



University of  
BRISTOL

# Undergraduate Accounting and Finance



Faculty of Social Sciences  
and Law



I was attracted to the University of Bristol by its reputation and the high quality of teaching.

The support and advice on career choices available to students at all stages of the degree course were very useful. The various talks and workshops organised by the Careers Service helped me to decide which career would suit me and how best to achieve it.

My memories of Bristol are all happy and I encourage everyone who has the opportunity to study at Bristol to do so.

**Shahanah**  
BSc Accounting and Finance 2012



## Why study accounting and finance at Bristol?

Studying accounting and finance is a rewarding experience, academically and professionally. Accounting and finance lie directly at the heart of business – some 60 per cent of FTSE100 companies now have a chairman or CEO with a background in accounting or finance. Sound financial skills are pivotal in business activities such as strategy, planning or pricing and in motivating and rewarding people, while personal and corporate investment decisions cannot be made without a good training in finance.

At Bristol, you will develop quantitative and qualitative skills that will benefit you hugely in a wide range of careers. You will be supported by a highly respected and motivated team of cutting-edge academics and professionally qualified accountants, and a personal tutor to help with both academic and personal matters.

Our courses combine excellent theoretical and technical education with an understanding of real-life practical issues and up-to-date research. If you wish to become a professional accountant after graduating, these courses give exemptions from professional exams, and provide a thorough grounding in concepts that will support your future success.

60%

of FTSE100 companies have a CEO/chairperson with a background in accounting or finance



## What will I study?

### Single Honours courses

BSc Accounting and Finance, three years	NN43
BSc Accounting and Management, three years	NN42
BSc Accounting and Finance with Study in Continental Europe, four years	NN34
BSc Economics and Accounting, three years	LN14

In each year you will study six subjects, comprising core units and options:

### Year one

#### Core units

- Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance 1
- Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance 2
- Mathematical and Statistical Methods 1
- Core units in Economics, Management or Language for NN42, NN34 or LN14.

#### Options

A wide variety of options is available, such as Mathematical and Statistical Methods 2, and Globalisation and Development.

### Year two

#### Core units

- Financial Accounting
- Management Accounting
- Corporate Finance
- Core units in Economics, Management or Language for NN42, NN34 or LN14.

#### Options

You can choose subjects from within the School of Economics, Finance and Management or from elsewhere in the University. Foundations of Business Law is a popular unit run by the Law School specifically for our students, which gives exemptions from law exams of the professional accounting bodies.

### Year three

There are no compulsory units in the final year. Instead, you can choose from a wide range of options, such as:

- Auditing
- Advanced Management Accounting
- Advanced Topics in Finance
- Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability
- Financial Markets and Corporate Finance
- Financial Reporting
- International Finance
- Strategic Management.

If you take the four-year NN34 course, you will spend your third year studying accounting and finance at a partner university in Europe before returning to Bristol for your fourth and final year of study.

### Teaching methods

You will be taught by staff from a variety of backgrounds, such as career researchers and professionally qualified accountants, using a blend of social science and professional/technical approaches.

We have a long-established tradition of small-group teaching, and are committed to keeping tutorials as a distinctive feature of the way we teach. This means that for each of the six subjects you study each year, you will almost always have a small-group tutorial every week, with up to 15 students at a time. This gives you the chance for real interaction with staff and other students.

Your lecturers and tutors will have at least two 'office hours' each week – time when they are available for you to simply drop in without an appointment to discuss aspects of the course.

### Assessment

You will prepare assignments throughout the academic year, and we will give you feedback. The purpose of this is to help your learning – these results won't count towards your final degree result.

Usually, each subject will be assessed with a single three-hour examination at the end of the semester in which it is taught, in January or in the summer. That result goes towards your final degree. Some units also include a coursework element that counts towards the final assessment.

Your final degree award will be determined by your assessments in the second year (40 per cent) and in the final year (60 per cent). For Accounting and Finance with Study in Continental Europe, your assessment is based 30 per cent on second-year assessment, ten per cent on the third year abroad and 60 per cent on the final year.





## What are my career prospects?

Within six months of graduation, 88 per cent of our students secure a graduate job or place on a Master's degree— a higher proportion than from any other UK university (Guardian University Guide 2014, 'Business and Management Studies' category).

The technical and critical skills we teach are highly valued by prestigious employers, who run events for our students here at Bristol during enhancement weeks, such as sessions on succeeding in an interview and developing commercial awareness.

*"We're looking for people who are motivated, can work with others and deal with complex issues. That's why we continue to focus our recruiting efforts at the University of Bristol. We work with the University to help students develop their employability skills to make a successful career start."*

Audit Director of 'Big 4' Accounting firm

88%

of graduates go on to work or further study within six months of graduating\*

\*Guardian University guide 2014, 'Business and Management Studies' category



## Making your application

### Entrance requirements

#### Typical offer for BSc Accounting and Finance

Visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug15-accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug15-accounting) for other qualifications

**A-levels** AAA (contextual offer AAB<sup>†</sup>) including Mathematics; or AAB including A in Mathematics with grades AB in modules Core Maths 3 and Core Maths 4

**IB Diploma** 37 points overall (contextual offer 35<sup>†</sup>) with 6, 6, 6 at Higher level including Mathematics

**Access** Pass Access to HE Diploma with at least 30 credits at Distinction and 15 credits at Merit, with Distinctions in Maths units including Further Calculus. (We will accept the Further Calculus unit offered by Apt Awards in the south-west region; please contact Undergraduate Admissions to check the content of your Further Calculus unit if studying elsewhere in the UK.)

**English Language Profile** B\*

**GCSEs** No specific subjects required

**Selection** UCAS or Common Application

**Part-time study** Not available

**Deferred applications** Welcomed

\*For details of English language profiles please visit [bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/language-requirements](http://bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/language-requirements)

†For information on contextual offers please visit [bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/#typical-contextual-offers](http://bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/#typical-contextual-offers)

All of our accounting, economics, finance and management degrees have a strong mathematical component, so you will need a qualification such as A-level Mathematics at grade A or its equivalent. You don't need to have previously studied economics, though if you have we would expect A-grade standard.

We don't interview; selection is based on your UCAS application. In your personal statement we are looking for evidence of motivation, so tell us why you are interested in the degree for which you are applying. Tell us about any work experience or positions of responsibility that you have held, why you took on those roles and why they are relevant to your chosen degree.

### Further information

Find out more about the Department of Accounting and Finance: [bristol.ac.uk/accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/accounting).



## Contacts

### Undergraduate Admissions Office

**Tel** +44 (0)117 928 8154

**Fax** +44 (0)117 331 7391

**Email** [socsci-ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:socsci-ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk)

### Accommodation Office

**Tel** +44 (0)117 954 6640

**Email** [accom-office@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:accom-office@bristol.ac.uk)

**[bristol.ac.uk/accommodation](http://bristol.ac.uk/accommodation)**

### Disability Services

**Tel** +44 (0)117 331 0444

**Email** [disability-services@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:disability-services@bristol.ac.uk)

**[bristol.ac.uk/disability-services](http://bristol.ac.uk/disability-services)**

### International Advice and Support

**Tel** +44 (0)117 331 8572

**Email** [os-as@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:os-as@bristol.ac.uk)

**[bristol.ac.uk/international-office](http://bristol.ac.uk/international-office)**

### Student Funding Office

**Tel** +44 (0)117 331 7972

**Email** [student-funding@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:student-funding@bristol.ac.uk)

**[bristol.ac.uk/studentfunding](http://bristol.ac.uk/studentfunding)**

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