Studying BSc Accounting & Finance courses at Cass

This Online Chat session is for prospective students interested in studying our Foundation Pathway and BSc Accounting & Finance course. The session will be run by current students and academic staff, giving you the opportunity to ask questions about your chosen course and life at as a Cass student, societies and clubs, extracurricular activities, free language classes, placement & study abroad and lots more. As this is a typed chat group session, you will be able to see the answers to your questions by other applicants.

Welcome to our online chat for the BSc Accounting and Finance degree at Cass Business School. My name is Dr Danielle Lyssimachou and I am the Course Director of the degree. I look forward to chatting with you and addressing your queries!

Hi Everyone! I work for Cass Undergraduate Admissions. Looking forward to answering your questions :)

Hi everyone! I'm a second year Accounting & Finance student and I would love to chat with you all today!

Hi Everyone, I'm X from the marketing team at City and am looking forward to hearing your questions.

I think my question is mostly for Yetunde. It's in regards to admissions.

Is City a university that may consider ucas points over the actual a level grades?

Hi, each school within City sets its own entry requirements. At Cass we're more concerned with actual grades obtained.

How beneficial is this course to someone who is looking to work in the financial district and develop past that up to higher job tears?

The degree is mainly aimed at students seeking to become either chartered accountants (audit, tax, financial consultancy) or work in banking (investment banking, asset management, retail banking).

As I am currently doing two full a levels two as levels and an epq

Hi, we ask for 3 A levels so you will need to take another subject to be considered as we don't include the EPQ.
Hello! Can you tell me what the offer to applicant ratio is for this course please and do you give out aspirational offers?

Hi. Thanks for your question. The offer to applicant ratio changes every year depending on how many applications we get so it is hard to say. The main thing is you make sure your application is as good as you can make it.

We do conditional offers which means your place would be dependent on the grades you achieve. I believe this is what you mean by inspirational offers,

Would I find the course difficult if I don't have A levels in Accounting or Economics? I am doing Maths, Physics and Chemistry and I believe most applicants would have done Accounting and/or Economics.

Hi, no prior knowledge of Accounting or Economics is required. We start from scratch in year 1. It is good that you are studying numerate subjects as this is a numerate discipline.

Hi everyone, I just want to ask if you’re accepting any GCSE equivalents in English? I am planning to apply either Accounting and finance or Economics with Accounting. Thank you!

Hi, what qualification is it that you have taken? Also the Economics with Accounting isn’t actually a course offered by Cass so the entry requirements are slightly different.

I have a questions. Based on the entry requirements, you need AAA to enter into this course. I presume most of the students have good academic standard. Then, I just check the What Uni? website to find out that there is 23% dropout rate, that is very high compared to Leeds and Manchester which requires similar grade (AAA). I just don’t understand why this there a big gap compared to other universities and would like to know the reasons.

Hi, I am not sure where the figure you quote comes from. Typically the non-progression rate from year 1 to year 2 is less than 10% and the main reason for this is academic failure (failure to pass all modules at the resit stage).

Thanks for your reply. By aspirational offer, I mean applicants with lower predicted grades than your normal requirements. Would they be rejected outright? Thanks.

Hi, we do apply a degree of flexibility when it comes to predicted grades as you may achieve better at results time.

I am currently doing Access to HE business studies and I have done functional skills level 2 in English.

Hi, we are unable to accept functional skills English but there are a range of other English language qualifications we can accept such as IELTS.
I have a question. Based on the entry requirements, you need AAA to enter into this course. I presume most of the students have good academic standards. Then, I just check the What Uni? website to find out that there is a 23% dropout rate, which is very high compared to Leeds and Manchester, which requires similar grades (AAA). I just don't understand why there's this big gap compared to other universities and would like to know the reasons.

Also, just to mention that I am discussing about the BSc Accounting and Finance degree specifically when referring to the below than 10% non-progression rate. The BSc Accounting and Finance degree is one of the most demanding degrees at Cass Business School and you will be working towards completing 150 study credits each year (which is 30 credits more than in other universities each year).

Is the 1 year foundation course open to those who have been rejected for the three year course and is this course available through adjustment/clearing? Thanks.

Hi, the Accounting and Finance foundation offered by Cass is only open to UK/EU students and is aimed at those who have slightly missed out on the grades needed for the main degree.

Other universities drop out rate is about 5% compared to 23% for City.

Hi, I'm not sure where the stats of 23% comes from but UniStats has a continuation rate of 92% for the Accounting and Finance course. The course is of a high standard as reflected in the AAA entry requirements.

What is the passing score do you required for IELTS?

We ask applicants to achieve 6.5 overall with no less than 6.0 in each sub-test.

Understood that require high standard like Leeds or Manchester but just curious other Universities only 5% drop out rate. I believe their program is equally challenging... maybe the stats is quote wrongly...

Hi, here is a link to the UniStats page: https://unistats.ac.uk/subjects/study/10001478FT-USACFF/ReturnTo/Search

Accounting & Finance - Unistats
Data from 150 students.

Thank you. So the foundation course should not be included as an option in the UCAS form?

You can apply directly for the foundation year through UCAS as some students may benefit from taking the foundation year.

Thank you for your help. I might as well take IELTS.
Hello everyone it’s Jessie! Just wondering if it’s possible to get into this course through adjustment? As my school teacher reject to predict me enough high grades because I failed the AS exams accidentally. So I can’t apply to Cass this year but I’m confident I can achieve the grades next year after the A level exams. But I am concerned there will not have place left next year. Can someone help me with this question please?

Hi, it is a possibility however there is no guarantee that the course will be available during clearing/adjustment.

Hello, I would like to ask that difference between the two course Accounting & Finance and Investment and Financial Risk Management. Like, which of them can be helpful in the career of Investment (sounds little stupid but I would like to know the detail...)

IFRM (Investment and Financial Risk Management) is more gearing towards students purely interested in financial markets (e.g. investment banking, risk management, asset management). Accounting & Finance will equip you for both the Accounting world and the world of Finance, so there is scope to work in both areas. Ultimately, I would say that IFRM is a far more specialised degree, whereas Accounting and Finance is broader.

Hi, did anyone get into this course through adjustment/clearing this September?

Hi, yes we did accept students through clearing/adjustment this year.

Would a degree in Accounting and Finance be beneficial to a career in Banking or even Fin Tech? Are there modules on Computer Science to choose from? Thank you.

Hi, as Dr Danielle mentioned earlier, Accounting and Finance will equip you with both accounting and finance skills. It is absolutely possible to get into Banking and Fin Tech through this degree as we do offer computer based modules, such as a Visual Basic elective in the Spring term of the first year and Financial Econometrics module in the Autumn term of the second year.

Another concern I have is based on The complete University Guide; the ranking for City Accounting and Finance degree has dropped from 12 in year 2008 to 31 in 2019 and further to 33 in 2020 ranking table.. what maybe the problem?

Hi,
The BSc Accounting and Finance at Cass Business School first started in 2010, so I am not sure what the 2008 figure you quote comes from. I have been the course director of this degree since 2013 and in my experience I have seen consistency and high quality. Rankings can be volatile and in many cases can be quite subjective (and dare I say, “gamed”). I think that it is important to speak to alumni - e.g. check their work destinations through Linkedin - to understand where this degree can take you and what professional opportunities it can create.

But I saw that both of them contain Accounting course ,and I guess the IMRF is a more general one while Accounting and finance is the “specialised one”
Hi,

IFRM falls under the general umbrella of Finance, with Finance being one of the two core components of the Accounting and Finance degree.

But I saw that both of them contain Accounting course, and I guess the IMRF is a more general one while Accounting and finance is the "specialised one". In that sense, IFRM is far more specialised.

Both IFRM and Accounting and Finance have some accounting modules, but the Accounting and Finance degree has far more accounting modules as part of the degree, including specialised accounting modules you would not find on other degrees such as Audit, Taxation.

Hello can I please ask is there any association between A&F and Banking and International Finance or they are two completely different courses?

The two degrees share some common modules in Accounting, but their scope is different given the BIF (Banking and International Finance) is again more geared towards Finance (similarly to IFRM - with IFRM being somewhat more mathematical compared to BIF).

In terms of personal statement what are key things you as a university look for

Hi, we generally look for a keen interest in the course you have applied to. So your focus should be on why you want to do the chosen degree and include any work experiences, interests and skills that you feel will be relevant to supporting your studies

Also how flexible is the grade requirements? In terms if i get one grade lower than what was expected next year august would i likely get a space

We are generally able to apply a bit of flexibility with the grades

Comparing A&F, BIF, IFRM together, which one would you recommend for pursuing a career in Banking/Financial consultant field?

If you are 100% certain that you want to work in banking, then a more specialised finance degree like IFRM or BIF is better suited. Accounting and Finance gives you more choice as you can work in either Accounting or Financial Markets.

Please recommend some books to read in order to get a "preview" of Accounting and Finance, Thanks!
Hi you can find a list of reading material here [https://www.city.ac.uk/applicant/reading-lists](https://www.city.ac.uk/applicant/reading-lists)

Reading lists

Thank you to everyone who popped in for today’s chat! I hope we managed to clear any doubt and satisfy any queries you had. You will be receiving a follow up email with a full transcript of the chat to download and view at your leisure!

Hi all. The chat has now finished.

Thank you everyone for all your questions. We will email a copy of the transcript to you all in the next couple of weeks so you can read through the questions and find any links.