

Template C4



Programme Specification

Title of Course: *BSc (Hons) Financial Economics*

Date first produced	31/03/2013
Date last revised	28/02/2025
Date of implementation of current version	01/09/2025
Version number	12
Faculty	Faculty of Business and Social Sciences
Cross-disciplinary	
School	School of Law, Social and Behavioural Sciences
Department	Department of Economics
Delivery Institution	Kingston University

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes and content of each modules can be found in the course VLE site and in individual Module Descriptors.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Award(s) and Title(s):	BSc (Hons) Financial Economics
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	Cert HE Financial Economics DipHE Financial Economics Ordinary degree Financial Economics
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	UPFEC1FEC20 UFFEC1FEC02
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	L111

Awarding Institution:	Kingston University
Teaching Institution:	Kingston University
Location:	Penrhyn Road
Language of Delivery:	English
Delivery mode:	
Learning mode(s):	Part-time Full-time
Minimum period of registration:	Part-time - 6 Full-time - 3
Maximum period of registration:	Part-time - 12 Full-time - 6
Entry requirements	<p>Kingston University typically uses a range of entry requirements to assess an applicant's suitability for our courses. Most course requirements are based on UCAS Tariff points, usually stipulated as a range, and are sometimes coupled with minimum grades in specific relevant subjects. We may also use interview, portfolio and performance pieces to assess an applicant's suitability for the course. We recognise that every person's journey to Higher Education is different and unique and in some cases we may take into account work experience and other non-standard pathways onto University level study.</p> <p>Additionally, all non-UK applicants must meet our English language requirements.</p> <p>Please see our course pages on the Kingston University website for the most up to date entry requirements</p>

Regulated by	The University and its courses are regulated by the Office for Students.
Programme Accredited by:	<i>n/a</i>
Approved Variants:	n/a
Is this Higher or Degree Apprenticeship course?	No

SECTION 2: THE COURSE

A. Aims of the Course

BSc Financial Economics offers a broad education in economic theory and policy with a specific focus on the world of finance. It is designed to prepare graduates both for further study in Economics and cognate disciplines and for immediate progression in a wide range of career paths not only in business and the financial sector but also in government and other policy-making bodies.

In common with Economics courses at Kingston, it is pluralistic in its openness to different theoretical perspectives. This approach is informed by the breadth of research interests of the teaching staff, which range from mathematical analysis to political economy.

The programme will also be available as a 4 year 'sandwich' course with the addition of a placement year. Students taking up this option will be offered support in seeking placements by Careers and Employability Services. In addition, students will come back to Kingston for several 'Keep in touch' (KIT) days over the duration of their placement year. KIT days will give students on placement the opportunity to share learning and reflect, whilst also undertaking some professional development training and maintaining contact with their peer group. Students may also choose to study abroad, either in Europe, through the Erasmus scheme, or outside Europe at universities with which Kingston has reciprocal arrangements. Students are offered a coherent set of modules intended to provide an enjoyable course of study that both promotes insight into the operation of economic systems and improves employment prospects after graduation. All students are exposed to the core topics of economics and the associated analytical skills, and encouraged to develop skills in problem solving, in reading economic papers, and in using important sources of quantitative and qualitative information, including bibliographic information.

The aims of the course are to:

- provide students from a wide range of backgrounds with a rounded experience of economics as an academic subject;
- encourage analytical thinking;
- develop an appreciation of the economic dimensions of wider social and political issues;
- provide students with a strong and critical understanding of modern finance and financial markets and institutions;
- establish a sound foundation for careers in the wide range of fields in which an economics background is of advantage;
- provide a suitable foundation for further study of economics and/or related areas;
- equip students to appreciate the contribution of contending theoretical perspectives, and to keep abreast of future developments in the field.

Level 4

This provides a common foundation for students in which they

- are introduced to core principles of analysis in macro- and micro-economics
- develop key study skills and begin active personal and professional development planning as part of a small group meeting with a personal tutor
- encounter the approaches specific to each of the three single-honours programmes
- develop a common identity as a community of economists, regardless of their particular intended specialisation.

Students who have completed Level 4 are thus in a position to change their chosen specialism, if desired, in the light of their developing interests and aptitudes.

Level 5

Core modules in macro- and micro-economics and quantitative methods at Level 5 are supplemented by the course core module **Corporate Finance and Investment**, which provides an introduction to modern finance and financial markets and institutions in the context of empirical information about the working of financial markets and trends in the global financial system.

Level 6

At Level 6, the core course specific module **Financial Systems, Crises, and Regulatory Frameworks** develops the study of financial systems to consider the mechanics of banking and monetary systems and historical and contemporary challenges to financial stability.

In the “capstone” module, **Working as an Economist**, students write a 5,000-word extended essay on a topic in their specialism. They are supported by a programme of lectures and group workshops designed to build skills in writing and presenting economic analysis that enhance employability.

B. Programme Learning Outcomes

The programme learning outcomes are the high-level learning outcomes that will have been achieved by all students receiving this award. They have been aligned to the levels set out in ‘Sector Recognised Standards in England’ (OFS 2022).

Programme Learning Outcomes					
	Knowledge and Understanding		Intellectual Skills		Subject Practical Skills
	On completion of the course students will be able to:		On completion of the course students will be able to		On completion of the course students will be able to
A1	Undertake economic analysis and use that analysis for problem solving and decision making, with particular reference to financial markets and institutions	B1	Appreciate the complexity and diversity of , with particular reference to financial systems	C1	Prepare essays, reports, and a critical literature review
A2	Apply economic analysis to issues of government policy and commercial and public sector practice	B2	Engage in abstract thinking and concept building and apply their conceptual knowledge to real world phenomena	C2	Use computer software to display, analyse and evaluate economic data
A3	Use relevant quantitative methods and computing techniques and verbal, graphical, mathematical and econometric representation of economic ideas and analysis	B3	Synthesise information and use it to sustain an argument, formulate and test hypotheses, and reach systematically reasoned conclusions	C3	Use audio visual material appropriately for presentations
A4	Explore the meaning and significance of alternative economic policies within a wider social and political context	B4	Critically analyse and appraise both primary and secondary economic data, and compare and evaluate economic arguments	C4	Work effectively with peers in group projects
A5	Evaluate the functioning of financial institutions at both macro- and micro-economic levels, with particular reference to issues of growth and stability				

C. Future Skills Graduate Attributes

In addition to the programme learning outcomes, the programme of study defined in this programme specification will engage students in developing their Future Skills Graduate Attributes:

1. Creative Problem Solving
2. Digital Competency
3. Enterprise
4. Questioning Mindset
5. Adaptability
6. Empathy
7. Collaboration
8. Resilience
9. Self-Awareness

D. Outline Programme Structure

This programme is offered in full-time or part-time mode, and leads to the award of BSc (Hons) Financial Economics. Entry is normally at level 4 with A-level or equivalent qualifications. Transfer from a similar programme is possible at level 5 with passes in comparable level 4 modules – but is at the discretion of the course team. Intake is normally in September.

All students will be provided with the University regulations. Full details of each module will be provided in module descriptors and in the module Canvas pages. Work placements are actively encouraged – although it is the responsibility of individual students to source and secure such placements. This allows students to reflect upon their own personal experience of working in an applied setting, to focus on aspects of this experience that they can clearly relate to theoretical concepts and to evaluate the relationship between theory and practice.

BSc (Hons) Financial Economics

Level 4							
BSc (Hons) Financial Economics							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Becoming an Economist	EC4001	30	4	Year long		1	1
Capitalism	EC4002	30	4	Year long		1	1
Economic Policy and Principles	EC4003	30	4	Year long		1	1

Introductory Mathematics and Statistics for Economics	EC4005	30	4	Year Long		1	1
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Exit Awards at Level 4

This course permits progression from Level 4 to Level 5 with 90 credits at Level 4 or above. Progression to level 5 requires passes in EC4003 and EC4004.

Students exiting the course at this point who have successfully completed 120 credits at level 4 or above are eligible for the award of Certificate of Higher Education.

Level 5							
BSc (Hons) Financial Economics							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Corporate Finance and Investment	FE5001	30	5	Year long		1	1
Macroeconomics	EC5003	30	5	Year long		1	1
Mathematical Economics and Econometrics	EC5005	30	5	Year Long		2	2
Microeconomics	EC5004	30	5	Year long		1	1

Exit Awards at Level 5

Progression to level 6 requires passes in all modules.

Students exiting the programme at this point who have successfully completed 120 credits at level 5 or above are eligible for the award of Diploma of Higher Education.

Level 6							
BSc (Hons) Financial Economics							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Development Economics	EC6010	15	6	TB1		3	7
Financial Systems, Crises, and Regulatory Frameworks	FE6005	30	6	Year Long		3	6

Future Skills Apply	AX600 1	15	6	TB2		3	7
Working as an Economist	EC600 1	30	6	Year long		1	1
Optional Modules							
International Trade and Finance	EC600 7	30	6	Year long		1	1

Exit Awards at Level 6

Students exiting the programme without completing the full 120 credits but have successfully completed 60 credits at level 6 or above are eligible for the award of an Ordinary Degree.

E. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

This course uses a range of teaching and assessment methods which have been designed to support students' learning and achievement of the learning outcomes. The course has been developed with reference to the Kingston University Academic Framework which sets-out core principles relating to Course and Credit Structure (including Module delivery Structure and Pattern, and Learning Hours and Learning Formats); Curriculum Design (inclusion Learning Design Principles and Inclusive Curriculum); and Future Skills.

Teaching and Learning on the course consist of Scheduled Learning and Teaching and Guided Independent Study (self-managed time). Scheduled Learning and Teaching includes the following, and the format for each module is set out in the module specification:

- Laboratory Sessions
- Lectures
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Workshops
- Placements

Guidance for students on the use of independent study time is communicated through the 'Succeed in your module' section on the Canvas Virtual Learning Environment and through other communications during the course.

In addition to the core Scheduled Learning and Teaching activities for the course, the University may offer students additional optional opportunities for learning. Examples of these include Study abroad and Work-based learning.

The course will provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills relating to at least two United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). We are committed to empowering students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and address the UN SDGs: each course is thus also required to prepare students for at least two of the SDGs (not including Quality Education, which all courses must deliver).

F. Support for Students and their Learning

Students are supported through a range of services that provide academic and wider support. These include:

- A Module Leader for each module
- A Course Leader to help students understand the course structure
- Personal Tutors to provide academic and personal support
- Technical support to advise students on IT and the use of software
- Student Voice Committee – to ensure the views of students are heard
- Canvas – Kingston University's Virtual Learning Environment
- Student support facilities that can provide advice on issues such as finance, regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support
- Disabled student support
- The Kingston Students' Union
- Student Development and Graduate Success

G. Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Course

The University has policies and procedures for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:

- Continuous Monitoring of courses through the Kingston Course Enhancement Programme (KCEP)
- Student evaluation including Module Evaluation Questionnaires (MEQs), the National Student Survey (NSS)
- Internal and external moderation of graded assignments

H. External Reference Points

External reference points which have informed the design of the course. These could include:

- PSRB standards
- QAA Subject benchmarks
- Other subject or industry standards

I. Development of Course Learning Outcomes in Modules

This table maps where programme learning outcomes are **summatively** assessed across the **core** modules for this course. It provides an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the course aims, a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses and a checklist for quality assurance purposes.

Module Code		Level 4				Level 5				Level 6				
		EC4003	EC4005	EC4002	EC4001	EC5005	EC5004	EC5003	FE5001	EC6007	EC6001	FE6005	EC6010	AX6001
Knowledge & Understanding	A1	S		S			S	S	S		S			
	A2	S					S	S	S		S			
	A3	S					S	S			S			
	A4			S					S		S			
	A5								S		S			
Intellectual Skills	B1			S					S	S	S			
	B2	S					S	S	S	S	S			
	B3			S							S			
	B4			S					S		S			
Practical Skills	C1			S					S		S			
	C2										S			
	C3										S			
	C4								S		S			

Students will be provided with formative assessment opportunities throughout the course to practise and develop their proficiency in the range of assessment methods utilised.

Additional Information