PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>International Business Economics and Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Policy &amp; Global Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Department of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>PSIBEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ECTS</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The globalisation of the world economy and the increase in competition among businesses have created a need for highly skilled economists able to work in complex business environments. The standard tools of business analysis are no longer sufficient for corporate executives, for whom applied strategic business and financial techniques have become essential.

This programme is designed to build upon the knowledge and skills acquired at undergraduate level and apply them to real-world economic and business problems. You will extend your previous education by focusing more on business and economic policy issues and by the end of the program you will be able to analyse real-world economic issues facing modern day businesses. The program develops skills that would be directly relevant to all businesses with an economics and management remit.

There is a high demand for economics postgraduates who, by developing specialised skills areas on this course, have the ability to apply economic analysis and quantitative skills to business and economic policy issues. There are some excellent employment prospects for such economists in economic and management consultancy, multinationals, government agencies and in business and finance, especially in the City of London.

Aims

More specifically, the aims of the programme are:

- To enable you with previous exposure to economics at the undergraduate level to enhance their employability through the acquisition of appropriate marketable skills.
- To enable you to understand how economics can be used as a tool to examine and solve real world business and policy problems.
- To enable you to act with confidence as skilled economists in roles such as management consultancy, multinationals, the world of finance, the civil service or in a general management role.
- To acquire a set of applied economics skills that build upon those learnt in a typical economics undergraduate programme.
- To develop expertise in business economics/international business economics and to develop an awareness of the impact of and interactions between globalisation, business, regulation, finance and economics.
WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:
- Apply economic principles to analyse complex economic and strategic problems faced by national and international businesses.
- Critically appraise the interaction between economics, finance, government policy and business operations both nationally and internationally.
- Demonstrate how economic analysis can be applied to develop and implement business strategies.
- Explain the operation of financial markets and financial instruments and how they can be used for risk management by business.
- Evaluate quantitative techniques to develop, implement and assess business strategies and decisions in the global economy.

Skills:
- Communicate and interact with other members of a team.
- Effectively employ statistical software, programming languages and data analysis tools to inform business strategy, development, implementation, and evaluation.
- Critically assess the nature and the operation of the global economy and financial markets and their influence on business investment decision with particular reference to trade and finance.
- Apply advanced econometric techniques to economic and business problems and interpret the results.
- Conduct independent research and prepare and deliver individual research projects.

Values and attitudes:
- Show respect and critical appreciation for different points of view.
- Conduct positive analysis without normative bias.
- Correctly reference the work of other people to avoid plagiarism.
- Show consideration for the rules and regulations of City UoL.
HOW WILL I LEARN?

The programme is designed to be flexible in the range of teaching methods used. Each module will be delivered through a mixture of lectures, class discussion/seminars, student presentations, analysis of case studies and interactive computer-based exercises particularly in relation to the quantitative elements of the course. Lectures are used to introduce you to key theories, concepts and knowledge, which is then discussed in seminar groups or classes. You are encouraged to engage in discussion and reflect on issues raised by the lectures, to expand further specific topics and develop communication and analytical skills. Computer laboratory teaching provides you with practical experience of using software packages to develop statistical and econometric skills that are formatively assessed by computer-based exercises. Group work involves your presentations as well as group-based problem solving.

In addition, you will be given formal research training via a compulsory 10 hours research methods course to prepare you for the undertaking of a piece of independent research on an approved topic. Relevant modules in the School's Graduate programme in Advanced Social Research Methods will also be available to you, as appropriate to identified need.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

You will be assessed in a variety of ways to ensure that they have met the formal learning objectives:

(1) Individual coursework - in some modules, you will be required to undertake an individual written piece of coursework in the form of an essay, report, set exercises or a piece of analysis based upon a case study.

(2) Group coursework - in some modules, the coursework will require you to work in teams of between 3 to 5 persons.

(3) Presentations - in some modules, part of your overall assessment will be through the use of formal presentations either individually or in groups to the rest of the class on a particular topic. The presentations will be assessed by the module leader and formal feedback given to you on both their presentation and the related work.

(4) Computer-based exercises - for some modules, you will have set exercises that require you to use statistical software, spreadsheets and presentation packages. In the course of your research, you will most probably have to access specialized databanks such as DataStream and Extel.

(5) Tests and examinations - some modules will require you to take a test or an examination which could be instead of or in addition to other forms of coursework.

(6) Dissertation or literature survey or company project: You will be required to undertake a dissertation or a literature survey or a company project.
Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at: https://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

The Pass mark for each module is 50%.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Compensation: where you fail up to a total of 20 credits at first or resit attempt (15 for a Postgraduate Certificate), you may be allowed compensation if:
   • Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
   • It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme, and
   • A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
   • An aggregate mark of 50% has been achieved overall.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark shall be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.
2. Resit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt, you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass the requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: http://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Postgraduate Certificate

Upon completing the Postgraduate Certificate, you will possess a practical understanding of economic principles that you can apply to a range of complex, strategic challenges faced by businesses on both national and international scales. This program will equip you to critically analyse how economic, financial, and government policy factors intersect and impact business operations worldwide. You will learn not only to navigate but also to leverage these dynamics to craft and implement effective business strategies. Your skillset will also expand in communication and teamwork, essential for collaborative success in any professional setting. You will gain practical skills in using statistical software, programming languages, and data analysis tools to develop, implement, and evaluate business strategies, giving you a competitive edge in making data-driven decisions that drive business success. Moreover, the program emphasizes the development of strong values and attitudes. You will cultivate a respect for diverse viewpoints, maintaining a curious and inquisitive approach toward learning. Ethical considerations are paramount; you will learn to conduct analyses free from bias, correctly cite sources to avoid plagiarism, and adhere to the high standards and regulations of City UoL.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught modules</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Postgraduate Diploma
In addition to the above, through completion of a Postgraduate Diploma you will further enhance your expertise with a deeper dive into the dynamics of financial markets and the global economy. This program will enable you to explain the operations of financial markets and financial instruments comprehensively and their application in risk management within business contexts. You will be able to evaluate and apply quantitative techniques to devise, implement, and assess business strategies and decisions, empowering you to navigate the complexities of the global economy effectively. Your skill will extend to critically assessing the nature and operation of the global economy and financial markets, which will enable you to understand and predict how these factors influence business investment decisions, especially concerning trade and finance. Moreover, you will gain skills in advanced econometric techniques, and learn to apply them to both economic and business problems to produce and interpret insightful results. These advanced skills will not only refine your analytical capabilities but also enhance your capacity to contribute strategically to business operations and policy-making at an international level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught modules</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class % required
With Distinction 70
With Merit 60
Without classification 50

Master’s Degree (MSc)
In addition to the above, upon completion of the Master’s Degree, you will be able to prepare and deliver individual research projects from inception to completion. You will develop expertise in conducting literature reviews, allowing you to contextualize your research within the existing body of knowledge, identify gaps, and justify your research direction. You will be able to formulate research questions, design methodologies, collect and analyse data, and present your findings effectively. You will be equipped to tackle complex challenges independently, contribute original insights to your field, and communicate your findings clearly and persuasively to a variety of audiences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation OR Literature Survey and one additional elective module OR Company project and one additional elective module</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class % required
With Distinction 70  
With Merit 60  
Without classification 50

**WHAT WILL I STUDY?**

*Taught component*

You are required to take 120 credits taught modules and have to accrue 60 extra credits through one of the following options:

a. Take one extra elective taught module of 15 credits and a Literature Survey worth 45 credits if you choose the Literature Survey option;
b. Take one extra elective taught module of 15 credits and a Company Research Project if you choose the Company Project option;
c. Take a 60 credit Economics Research Project if you choose the Dissertation option. In order to undertake an Economics Research Project, you must have achieved a minimum mark of 60% in the Quantitative and Research Methods module.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Core/ Elective/ Compulsory</th>
<th>Compensation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative and Research Methods</td>
<td>ECM321</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Business Economics</td>
<td>ECM167</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics and Business Strategy</td>
<td>ECM160</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-commerce and Digital Markets</td>
<td>ECM161</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microeconomics</td>
<td>ECM320</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Finance and Macroeconomics</td>
<td>ECM158</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics of Financial Markets</td>
<td>ECM313</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics of Regulation and Competition</td>
<td>ECM159</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health Economics  ECM165  15  Elective  Y  7
Macroeconomics  ECM170  15  Elective  Y  7
Econometrics  ECM308  15  Elective  Y  7
Big Data Econometrics  ECM323  15  Elective  Y  7
Data Analytics and Programming  ECM324  15  Elective  Y  7
Topics in Development Economics  ECM157  15  Elective  Y  7
Corporate Finance  ECM152  15  Elective  Y  7
Financial Derivatives  ECM312  15  Elective  Y  7

Literature Survey/Dissertation component

In order to achieve a distinction overall for the MSc, a minimum mark of 70% overall has to be achieved.

To progress to dissertation you are normally required to have passed all modules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective/Compulsory</th>
<th>Compensation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economics Literature Survey</td>
<td>ECM307</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics Company Project</td>
<td>ECM325</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics Research Project</td>
<td>ECM306</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that this is an indicative list. These modules are subject to change depending on staff availability, student demand and some are offered on a biennial basis. There is no guarantee that every elective module listed above will run.

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

You should have a:
*2:1 or high 2.2 from a UK university or its foreign equivalent in Economics or Finance.

OR a 2.1 (or foreign equivalent) in Business Studies, Accounting, Management with at least introductory economics and statistics and mathematical methods. If you have a good 2.2 (or foreign equivalent), you might be considered on a case-by-case basis.

OR a 2.1 or high 2.2. (or foreign equivalent) undergraduate degree in a quantitative discipline (such as mathematics, engineering, computer science or a natural science).

OR a very good 2.1 degree in arts, social science, or humanities related subjects, such as Law, History, Psychology, Sociology, Political Science or Journalism with clear motivation to study for the degree to which application is made.

**Economics pre-sessional courses**

You will benefit from having a working knowledge of economics principles, mathematics and statistics. The Economics Department will offer pre-sessional courses (i.e. on campus or online asynchronously) prior to the start of the academic year that will provide the necessary background. The official course offer letter will state whether the Economics pre-sessional courses are compulsory for students enrolling on the program, as well as the corresponding tuition fee for such pre-sessional courses.

These courses are primarily aimed at those who have not studied economics to introduce them to the concepts of maths, statistics and/or economics required. The courses are designed and assessed to ensure that you have a minimum acceptable level of knowledge in each area prior to commencing the course, so that once the full MSc course starts, all students share a common core of basic knowledge.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT**

For students whose first language is not English, the following qualifications will meet the English language requirement for entry to a postgraduate course of study:

* A first degree from a UK university or from the CNAA.
* A first degree from an overseas institution recognised by City as providing adequate evidence of proficiency in the English language, for example, from institutions in Australia or the USA.
* GCE O-level/GCSE English language or English literature, grade C minimum.
* Cambridge ESOL CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) at grade C or above.
* An overall score of 6.5 in the English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum of 6.0 for each subtest.
* Satisfactory standard in the verbal section of the Princeton Test (GMAT).
* US SAT with 500 in verbal performance.
* Warwick English Language Test (WELT) with pass grades of BBC minimum.
* Other evidence of proficiency in the English language which satisfies the board of studies concerned.

**OVERSEAS QUALIFICATIONS**

Equivalent qualifications from an overseas university will be considered.

**IT SKILLS**

All students are expected to be computer literate.
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Programme is committed to equal opportunities. The admissions decision will rest on the qualifications, needs and aspirations of the applicant.

RPL/RPEL Requirements

RPL/RPEL: Students may apply for RPL/RPEL for a minimum of one module and a maximum of 25% of the overall credits for the programme (taught modules only).

Exemptions are not awarded for programmes/qualifications that were awarded five years ago or longer, prior to the enrolment date for the intended programme of study at City. Programmes/qualifications which were awarded over five years ago may be considered towards RPL/RPEL requests if the candidate can provide supporting evidence which gives an account of ways in which learning achieved through the programme/qualification has been applied actively and updated within the past five years.

Former students of City who have been withdrawn from a programme due to academic failure are not normally permitted to RPL/RPEL any awarded credits back onto the same programme within the School.

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