UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Status:	Course currently being validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Business and Law		
Course Code(s):	FC014P01UM FC014P31UM	Full-time Part-time	18 Months 36 Months
Course Title:	MSc Professional Accounting and Finance (ACCA)		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Science Professional Accounting and Finance Postgraduate Diploma Professional Accounting and Finance Postgraduate Certificate Professional Accounting and Finance University Statement of Credit Professional Accounting and Finance		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:			
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2025/6		
Course Specification valid to:			

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Oladapo Jayeola
Head of Department:	

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This course is a niche and highly competitive offering compared to our other postgraduate programs. Due to its specialized nature, it is delivered in collaboration with Kaplan and is available only to eligible students.

The program provides a unique opportunity to study both the MSc Accounting and Finance and the ACCA final-level papers simultaneously. Successful completion of all assessments allows you to achieve both qualifications within an 18-month study period.

This course is delivered in partnership with Kaplan Financial Limited, one of the world’s leading providers of professional accounting education. This course includes tuition and preparation for four final strategic professional level papers of the ACCA, which covers both essential and optional papers of ACCA at Strategic Professional Level.

This course offers a comprehensive foundation for both your professional and academic career in finance, business, and accounting. It will enhance your strategic understanding and critical thinking of key accounting and finance theories that underpin modern business decisions. You will also explore the vital role of accounting information in corporate management. Throughout the program, you will also refine your research and quantitative skills, culminating in your dissertation. This allows you to conduct an in-depth investigation into a business, accounting, or management issue, applying the knowledge and skills you've developed throughout the course.

Studying for your ACCA papers will be taken with the support of Kaplan Financial Limited. a global leader in professional accounting education. With a presence in over 30 countries, Kaplan has earned its reputation as one of the largest and most trusted providers of accounting education worldwide.

In addition, the course provides valuable opportunities to engage with organizations and industry professionals through field visits to leading institutions, guest lectures from prominent figures in the financial sector, and virtual placements. These experiences offer real-world insights that will enrich your learning and broaden your professional perspective.

We are proud of our diverse study body, you will immerse yourselves in diverse cultures, interact with peers from around the world, and gain new perspectives on global issues. This exposure enhances your adaptability, broadens your worldview, and builds valuable cross-cultural communication skills, qualities that are essential in today’s interconnected world.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Intakes:

September

January

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2021/2	H	Full Time	£11830.00
2021/2	Overseas	Full Time	£14880.00
2022/3	H	Full Time	£11930.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time	£15880.00
2025/6	H	Full Time	£13373.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time	£18120.00
2025/6	H	Full Time	£7272.00
2026/7	H	Full Time	£
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time	£

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AC018	Integrated Financial Strategy	30	CRYRA	Core
7AC019	Strategic Leadership and Corporate Stewardship	30	CRYRA	Core
7MG022	The Postgraduate Independent Project	60	CRYRA	Core

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7FC020	Entrepreneurial Finance: Theory and Practice	30	SEM2	Core
7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7FC020	Entrepreneurial Finance: Theory and Practice	30	SEM1	Core
7FC021	Global Financial Strategy and Risk Management	30	SEM1	Core
7AC018	Integrated Financial Strategy	30	CRYRA	Core
7AC019	Strategic Leadership and Corporate Stewardship	30	CRYRA	Core
7MG022	The Postgraduate Independent Project	60	CRYRA	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

NONE

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK

Apprenticeship Standard

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT01 Critical evaluate and apply current theories, concepts and insights informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice (Knowing)	
PGCERT02 Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and practical and/or professional skills in your discipline. (Knowing)	
PGCERT03 Make informed decisions on complex issues, and communicate your conclusions clearly to different audiences. (Doing)	
PGCERT04 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. (Doing)	
PGCERT05 Critically analyse, identify and utilise various study methods to improve your own performance. (Being)	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
PGCERT06 Reflect on your own achievements, identify future goals and plan for a further career or study (Being)	
PGDIP01 Demonstrate critical evaluation of current theories, concepts and insights informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice. Show how you have applied this knowledge in original and insightful ways. (Knowing)	
PGDIP02 Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and practical and/or professional skills in your discipline. (Knowing)	
PGDIP03 Make informed decisions on complex issues, and communicate your conclusions clearly to different audiences employing discipline conventions and expectations. (Doing)	
PGDIP04 Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, acting independently and autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. (Doing)	
PGDIP05 Critically analyse, identify and utilise various study methods to improve your own performance. (Being)	
PGDIP06 Reflect on your own achievements and plan for a future career or further study (Being)	
MA01 Knowing (K1) Demonstrate the ability to critically analyse, interpret, and apply complex accounting and financial information, principles, and reporting frameworks to evaluate organizational performance and support strategic decision-making in a global business context	
MA02 Knowing (K2) Engage in reflective and evidence-based evaluation of personal and professional competencies, identifying strengths and areas for development to enhance employability and leadership potential within accounting, finance, and related business disciplines.	
MA03 Doing (D1): Apply and interpret complex International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) to prepare, analyse, and communicate financial statements for single entities and challenging group structures, critically assessing the implications of current and proposed accounting regulations.	
MA04 Doing (D2): Synthesise and apply a range of strategic business leadership competencies, including strategic positioning, governance, risk analysis, and data analytics, to formulate and articulate effective, evidence-based corporate strategies	
MA05 Being (B1): Demonstrate ethical leadership and professional judgement by exercising sceptical, principles-based judgement when resolving complex technical and strategic issues, ensuring compliance with corporate governance principles and professional codes of conduct.	
MA06 Being (B2): Cultivate effective communication and professional skills to influence strategy and articulate technical financial, performance, or governance-related advice to diverse stakeholders in a clear, persuasive, and professional manner	

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

The course offers a dynamic and flexible learning experience, equipping you with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed academically and professionally. The course combines various teaching methods to accommodate different learning styles, covering everything from fundamental topics to advanced, specialized subjects.

Developing Confidence Step by Step: The course builds confidence gradually through foundational modules ensuring a solid understanding before progressing to topics like management accounting, financial and sustainability reporting, entrepreneurial finance and international finance. This step-by-step approach consolidates learning and prepares you for complex material.

Blended Learning for Enhanced Flexibility and Inclusivity: We recognise that students have diverse needs. Our course offers in-person and online activities for flexibility and engagement. In-person components include lectures, seminars, and workshops that foster discussions and faculty interaction. Online resources such as recorded lectures, forums, and modules support learning outside the classroom. This approach helps all students, including those with busy schedules, access materials and participate conveniently.

Supporting the Development of Academic and Digital Skills: Throughout the course, we develop academic and digital skills essential for higher education and careers in finance. Workshops focus on academic writing, research, data analysis, digital tools like databases, and effective collaboration, which are vital skills today.

Integrating professional and practice-based learning: We believe that firsthand experience in real-world settings is crucial for your development as a finance professional. Throughout the course, you will have opportunities for work-based learning, enabling you to apply your theoretical knowledge to real situations. These experiences offer valuable insights into the accounting and finance industries.

Kaplan: Studying for your ACCA papers will be taken with the support and guidance of Kaplan Financial Limited. Kaplan has become one of the world's largest providers of professional accounting education with operations in more than 30 countries.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

Assessments: The course assessment strategy aims to support your learning through a balanced approach aligned with both academic and professional goals. Assessments are scheduled to promote gradual skill development, a manageable workload, and thorough feedback. This program will be assessed both via coursework and examinations where applicable.

Balancing different assessment types and managing workload effectively: The course features tasks, accounting and financial calculations, essays, case studies, and research projects to provide a well-rounded evaluation of skills. This variety offers multiple perspectives on your knowledge, avoiding reliance on a single method. Assessments are carefully scheduled throughout the year, helping you manage your workload and gain a solid understanding before moving forward. The ACCA examinations are also carefully planned to ensure that your entire workload is considered and giving you the right balance of your study time.

Opportunities for Practice and Receiving Feedback: To support your success, you will participate in tasks like seminars, tutorials, quizzes, essays, and discussions before major assignments. These provide early feedback, helping you identify areas to improve and refine your work. Peer and tutor feedback will deepen your understanding and boost confidence before the summative assessments.

Developing Intellectual Skills Assessments develop skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, and argument construction. Case studies and essays analyse real Accounting and financial issues to apply theory. Research projects evaluate and synthesize research, fostering more profound understanding and analytical skills.

Inclusivity and Accessibility in Assessment: We are committed to creating an inclusive learning environment and offer a variety of assessment formats, including written assignments, presentations, and projects, to highlight your strengths. We provide detailed rubrics and guidance to clarify expectations and support students with diverse needs, including those with disabilities, ensuring equal opportunities for all to succeed. There is an assessment unpacking support provided, both in-person and virtually.

Examinations: The ACCA part of the course requires students to individually enrol for the external examinations, which they can sit at any examination venue closest to them. Studying through, Kaplan also allows you have access to their e-learning platforms where quizzes, knowledge check, etc, are available as formative assessments.

Further Information for Student:

Transition Support:

As a Master's-level course, the program is designed to support both your professional and academic development. From the outset, you will be immersed in advanced material that provides a strong foundation for your future career and further academic pursuits.

To help you settle in, we offer a dedicated Level 7 induction that outlines what you can expect throughout your studies. New students are also introduced to the wider university support network, including the central Gateway for Support and Advice and the Students' Union. These services offer guidance, welfare, wellbeing support, and practical assistance to ensure a smooth and successful transition into postgraduate study.

Personalised support is also assigned to the students, focusing on helping students thrive academically, personally, and professionally. In addition to seminars, tutorials, workshops further academic support is available through the Library and Skills Hub, both in person and online. The library offers a wide range of resources to help you succeed, including academic skills workshops, one-to-one guidance on research and referencing, support with locating and evaluating academic sources, and access to extensive digital materials. Whether you need help structuring your assignments, improving your academic style, or strengthening your research techniques, the library team is there to support you throughout your postgraduate journey.

The integrated design of the course is a key source of support for students. Professional preparation is provided through the partnership with Kaplan Financial Limited, which offers guidance for ACCA papers and access to Kaplan's bespoke e-learning platform.

At the start of each module, students receive an assessment briefing that outlines the structure of the assessment and includes a rubric highlighting the criteria for high-quality work. Academically, the course provides both formative and summative feedback. Formative feedback is offered in face-to-face sessions and through online portals, offering constructive guidance to help students develop high-quality coursework and reports. Additional support is available for academic skills and maintaining academic integrity, ensuring students are well-prepared throughout their studies.

Early assessments are designed to build students' confidence and academic skills ahead of the major research project. The core ACCA-linked modules (both essential and optional) involve structured assignments, such as reports and analyses of current developments, which serve as formative, early-stage assessments. Feedback on these assignments allows students to refine their critical thinking, analytical, writing, and presentation skills in a supportive, lower-stakes environment, preparing them effectively for the independent and substantial effort required for the Master's Research Project.

The course prepares students for the workplace through its heavy professional qualification focus and direct industry exposure. Work-related learning is facilitated via extra-curricular activities, which may include a visit to relevant businesses, and attend guest lectures from prominent financial professionals. This ensures students gain current, practical insights and networking opportunities, enhancing their professional readiness alongside their academic and professional qualifications. Also, students have the option to to conduct an IBI/consultative project.

Professional development placements are available to every student, offering virtual experience programmes designed by leading employers. These self-paced modules help you develop key skills and gain practical insight into a range of roles within your chosen sector, through tasks that closely mirror those undertaken during a traditional internship.

Student Support:

The University provides a wide range of academic and pastoral support to help students succeed in their studies and personal development. This includes access to the Library and Skills for Learning service, personalised support, and tailored advice from the Careers and Enterprise teams. Students also benefit from 24/7 wellbeing support through WLV Student Life Connect, pastoral care via the Multi-faith Chaplaincy, and assistance from the Mental Health and Wellbeing team. Those living in university accommodation have additional access to Residential Life support, and all students can engage with the Students' Union for advocacy, societies, and further peer-led services.

Currency:

Currency: The program aims to equip you with current knowledge and skills that align with the fast-changing global finance landscape. The curriculum is regularly updated to include the latest research, new theories, and current challenges in accounting and finance.

Keeping Content Up to Date: The course is regularly updated with the latest developments in accounting and finance to remain academically and professionally relevant. It incorporates the newest research on accounting, and financial regulation, application of advanced International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), and sustainable finance, ensuring students learn current theories and practices to address today's financial challenges.

Engaging with Research and Cultivating Inquiry: Students are encouraged to participate in research through coursework and personal initiatives. Staff at Wolverhampton University are active accounting and finance researchers, enriching your learning. You will analyse advanced research, deepen your understanding of current issues, and develop research skills in your dissertation or project by applying inquiry and critical thinking to a finance topic.

Creative and Critical Thinking Applied to Real-World Challenges: Our course fosters creative and critical thinking on real-world issues such as sustainability, enterprise, and social responsibility. You will explore how financial decisions impact society and the environment via case studies and projects that challenge traditional financial goals. The curriculum includes modules on sustainable finance, ethical investing, and CSR, helping you evaluate how businesses can be profitable while staying socially responsible.

Integrating Graduate Attributes into the curriculum: The University of Wolverhampton aims to develop graduates with global awareness, extensive knowledge, professionalism, and digital competence, integrated throughout the curriculum. Students will broaden their international outlook through global finance and international accounting courses, with an emphasis on professionalism via practical assignments and industry partnerships. As accounting and finance becomes more digital, students will learn advanced financial technologies, preparing them for careers in a tech-driven industry.

Promoting Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration and Lifelong Learning The course encourages interdisciplinary collaboration, enabling you to work with students from various academic backgrounds through group projects, guest lectures, and workshops. This approach broadens your perspectives, a vital skill in our interconnected world. Additionally, it promotes lifelong learning by emphasising self-directed learning skills, ensuring you remain adaptable and ready for ongoing professional development in a constantly changing field.

Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA): As a professional body, the ACCA keeps being adaptive to current professional skills requirements and adjusts it curriculum to meet this. The program is aligned with ACCA standards where curriculum updates are driven by the need to respond to a rapidly changing business environment and the growing influence of accountants in shaping business success. The redesign focuses on preparing future professionals with the technical expertise and practical skills required to thrive in an increasingly dynamic and unpredictable world.

Personalisation Opportunities:

Transition Support: Our program is designed to support your success, offering structured assistance from the start to help you settle into university life and perform well throughout the programme. From initial orientation to preparing for your future career prospects, we provide the guidance, resources, and motivation you need at every stage.

Supporting Your Transition into Academic Life: This course provides a structured approach to help you adapt to postgraduate studies, especially at the start. In the first weeks, you will participate in tailored orientation sessions that clarify academic expectations. These sessions cover the challenges of master's coursework, academic writing, research skills, and time management, ensuring you are prepared for what is ahead. Additionally, peer support networks and academic advisors are available to assist you as you transition into university life.

Academic Support for Every Student: We recognise that students come from diverse educational backgrounds, and some may be less familiar with advanced accounting and finance topics. Our course offers extensive academic resources to support all students, including those from underrepresented groups, in achieving success. Additionally, we provide tailored support for international students to address language barriers and cultural differences in academics.

Formative Assessments and Constructive Feedback: To boost your confidence and academic success, the course includes early assessments. These tests assess your understanding and offer constructive feedback, helping you improve skills before major assignments. This formative approach provides guidance on areas for improvement, allowing you to enhance your performance in final assessments.

Responsive Feedback and Course Development: We highly value student feedback and actively use it to enhance and refine the course. Through regular surveys, focus groups, and informal feedback sessions, you have opportunities to share your insights about the course experience. This feedback helps us keep our support relevant and responsive to student needs, enabling us to improve course content, teaching approaches, and the overall learning environment.

Student wellbeing support: The University of Wolverhampton places a strong emphasis on student wellbeing through its Student Life services. This includes confidential advice, emotional and mental health support, and guidance on managing academic and personal challenges. Students can access workshops, one-to-one support, and resources designed to promote wellbeing, resilience, and a positive university experience, ensuring that all students have the support they need to thrive both academically and personally.

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

Employability and Professional Growth: Our program aims to equip you with essential professional skills, academic knowledge, and practical experience crucial for success in the competitive finance industry. Throughout the programme, you will be guided in developing a career-focused mindset, gaining firsthand experience, and establishing a professional identity that will differentiate you in the job market.

Exploring and Preparing for Career Opportunities: The course offers pathways to explore future careers through industry-linked assignments that connect you with financial professionals and organisations. These enable you to apply accounting knowledge to real-world challenges, such as analysing financial performance or solving industry issues. This experience helps you understand various accounting and finance career options.

Developing a Professional Identity: We help you build a strong professional identity through both academic and extracurricular activities. You can participate in group projects that simulate real-world finance scenarios and attend networking events, which provide opportunities to display leadership, communication, and critical thinking skills.

Opportunities for Reflection and Feedback: During your studies, you will reflect on your strengths and receive ongoing feedback from tutors and peers. This helps you identify areas for growth and improve your skills before major assessments. We offer workshops on resume writing, interview techniques, and networking, essential for employability. You will also participate in mock interviews and career fairs to practice professional presentation skills for employers.

Guiding Career Paths and Specialisations: As you progress through the course, you will receive guidance in selecting specialisations that align with your career goals. Our academic advisors collaborate with you to match your modules with your desired roles or industries, whether in accounting, tax, audit, corporate finance, investment banking, or financial consulting. We help you tailor your studies to support your long-term professional growth and objectives.

Global citizen: The course equips students to become global citizens an essential employability skill in today's competitive market. By engaging with diverse cultures and perspectives, you develop adaptability, intercultural communication, and a deeper understanding of global challenges. These experiences prepare you to thrive in international workplaces and lead with a global mindset.

Professional mindset: Through exposure to different academic standards, industry practices, and collaborative learning environments, you learn to think critically, act ethically, and adapt to diverse professional settings. This mindset fosters resilience, problem-solving, and leadership, key attributes for success in any global career.

