

# Accounting and Finance



Undergraduate study

# Courses

## Single Honours

### **BSc Accounting and Finance\***

three years NN43

### **BSc Accounting and Finance with Study in Continental Europe**

four years NN34

### **BSc Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement**

four years (entry by transfer)

### **BSc Accounting and Management\***

three years NN42

### **BSc Economics and Accounting\***

three years LN14

\*Study Abroad option available, four years, entry by transfer.

## Why study accounting and finance at Bristol?

Accounting and finance lie directly at the heart of business; of all the FTSE 100 CEOs with a background in finance, nearly half are chartered accountants. In an increasingly complex and challenging operational environment, top companies are actively seeking leaders who have invested in financial training and education.

As one of the UK's leading departments for research in accounting and finance and management\*, we have a reputation for producing high-quality graduates with strong quantitative skills and a global outlook.

Our up-to-date courses are accredited by professional accountancy bodies ICAEW, ACCA and CIMA and combine theoretical and technical education with an understanding of how to tackle the many questions and challenges faced by those working in finance today.

Bristol will provide you with a rigorous education in accounting and finance, but we also ensure you gain a solid foundation in economics and mathematics. We offer a wide range of optional units meaning you can either broaden your study beyond accounting and finance or tailor your degree to your own interests within those disciplines. Alternatively, we offer fully integrated degrees where you can combine an accounting degree with either management or economics.

As one of the UK's major centres for financial services, Bristol offers plenty of career opportunities. Many of the UK's large accounting and consulting firms have a base in the city and support our students with careers guidance, mentoring and professional skills development.

\*The Department of Management and Department of Accounting and Finance were together ranked sixth in the UK for research impact in analysis of REF 2014 by *Times Higher Education*.

**'Teaching quality is good. They like to encourage students to be critical.'**

Yiren (BSc Accounting and Finance)

## What will you study?

As a student in the School of Economics, Finance and Management you will benefit from an integrated approach across the three disciplines, with increasing choice and flexibility as the degree progresses. Across the three years of study you can choose to deepen your knowledge in a particular field or broaden your studies across an emerging theme, such as corporate social responsibility and sustainability, or international business and finance.

### Year one

In the first year you will develop your skills across the core disciplines of accounting, economics, finance and mathematics with approximately two thirds of your time spent covering these in core units. If you are studying BSc Economics and Accounting, you will study an additional economics unit and in BSc Accounting and Management you will study two management units.

All courses have at least one optional unit in the second semester of the first year. Examples of optional units offered in 2017/18 included: Global Business Environment and Organisation Theory.

### Year two

In year two you will study financial accounting, management accounting and corporate finance in more depth. You will learn more advanced theory and techniques and we will teach you how to analyse data from quantitative models. As in year one, you will be able to choose up to two optional units, allowing you to tailor your degree to your own interests. Second-year optional units available in 2017/18 included: Project Management, History of Economic Thought, and International Business Management. Many students choose Taxation and Foundations of Business Law for their options, which offer exemptions from professional examinations.

### Additional year (optional)

You may be able to extend your degree to four years and spend your third year undertaking one of the following options:

- a professional placement in an accounting role within an ICAEW accredited provider;
- a year studying abroad in English at one of our partner universities, for example in Australia, Europe, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea or the US;
- a year studying abroad in the host language in France, Germany, Italy or Spain.

With the exception of BSc Accounting and Finance with Study in Continental Europe, entry is by transfer only. Allocation is merit based, depending on your first-year examination results.



'Accounting and Finance is a challenging course but Bristol has given me a lot of support. Teaching quality is exceptional here. Lecturers are very experienced and they are all willing to give extra support outside lecture or tutorial times.'

Henrietta (BSc Accounting and Finance)

# What will you study?

## Professional placement

Your placement will be in a financial environment, perhaps in an accounting firm, and will enhance your understanding of the areas of accounting and finance encountered in your studies. Within the placement you will have the opportunity to complete the first stage of the professional accounting examinations of the ICAEW; some exemptions from exams will already be available on the basis of the units you studied during the first two years of your degree.

## Study abroad

Our accounting degrees 'with Study Abroad' allow you to spend your third year overseas studying accounting and finance in English at a leading university. You can choose from one of our partner institutions in Europe or farther afield in destinations such as Australia, Hong Kong or the US. Your third-year course will combine the challenging, broad academic content of all our accounting degrees with an overseas dimension that reflects the international nature of modern business.

## Study in Continental Europe

On BSc Accounting and Finance with Study in Continental Europe you will spend the third year studying accounting, business, finance and management in the host language of a partner university in France, Germany, Italy or Spain. To study in France, Germany or Spain you need AS-level or equivalent in French, German or Spanish. To study in Italy you need at least GCSE in Italian. In years one and two you will take language units to develop your language skills, improving your understanding of the relevant language generally and in the context of issues in accounting and in finance.

## Final year

There is greater flexibility and choice available when selecting optional units in your final year. You may choose to specialise and strengthen your skills in a particular area, for example by selecting units aligned to particular career goals, such as investment banking. You may prefer to keep your options open and follow a broader path, for example selecting a mixture of economics and management units.

## Professional Liaison Network

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Law has a dedicated team – the Professional Liaison Network (PLN) – that run a number of schemes linking students with organisations and professionals relevant to their degree programme. This can enrich their studies as they gain an insight into how the accounting and finance discipline is used in the wider world.

The PLN runs a professional mentoring scheme, whereby students in the second year of study get the option of having a finance professional or accountant as a mentor. The scheme was introduced last year for our economics students; recent mentors were drawn from a wide range of organisations, including the Office for National Statistics, the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Lloyds Bank. The PLN also run a series of Inside Track lectures during term time, in which speakers – often Bristol graduates – come to give students a unique insight into their sector and role.

## Enrichment opportunities

Outside your academic study you have the opportunity to work through Bloomberg Market Concepts, an e-learning course that provides an introduction to financial markets analysis. This learning, together with the certificate of completion, is a valuable asset if you are interested in pursuing a career in finance.

The student-run EFM Society is one of the most active in the University and promotes a rich experience via numerous sporting and social events. The society also offers careers events and skills development opportunities with employers from a variety of sectors. Take a look at the EFM Society Facebook page to see the types of activities on offer.



## Teaching and learning

Our courses are delivered by world-class academics and professionally qualified accountants from a wide range of complementary disciplines who incorporate the very latest research and ideas into their teaching. The quality of teaching and enthusiasm of our staff are rated highly by our students.

In addition to lectures we offer teaching in smaller groups, which supports discussion, participation and feedback with your peers. Our lecturers and tutors also have office hours when you can drop in to discuss the course or any issue.

In our teaching we emphasise the practical aspects of academic content with examples from the real-world business environment. We have an extensive events programme where we invite academics and accountants from the private and public sectors to talk to students.

### Assessment

We appreciate the importance of timely and effective feedback and work closely with you to ensure you get the best out of your time at Bristol. You will prepare assessments and receive feedback on them throughout each academic year. Assignments are intended to help your learning and results do not usually count towards your final degree result. Typically, each subject will be assessed with an examination of two-and-a-half or three hours duration at the end of the teaching block in January or the summer, although some units also include a coursework element that counts towards the final assessment.

Your final degree award will be determined by assessments in years two and three (40 and 60 per cent respectively). If you are taking a four-year course the additional year (abroad or on placement) will count too; the weightings for years two, three and four being 30 per cent, 10 per cent and 60 per cent respectively.

## Careers support and graduate destinations

Bristol graduates are in demand, especially those with degrees in accounting and finance. Our graduates are rated fourth in the UK for employability by *The Times* top 100 graduate employers\*. Among the top 20 UK employers in the rating, half are accounting, banking and consultancy firms. You will have plenty of graduate-level career opportunities after your degree.

Among the most recent cohort surveyed, 85 per cent of accounting and finance graduates were in work or further study within six months of graduation\*\*. Accreditation by all the major accountancy bodies and the resulting exemptions from professional examinations mean that our graduates benefit from a flying start to their careers, be it in professional practice, industry or the public and not-for-profit sectors.

You will have lots of opportunities for professional skills development during your time here. We regularly host seminars, recruitment events and skills workshops with key employers from the financial services sector. The faculty has recently launched the Professional Liaison Network and is working with employers to increase engagement opportunities for students through work placements, internships, guest speakers, mentoring and company visits.

Employers who recruited Bristol accounting graduates recently include Deloitte, Capita and PwC in roles such as business analyst, trainee chartered accountant and finance manager.

\**Graduate Market in 2018*, High Fliers Research

\*\*Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2016/17, BSc Accounting and Finance



# Making your application

## Typical offer for BSc Accounting and Finance\*

Visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug19-accounting) for other qualifications.

**A-levels** AAA (contextual ABB<sup>†</sup>) including A in Mathematics, or A\*AB including A in Mathematics.

**IB Diploma** 36 points overall (contextual 32<sup>†</sup>) with 18 at Higher Level (contextual 16<sup>†</sup>), including either 6 at Higher Level or 7 at Standard Level in Mathematics.

**English Language profile** B<sup>††</sup>

**GCSEs** No specific subjects required.

<sup>†</sup>For information on contextual offers, visit [bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers](http://bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers).

<sup>††</sup>For details of English language profiles, visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements).

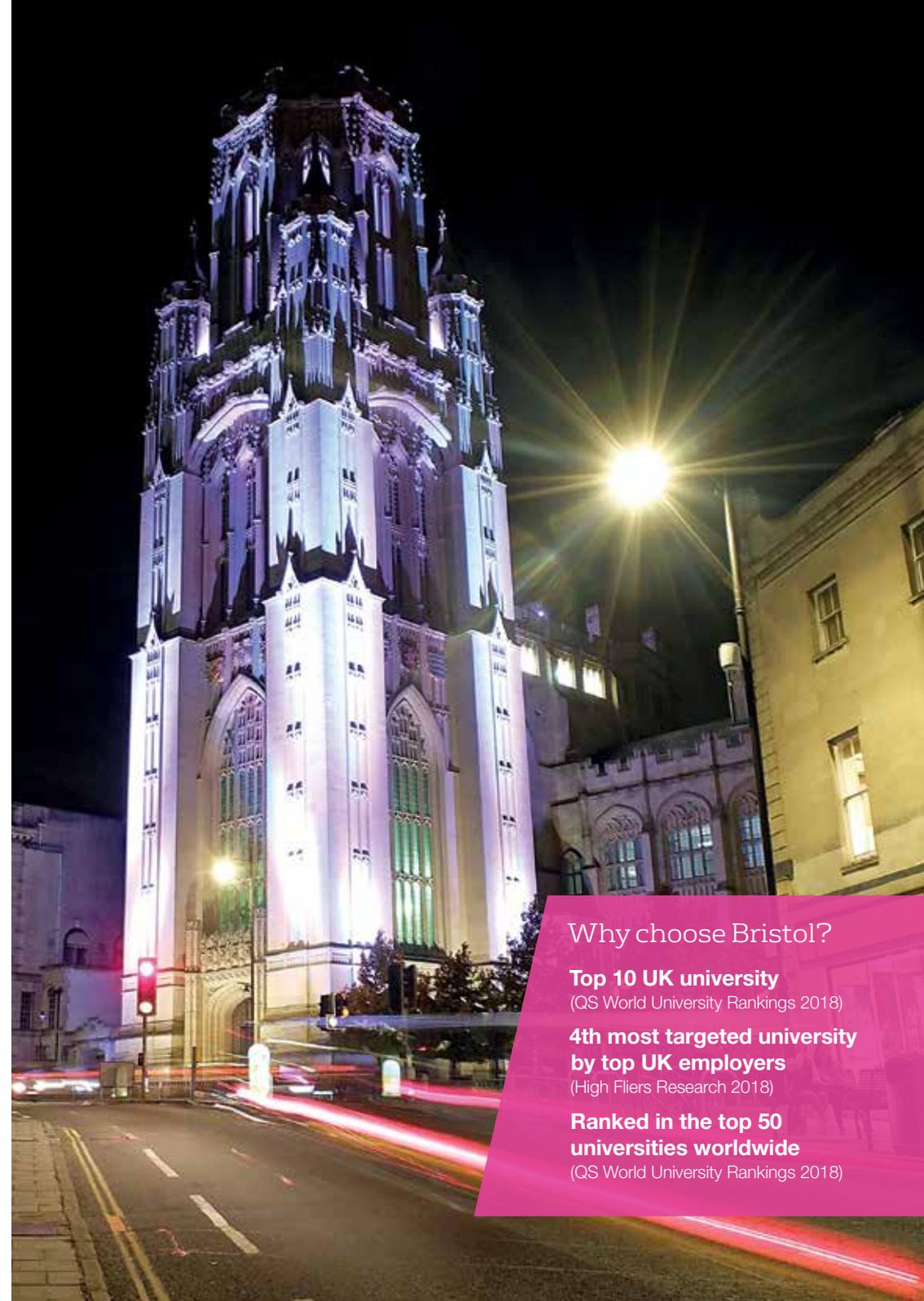
**Selection** UCAS or Common Application.

\*The typical offer is indicative only and the University accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information is correct at the time of printing (June 2018); however, we recommend you check the University's website for the most up-to-date information: [bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study).

We don't interview; selection is based on your UCAS application. In your personal statement we are looking for evidence of motivation, so tell us why you are interested in the degree for which you are applying. Tell us about any work experience or positions of responsibility that you have held, why you took on those roles and why they are relevant to your chosen degree.

## Further information

Find out more about the Department of Accounting and Finance: [bristol.ac.uk/accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/accounting).



## Why choose Bristol?

**Top 10 UK university**  
(QS World University Rankings 2018)

**4th most targeted university  
by top UK employers**  
(High Fliers Research 2018)

**Ranked in the top 50  
universities worldwide**  
(QS World University Rankings 2018)

# Contact us

## Enquiries Team

Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649

**Email** [choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk)

If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

## Accommodation Office

Tel +44 (0)117 954 6640

**Email** [accom-office@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:accom-office@bristol.ac.uk)  
**bristol.ac.uk/accommodation**

## Disability Services

Tel +44 (0)117 331 0444

**Email** [disability-services@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:disability-services@bristol.ac.uk)  
**bristol.ac.uk/disability-services**

University guide to the city of Bristol  
**bristol.ac.uk/citybristol**

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**Tel** +44 (0)117 394 1573

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## Photography

Dan Rowley, Nick Riddle

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