

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION (Preview)

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### Master of Science in Investment and Finance

<b>Awarding institution</b>	LJMU
<b>Teaching institution</b>	Oryx Universal College WLL
<b>JACS Code</b>	
<b>Programme Duration</b>	Full-Time: 1 Year
<b>Language of Programme</b>	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
<b>Subject benchmark statement</b>	Master's Degrees in Business and Management (2015)
<b>Programme accredited by</b>	
<b>Description of accreditation</b>	
<b>Validated target and alternative exit awards</b>	Master of Science in Investment and Finance Postgraduate Diploma in Investment and Finance Postgraduate Certificate in Investment and Finance
<b>Link Tutor</b>	Peter Wolstencroft

### Educational aims of the programme

The overall aim of the MSc Investment and Finance programme is to produce postgraduates that are able to make a valid and meaningful contribution within the fields of investment and finance. This will be achieved by exposing students to the current theories, concepts and developments within this discipline and by doing so, students will become competent and thoughtful practitioners. The MSc Investment and Finance will develop students' reflective, critical and evaluative thinking and judgement through the exposure of contemporary and current issues in investment and finance through teaching and learning that is strongly supported by research and professional practice.

The specific aims of the programme are to:

1. provide students with an intellectually challenging programme of study that will focus on current issues, themes and applications in investment and finance.
2. develop or extend students' analytical, critical and problem solving skills appropriate for a role in investment and finance through the evaluation of literature and current practice.
3. provide clear career development opportunities for students aspiring to careers in investment and finance.
4. develop a learning environment which encourages the development of independent thought and learning in investment and finance.
5. establish strong links with the professional investment and finance bodies to enhance career opportunities.

#### **Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Postgraduate Certificate**

*A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:*

Apply core investment and financial techniques within the context of business.

Understand the impact of investment and financial decisions.

Present investment and financial information in various forms of media.

#### **Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Postgraduate Diploma**

*A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:*

Apply advanced techniques to explore investment and financial scenarios.

Critically appraise investment and financial decisions and evaluate their impact.

Present complex investment and financial concepts in various forms of media.

## **Target award Learning Outcomes - Master of Science**

*A student successfully completing the programme of study will have acquired the following subject knowledge and understanding as well as skills and other attributes.*

*A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:*

1. Evaluate the importance of investment and finance and the application in a wider economic and business context.
2. Apply investment and financial techniques drawn from current academic and practitioner research.
3. Assess complex investment and financial problems and scenarios according to individual, organisational and societal needs using structured approaches drawn from a range of models and methods.
4. Critically evaluate contemporary investment and financial issues, theories, models and concepts.
5. Use advanced technological tools to source, present, analyse and interpret appropriate quantitative investment and financial data in appropriate forms.
6. Evaluate a wide body of empirical and theoretical investment and financial research literature.
7. Appraise and present complex investment and financial arguments to individuals and groups.
8. Learn independently, through self-reflection with critical enquiry.
9. Manage resources and time effectively to achieve intended goals with empathy towards others.
10. Acquire appropriate use of learning resources and investment and financial databases.
11. Effectively communicate as a leader both verbally, in writing and using a range of media.
12. Develop confidence in synthesising findings and drawing appropriate conclusions and recommendations related to an issue being investigated.

## **Teaching, Learning and Assessment**

*The methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated are as follows:*

Core knowledge and understanding is achieved by using a range of appropriate teaching and learning strategies. This is achieved through lectures and workshops. These will be further supported by the University's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) Canvas as the basis for providing students with a range of teaching and learning materials including lecture and workshop materials, module handbooks, indicative and recommended books and journal papers, case study exercises, Youtube clips and website links.

Knowledge and understanding is assessed using a range of techniques which include topic and case study reports, presentations, proposals, tests, vlogs and closed book examinations.

Assessment of a student's intellectual skills will vary on the programme. Formative assessment will be used to critically analyse relevant literature, theories and models and explore and debate these within the context of group discussions within workshops. This will help inform and provide a sound foundation for the completion of summative assessments within each module.

A range of different teaching methods will be used in the form of lectures and workshops to develop and enhance student intellectual skills.

Technology will be fully utilised in the form of Bloomberg terminal tools, Excel, Youtube clips and LJMU Discover to enhance the learning experience.

Transferable skills will be developed throughout the programme providing students with the opportunity to develop a range of skills and attributes appropriate for a career in investment and finance.

## **Programme structure - programme rules and modules**

Completion of 60 taught credits provides Postgraduate Certificate in Investment and Finance.

Completion of 120 taught credits provides Postgraduate Diploma in Investment and Finance.

Completion of 180 credits awards the MSc Investment and Finance.

7700ORYXIF Research and Quantitative Methods for Finance module needs to be passed prior to the submission of the 7707ORYXIF Dissertation module.

Level 7	Potential Awards on completion	Master of Science
Core	Option	Award Requirements
7700ORYXIF Research and Quantitative Methods for Finance (20 credits) 7701ORYXIF Corporate Finance (20 credits) 7702ORYXIF Financial Markets and Institutions (20 credits) 7703ORYXIF Financial Economics (20 credits) 7704ORYXIF Portfolio Management (20 credits) 7705ORYXIF Contemporary Financial Issues (10 credits) 7706ORYXIF Forensic Financial Analysis (10 credits) 7707ORYXIF Dissertation (60 credits)		180 core credits at level 7 0 option credits at level 7

## Information about assessment regulations

All programmes leading to LJMU awards operate within the University's Academic Framework.  
<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/about-us/public-information/academic-quality-and-regulations/academic-framework>

## Opportunities for work-related learning ( location and nature of activities)

The MSc Investment and Finance programme is a practical professional postgraduate degree that will expose students to a wide range of domestic, national and international companies, industries and financial issues.

All modules are practical and develop students' understanding of the professional needs of the investment and finance sectors.

Students will all use Bloomberg Terminal tools and assess real-life data particular to the specifics of the module focus.

There will be a wide range of practical assessments and case studies to reflect varying financial issues.

Students will be given the opportunity to undertake the Microsoft Office Excel and Bloomberg Market Concepts Professional Qualifications.

Those completing the dissertation module will be able to apply conceptual frameworks to significant research questions faced by the financial sector.

Further information on investment and financial graduate opportunities and the skills required to fulfil these roles can be found at: <https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/careers>

## Criteria for admission

### Other

Candidates must be able to satisfy the LJMU and School admissions requirements in one of the following ways:

A relevant undergraduate degree from a recognised University or equivalent awarding institution at second class honours level or above.

A professional qualification recognised as equivalent to the above.

An award which the university has agreed to accept as equivalent to a degree.

### Mature entry

Candidates may qualify for entry to the programme on the basis of considerable relevant work experience normally comprising at least three years at managerial or equivalent level which would be subject to scrutiny by the programme team.

### Overseas qualifications

Where English is not the students first language, or their first degree was not wholly assessed in English, an IELTS score of 6.5 (minimum of 5.5 in all elements, or equivalent) or Pearson score of 59-64 (Min. 51 in each component) must be achieved.

## External Quality Benchmarks

All programmes leading to LJMU awards have been designed and approved in accordance with the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in the UK (FHEQ) and subject benchmark statements where applicable.

The University is subject to periodic review of its quality and standards by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). Published review reports are available on the QAA website at [www.qaa.ac.uk](http://www.qaa.ac.uk)

Programmes which are professionally accredited are reviewed by professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs) and such programmes must meet the competencies/standards of those PSRBs.

## Support for students and their learning

The University aims to provide students with access to appropriate and timely information, support and guidance to ensure that they are able to benefit fully from their time at LJMU. All students are assigned a Personal Tutor to provide academic support and when necessary signpost students to the appropriate University support services.

Students are able to access a range of professional services including:

- Advice on practical aspects of study and how to use these opportunities to support and enhance their personal and academic development. This includes support for placements and careers guidance.
- Student Advice and Wellbeing Services provide students with advice, support and information, particularly in the areas of: student funding and financial matters, disability, advice and support to international students, study support, accommodation, health, wellbeing and counselling.
- Students studying for an LJMU award at a partner organisation will have access to local support services

## Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

### Student Feedback and Evaluation

The University uses the results of student feedback from internal and external student surveys (such as module evaluations, the NSS and PTES), module evaluation questionnaires and meetings with student representatives to improve the quality of programmes.

### Staff development

The quality of teaching is assured through staff review and staff development in learning, teaching and assessment.

### Internal Review

All programmes are reviewed annually and periodically, informed by a range of data and feedback, to ensure quality and standards of programmes and to make improvements to programmes.

### External Examining

External examiners are appointed to programmes to assess whether:

- the University is maintaining the threshold academic standards set for awards in accordance with the FHEQ and applicable subject benchmark statements
- the assessment process measures student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s) and is conducted in line with University policies and regulations
- the academic standards are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which external examiners have experience
- the achievement of students are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which the external examiners have experience

and to provide informative comment and recommendations on:

- good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment observed by external examiners
- opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities provided to students

### **Please note:**

*This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full*

*advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme guides.*