Hi everyone- welcome to our Finance Online Chat! Today's session is for prospective students interested in:

BSc (Hons) Banking & International Finance (N302 & N312)
BSc (Hons) Investment and Financial Risk Management (N390 & N319)
BSc (Hons) Finance (N3N3 & N3N1)
BSc (Hons) Finance with foundation year (N3NF)

My name is X and I work in the City’s Marketing and External relations team – looking forward to answering your questions! :)

My name is X and I work in the Cass Undergraduate Admissions team – looking forward to answering your questions! :)

Hi everyone- welcome to our Finance Online Chat! My name is X and I am currently a second year student studying BSc Banking and International Finance. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask :) 

Please feel free to ask any questions you have :) 

my question is if I have an IELTS 6.5 do I need a gcse English

Hi! No you don’t need it if you meet the IELTS requirement. You need to have 6.0 in each sub test

Do any of these courses have a sandwich year?

Hi, yes all three finance degrees have the possibility of the third year being what we call a placement year where you work in industry. This is a really good option. The jobs are good ones with leading finance companies and students that do the placement year benefit hugely

Hello, I would like to know what kind of work placement will be included, more exactly, what kind of work can we students do by then?
This varies a lot. I have one student who has just returned from his placement. He was working in a private equity fund identifying opportunities and investing in companies. It is a small operation - 20 people - and he does everything a full-time employee would. Then there are jobs which are maybe maternity cover - doing the job somebody else would normally be doing. Often quite administrative and not always the job you would want to do on graduation but you make contacts and get to see what types of jobs actually look like.

Hello. Is professional placement offered only in the UK or in other places as well?

You can carry out the professional placement anywhere in the world, but they are mainly in London.

I would like to apply for the investment and risk management course. Can you tell me how many hours per week I will have to go to the Uni.

For first year, you will have around 3 hours per module, 2 hours for each lecture and then a one hour tutorial. You will have four modules per term so around 12 hours a week.

Does any of these courses have a year abroad?

Yes, we offer a one-semester exchange for the first etrm of second year where you visit an overseas university and do replacement courses for what you would have done at City, or a one-year overseas option in year three where you do a whole year overseas. The grades don’t count towards your degree here but you do have to pass the year. We have exchange programs all over the world - HK is (was!) popular, also Australia, Italy and the US.

More information can be found here [https://www.cass.city.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/placements-and-study-abroad](https://www.cass.city.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/placements-and-study-abroad)

If I am applying as an individual, is it good, if I am using my last college head of the business department as my reference. She was my marketing teacher.

Hi, yes it’s fine to use her as your reference. :)

It might sound a little worry, but how soon can I receive a response about the offer? I send my application to UCAS in Sep.6th and then I was asked to update a new personal statement a few days ago......

Hi, I imagine you may receive a response within a couple of weeks if you’ve not had a response from us yet. The admissions team have only just started to work through the applications now so don’t worry :)
I just would like to know the time so that I can decide some arrangement in my country....

Hello! Is there anything the Business School offers to help with CFA Qualifications during the time of doing the course?

Hi, we are a CFA partner institution but the CFA qualification is separate from what we do and you study that independently. Many of our students are completing CFA level 1 in their final year.

Gotcha! Thank you. In regards to how our course is marked, does the first year hold any weight on the end grades students get at the end of the course? I hope that makes sense.

First year counts for just 10% of the overall mark, 30% for year 2 and the rest for the final year.

I noticed that there are scholarships for international students, is there a standard of whether the scholarships is given or not?

Hi, you need to meet the criteria to be eligible for scholarships. You can find out more here https://www.cass.city.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/application-and-funding/scholarships

Undergraduate scholarships and loans | Cass Business School
Undergraduate scholarships at Cass Business School including Coca-Cola Scholars Programme and Lord Mayor of London Scholarships for Academic Excellence.

could I study economics as a bsc then for my masters go into finance?

Yes, for sure. I used to direct the MSc in Finance and we have many economists coming into finance.

So.....it is too late for the Year 2020 to apply?

Hi, are you referring to applying for the scholarships?

Or the deadline is for the 2019 students?

Yes the deadline shown on the website is for 2019 students

also would that work if I study financial maths at bsc then go for my masters in finance?
It depends a little on the MSc degree you are looking at. Some will ask for specific undergrad degrees like economics or accounting. Others - like our MSc Finance at City - will take most undergrad degrees as long as they are numerical. But I would have thought that fin maths is a good background for either type of MSc.

also would that work if I study financial maths at bsc then go for my masters in finance?

There are many types of BSc-Msc combinations. We get students doing a relatively broad UG degree like economics who then specialise into finance at MSc level. Or people might start with UG in Finance and then go into something broader like Management at MSc level. Or you might do finance at UG and then go more technical such as MSc Business Analytics at MSc. Lots of permutations work. My advice, for what it is worth, would be to start broad and specialise later unless you are quite sure of what you want to study and work in.

What kind of jobs can a person do after studying Investment and Financial Risk Management?

Typically, our IFRM students go into risk management roles at banks or investment funds, or into fund management companies. But even though it is quite a specialised degree you will learn enough general skills that you can go into general management (eg with companies like BT or Coca-cola) because you will be numerate and have good communications skills which they value, even if they do not necessarily want you to use your technical finance skills.

What kind of jobs can a person do after studying Investment and Financial Risk Management?

Hi, this link [https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career/destinations-of-city-graduates](https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career/destinations-of-city-graduates) shows you where our graduates go after studying with us.

Where City graduates work

Where City graduates work after studying at City. Based on Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey.

There is 15 minutes left for today's Online Chat! Please ask any questions now so that we have time to answer them :)

I live in London but do you recommend living in accommodation for the first year to get a different experience?

Personally, I lived at home in my first year however some of my friends who did live in accommodation really enjoyed it and found the skills they gained from it really valuable.

Is it necessary for us to have any kinds of preview? If so, please recommend some.

Do you mean preparatory readings? If so then you should be reading The Economist magazine from cover to cover each week. I also recommend reading any of the finance books by Michael Lewis (start with Liar's Poker - his first and best book). These are "light" books but there is good finance within them. If you want something heavier then books like Freakonomics or The Undercover Economist are good. But the most important thing is to make sure your maths is as strong as possible. Look through your maths textbooks and make sure you are comfortable with statistics and basic calculus.
If you'd like to find out more about the University and visit the campus we'd love to see you at the one of the campus tours which take place most Tuesdays at 11am and Thursdays at 2pm: [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/visit-us/campus-tours](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/visit-us/campus-tours).

**Campus tours**

A campus tour led by a current student is a great way to see City, University of London. Tours run on Tuesdays at 11:00.

Will there be an Applicant Day and when does it usually take place?

They will be in early spring 2020. Please keep an eye on our website for more details.

Thanks everyone! This is the end of this chat. Good luck and hope to meet you soon when you join Cass. If you have any further questions, please email onlineevents@city.ac.uk.