistical work.  General presentational skills.  Application of oral communication skills within the work environment and in presentation (Year in Industry variant only).	Years 1, 2 and 3: Tutorials, seminars and classes.  Year 1: Study Skills Programme and Study Skills Support material.  Years 2 and 3: Training session on presentation skills.  Developing oral communication skills in the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).	Formative: Presentation of answers to set exercises and problems in year 1.  Summative: Oral presentations with visual aids in year 3.  Reflective log and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).
<b>(ii) Written communication</b>		
Produce clear written, graphical and quantitative expressions of general arguments and specific analysis.  Application of written communication skills within the work environment and in report writing (Year in Industry variant only).	Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, tutorials, classes and seminars, Study Skills Programme and Study Skills Support material.  Developing written communication skills in the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).	Formative: Set exercises and problems, assignments (essays and problems).  Summative: Exams, research projects.  Reflective log and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(iii) Information technology</b>		
<p>Demonstrate use of C &amp; IT in word processing, use of the internet, data bases, spreadsheets, specialist packages for data collection, problem solving, and presentation of ideas.</p> <p>Demonstrate use of C &amp; IT in processing economic data and in solving economic/financial and statistical problems.</p> <p>Application of information technology skills within the work environment and in presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Years 1, 2 and 3: Induction/Study Skills Programme, lectures, computer practical sessions/classes.</p> <p>Years 2 and 3: Lectures, computer practical sessions/workshops, tutorials/classes.</p> <p>Developing IT skills in the work environment through project work and student portfolio (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Set exercises and problems, assignments/essays, use of WinEcon.</p> <p>Summative: Assessed work through computing classes, group and individual research projects.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>
<b>(iv) Numeracy</b>		
<p>Demonstrate numerical, mathematical and statistical skills appropriate outside the field of economics and finance.</p> <p>Application of numeracy skills within the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Year 1: Lectures, tutorials, computer workshops.</p> <p>Developing numeracy skills in the work environment through project work (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Set exercises, problems and use of computing packages, e.g. WinEcon.</p> <p>Summative: Exams.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>
<b>(v) Team working</b>		
<p>Show the ability to work in groups both with and without teaching and direct supervision.</p> <p>Application of team building skills within the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Years 1, 2, and 3: Tutorials, seminars, workshops, computing practical sessions.</p> <p>Developing team building skills in the work environment through project work (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Tutorial, classes and practical sessions.</p> <p>Summative: Group projects and presentations.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>
<b>(vi) Problem solving</b>		
<p>Demonstrate problem recognition, formulation and solution.</p> <p>Show the ability to recognise problems in unfamiliar settings and apply appropriate methodology.</p> <p>Show an appreciation of the importance of abstraction of essential features of complex systems.</p> <p>Application of problem solving skills within the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Years 1, 2, and 3: Lectures, tutorials, seminars, computing practical sessions.</p> <p>Developing problem solving skills in the work environment through project work and applying theories and concepts to real world situations (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Set exercises and problems, assignments and essays, computing exercises and problems.</p> <p>Summative: Exams, research projects.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(vii) Information handling</b>		
<p>Select and apply scientific based methods in the solution of problems.</p> <p>Search for information and evaluate its use in a chosen problem.</p> <p>Application of information handling skills within the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Lectures, statistics classes, computer-based projects, group projects.</p> <p>Tutorials, computer-based projects.</p> <p>Developing data handling in the work environment through project work (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Statistics classes, tutorials.</p> <p>Summative: Research projects.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>
<b>(viii) Skills for lifelong learning</b>		
<p>Demonstrate the capacity to learn in both familiar and unfamiliar situations.</p> <p>Illustrate the ability to absorb and apply new ideas and concepts and the ability to combine them with prior understanding.</p> <p>Show the ability to work in groups and independently.</p> <p>Demonstrate self-organisation, self-motivation and resourcefulness.</p> <p>Show time management skills through the ability to meet deadlines.</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of the use of various sources of knowledge.</p> <p>Demonstrate ability to learn in a different cultural environment (Year Abroad variant only).</p> <p>Application of a variety of employability and transferable skills (some outlined already above) within the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to think reflectively about personal and professional development (Year in Industry variant only).</p> <p>Demonstrate professional behaviour in the work environment (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Year 1: Induction/Study Skills Programme and Study Skills Support material.</p> <p>Years 1, 2 and 3: Lectures, tutorials, seminars, computer practical sessions, provision of module handouts and reading lists.</p> <p>Developing a variety of employability and transferable skills through responsibilities associated with their work placement (Year in Industry variant only).</p>	<p>Formative: Set exercises and problems, assignments and essays, computing exercises, problems and projects, oral presentations and group projects.</p> <p>Summative: Exams, research projects, presentations on projects.</p> <p>Reflective log, skills audit, employer feedback and final report/presentation (Year in Industry variant only).</p>

## **10. Progression points:**

Senate Regulation 5: Regulations governing undergraduate programmes of study:

<http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/documents/senatereg5-undergraduates>

In order to proceed to the second year of their studies, students must have passed, with a mark of at least 35% (and an overall credit weighted average of 40% during the year), all core modules. It should be noted that no first year students can proceed and resit.

In order to proceed to the third year of their studies, students must have passed, with a mark of at least 35% (and an overall credit weighted average of 40% during the year), all core modules. It should be noted that no second year student can proceed and resit any of the following modules: EC2000, EC2002, EC2024, EC2032.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

**Year Abroad variant:** Students may only enter this degree programme by transferring after the end of their first-year. The condition for admission to the scheme will be an average mark of no less than 55% in year one. Students who meet these conditions will be invited to apply at the end of their first year of studies, following the Department's June Exam Board. Students will then be expected to maintain average marks of no less than 60% in the first semester of their second year, and that they do not have any failed modules across the second year as a whole. Progression decisions made at the end of semester one should be treated as 'provisional' (as with assessments) and subject to confirmation by the Exam Board in the summer. This will include exceptional cases too.

**Year in Industry variant:** Students may only enter this variant by transferring at the end of the first-year. The condition for admission to the scheme will be an average mark of no less than 55% in year one, with no failures. Students who meet these conditions will be invited to apply at the end of their first year of studies, following the Department's June Exam Board.

## **11. Scheme of assessment:**

The programme follows the standard scheme of award and classification set out in Senate Regulation 5.

## **12. Special features:**

- Intended for students who wish to take advantage of their background in mathematics.
- Development of learning and communications skills in groups of various sizes.
- Study of core financial modules in years 2 and 3 with optional choices in the final year of further financial modules such as financial econometrics, financial derivatives and international finance.
- Training in the use of financial and statistics software as well as presentation-orientated communications and information technology.
- Experience in the design and implementation of statistical project work.
- A formal employability skills development programme in year 1
- The option of a four-year 'with a Year Abroad' degree programme, with a third year spent studying at an overseas partner University either in a foreign language or in English (see below).
- The option of a four-year 'with a Year in Industry' degree programme (see below).

## **13. Indications of programme quality**

- University Academic Review

- External examiners' reports
- First Destination careers statistics
- Exemptions from professional exams (subject to satisfactory completion of certain modules):
- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)
- Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA)
- Institute of Actuaries
- Chartered Insurance Institute
- The Institute of Revenues Rating and Valuation

#### 14. External Examiners:

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found [here](#).

### Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

## PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS ENTERING YEAR 1 IN SEPTEMBER 2018

### FIRST YEAR MODULES

#### FIRST YEAR MODULES

		<b>SEMESTER 1</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Core Modules</b>			
EC1000	MICROECONOMICS I		20
EC1011	PROBABILITY AND PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS		20
EC1013	CALCULUS AND OPTIMISATION		20
		<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>60</b>

		<b>SEMESTER 2</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Core Modules</b>			
EC1001	MACROECONOMICS I		20
EC1012	STATISTICAL INFERENCE		20
EC1014	LINEAR ALGEBRA		20
		<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### SECOND YEAR MODULES

		<b>YEAR-LONG MODULES</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Core Modules</b>			
EC2012	INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS		30
EC2013	INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS		30
		<b>SEMESTER 1</b>	
<b>Core Modules</b>			<b>Credits</b>
EC2020	ECONOMETRICS I		15
EC2033	PRINCIPLES OF BANKING		15
		<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>60</b>
		<b>SEMESTER 2</b>	
<b>Core Modules</b>			<b>Credits</b>



EC2019	ECONOMETRICS II	15
EC2022	PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE	15
	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### THIRD YEAR MODULES

#### SEMESTER 1

Core Modules		Credits
EC3062	ECONOMETRICS III	15
EC3070	FINANCIAL DERIVATIVES	15
<b>Optional Modules</b>		
TWO OPTIONS CHOSEN FROM EC3000 EC3066, EC3071, EC3077,		15, 15
	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>60</b>

#### SEMESTER 2

Core Modules		Credits
EC3058	CORPORATE FINANCE	15
EC3064	APPLIED ECONOMETRICS PROJECT	15
<b>Optional Modules</b>		
TWO OPTIONS CHOSEN FROM EC3001, EC3067, EC3081, EC3089		15,15
	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### BSc Financial Economics with a Year Abroad

Students may only enter this course by meeting the criteria outlined above in section 10.

#### FIRST AND SECOND YEAR MODULES

As for the first and second year of BSc Financial Economics.

#### THIRD YEAR MODULES

- 1) Students will spend one academic year studying at one of our overseas partner Institutions between the second and final years of their degree programme.
- 2) During their placement students are expected to undertake modules worth the equivalent of 120 credits at the University of Leicester. For European Institutions this is normally equal to at least 40 ECTS credits, and for Universities elsewhere in the world this is normally equivalent to eight academic modules.
- 3) Modules selected during the year abroad must be approved by the School of Business and must be in subject areas relevant to a students' degree programme. The selected modules cannot be identical to those that have already been studied, or will be studied upon returning to Leicester for the final year.
- 4) Students who do not satisfactorily complete their year studying abroad will be transferred to the non-Year Abroad degree path for their final year.
- 5) Students will have up until the end of the second week of the first term of their third year to transfer to the non-Year Abroad degree voluntarily. After this point students who are not able to complete their year abroad will re-join the non-Year Abroad degree in the following year.

#### FOURTH YEAR MODULES

As for the third year of BSc Financial Economics.

## **BSc Financial Economics with a Year in Industry**

Students may only enter this course by meeting the criteria outlined above in section 10.

### **FIRST AND SECOND YEAR MODULES**

As for the first and second year of BSc Financial Economics.

### **THIRD YEAR MODULES**

- 1) Students will work within a sponsoring company for a minimum of 9 months between 1 July of the second year of their course and the start of the following academic year.
- 2) During their placement students will undertake a programme of training and practical experience which will be agreed by the sponsoring company and the University.
- 3) During the placement students' progress will be monitored through a variety of activities including the maintenance of a regular log. Students will complete a report and will be expected to make a presentation towards the end of their placement. The report and presentation are requirements for the awarding of the degree but are not part of the formal assessment for the degree.
- 4) Students who do not satisfactorily complete their industrial placement year will be transferred to the non-Industry degree path.
- 5) Students will have up until the end of the second week of the first term to transfer to the non-Industry degree voluntarily. After this point students who are not able to complete their year in industry will re-join the non-Industry degree in the following year.

### **FOURTH YEAR MODULES**

As for the third year of BSc Financial Economics.

## **Appendix 2: Module specifications**

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>

## **Appendix 3: Skills matrix**

