

## Programme Specification

**BSc Mathematics with Finance and Investment Banking with  
International Foundation Year**

**For students entering Foundation year in September 2021**

**UCAS Code:  
GN13**

**UFMATFIBFF**

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Awarding Institution | University of Reading |
| Teaching Institution | University of Reading |
| Length of Programme  | 4 years               |
| Accreditation        | N/A                   |

### **Programme information and content**

The programme aims to provide you with a thorough degree-level education in mathematics, along with topics from finance which will help to prepare the graduate for a career in the financial markets.

This programme comprises of a foundation year (Part 0) provided through the International Foundation Programme (IFP) which provides access to higher education in Britain to international students who do not possess the normal entry requirements of GCE Advanced level qualifications or the equivalent. Through the part 0 you will be equipped with subject specific and general study skills which will enable you to cope with the demands of undergraduate study. This is achieved through the provision of high quality teaching which is sympathetic to the needs of students from a wide range of educational backgrounds.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Foundation year: | In the Foundation year you will have the opportunity to develop transferable skills through the provision of a compulsory credit-bearing Academic Skills module. The key skills relate to Critical Thinking, Essay Writing, Research, Referencing and avoiding plagiarism, Group Work and Projects, Presentations, and Assessment and Examination techniques. You will also take three 40-credit modules as specified in the module information aligned to the 'A Level' entry requirements for the degree. If your level of English is below the standard specified for undergraduate study, one of these 40 credit modules must be International English. |
| Part 1:          | Introduces you to core skills and knowledge through a number of introductory modules designed to manage the transition from A level (or equivalent) to university level mathematics. The Foundations of Mathematics module will establish the need for proof and will enable students to construct their own formal proofs. Other compulsory Part 1 mathematics modules build on and reinforce core material from the A level syllabus and form the basis for more advanced study in later years.   |

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Part 2: | Provides you with more advanced topics in mathematics: the modules Vector Calculus and Differential Equations will employ techniques established in Part 1 Calculus and Linear Algebra.   |
| Part 3: | Gives you the opportunity to undertake some project work in mathematics. Most of your modules will be optional, allowing you to express your preference for certain topics in pure or applied mathematics and statistics, and in finance. |

### Module information

Part 0 comprises 140 credits and Parts 1, 2 and 3 each comprise 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

#### Foundation modules:

| Module | Name  | Credits | Level |
|--------|---|---------|-------|
| EC0MEB | Mathematics for Finance, Economics and Business | 40      | 0     |
| IF0ACA | Academic Skills                                 | 20      | 0     |
| MA0FMP | Further Mathematics and Physics                 | 40      | 0     |

If your level of English is below the standard specified for undergraduate study, one of the 40 credit modules must be IF0IE1 International English.

The remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available from a list provided by the International Foundation Programme.

#### Part 1 Modules:

| Module | Name                                      | Credits | Level |
|--------|---|---------|-------|
| IC101  | Introductory Securities and Markets       | 20      | 4     |
| IC102  | Introductory Finance/Trading Simulation I | 20      | 4     |
| MA1CA  | Calculus                                  | 20      | 4     |
| MA1FM  | Foundations of Mathematics                | 20      | 4     |
| MA1LA  | Linear Algebra                            | 20      | 4     |
| ST1PS  | Probability and Statistics                | 20      | 4     |

All modules at Part 1 of the programme are compulsory.

#### Part 2 Modules:

| Module | Name                     | Credits | Level |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|-------|
| IC212  | Financial Modelling      | 20      | 5     |
| MA1RA1 | Real Analysis I          | 20      | 4     |
| MA2DE  | Differential Equations   | 20      | 5     |
| MA2MPR | Mathematical Programming | 10      | 5     |

|        |  |    |   |
|--------|--|----|---|
| MA2PSM | Professional Skills for Mathematicians | 10 | 5 |
| MA2PT1 | Probability Theory I                   | 10 | 5 |
| MA2VC  | Vector Calculus                        | 10 | 5 |

Students must take a further 20 credits of optional Finance modules from a list available from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

**Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):**

Students on the 4 year version of the programme will take one 120 credit module during their placement year.

**Part 2 (continued) modules:**

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

**Part 3 Modules:**

| Module | Name                  | Credits | Level |
|--------|-----------------------|---------|-------|
| IC317  | Derivative Securities | 20      | 6     |

Students must take a further 100 credits of optional modules from a list available from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, 20 credits of which must be Finance modules.

The selection must include a Mathematics project.

**Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

**Additional costs of the programme**

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget up to £100 per year, depending on your preference to have your own books rather than borrow from the

library. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

You will need an approved scientific calculator (approximate cost £12).

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2020.

### **Placement opportunities**

You will be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement opportunity as part of your programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

### **Teaching and learning delivery:**

You will be taught through lectures, tutorials, practical classes and supervised project work.

The contact hours for your Programme will be (on average) 336 hours for Part 1, 312 hours for Part 2 and 228 hours for Part 3, and will depend upon your module combination; however information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module description.

### **Accreditation details**

N/A

### **Assessment**

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations and coursework. However, some modules are assessed only by coursework, while others are assessed solely by examination. Details are given in the relevant module descriptions.

### **Progression**

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

Progression Part 0 Foundation Year

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

- i. an overall average of at least 40% over all modules taken in Part 0;
- ii. no more than 40 credits of these modules with a mark below 35%
- iii. at least 40% in the Academic Skills module

To progress to Part 1, students must satisfy the following progression and English language requirements:

- i. an overall average of at least 60% over all credit modules taken in part 0;
- ii. at least 60% in two 40 credit modules, including any specified modules;
- iii. no module mark below 40% in the remaining two modules

In addition, students taking module International English (IFOIE1) must obtain 55% in that module.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 0 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Completion if he or she leaves the University before completing the subsequent Part.

### *Part 1*

- (i) obtain an overall weighted average of 40% in 120 credits
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance and;

(iii) obtain a weighted average of at least 40% over the modules MA1CA, MA1LA & MA1FM; and

(iv) obtain a weighted average of at least 40% over the modules IC101 & ICI02; and

(v) obtain marks of at least 30% in 120 credits at Part 1.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

### *Part 2*

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits; and
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **3 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **4 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance and obtain a pass in the professional/workplacement or study abroad year. Students who fail the professional/placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

### **Classification**

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

| Mark       | Interpretation         |
|------------|------------------------|
| 70% - 100% | First class            |
| 60% - 69%  | Upper Second class     |
| 50% - 59%  | Lower Second class     |
| 40% - 49%  | Third class            |
| 35% - 39%  | Below Honours Standard |
| 0% - 34%   | Fail                   |

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

*Three year programmes:*

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

*Four year programmes, including professional/workplacement or study abroad:*

Part 2: one-third

Placement/Study Abroad Year abroad not included in the classification

Part 3: two-thirds

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

BSc Mathematics with Finance and Investment Banking with International Foundation Year for students entering Part 1 in session 2021/22

4 April 2022

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