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If you have any questions about courses, applications or student life at Bristol, please contact the Enquiries Team.

### Photography

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# Accounting and Finance



# Courses

## BSc Accounting and Finance<sup>†</sup>

three years NN43

## BSc Accounting and Finance with Professional Placement

four years (entry by transfer)

## BSc Accounting and Management<sup>†</sup>

three years NN42

## BSc Accounting and Management with Professional Placement\*

four years (entry by transfer)

## BSc Economics and Accounting<sup>†</sup>

three years LN14

## BSc Economics and Accounting with Professional Placement\*

four years (entry by transfer)

## BSc Finance\*

three years N300

<sup>†</sup> Study Abroad option available, four years.

\* This course is subject to approval.

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2020. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2019). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, [bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study), for the latest updates.

# 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 accounting and finance with other related subjects. For instance, BSc Accounting and Management includes core units in mathematics, economics and finance, along with further units tailored to the specific requirements of the discipline of management. This course does not require A-level Mathematics.

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*.

'I would definitely recommend the University of Bristol; it is a great place to study. Bristol is also a really fun city with lots to do, and there is a great student atmosphere. If you come to Bristol, be prepared to work hard – but you'll also have a good time!'

Alex (BSc Accounting and Finance)

# What will you study?

Accounting and Finance students will receive comprehensive, cutting-edge education in both the skills and conceptual understanding to succeed in accounting- and finance-related professional careers. As a student at the University of Bristol you could benefit from integrating disciplines such as economics and management, with increasing choices 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 an additional management unit.

All courses have at least one optional unit in the second semester of the first year. Examples of recent optional units include Global Business Environment, and Accounting and Finance in Context.

## Year two

In year two you will study financial accounting, management accounting and finance in more depth. You will learn more advanced theory and techniques; for example, you may study how to analyse data from quantitative models or deepen your understanding of business strategy. 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 and diversify your knowledge. Depending on your programme, available options may include History of Economic Thought, International Business Management, and Banking. Many students choose Taxation and Foundations of Business Law for their options, which offer exemptions from professional examinations.

## 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 or auditing. You may prefer to keep your options open and follow a broader path by integrating economics and management units. Depending on your course, options may include Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability, Environmental Economics, or Behavioural Finance and Accounting.



'The teaching staff are really supportive. Lectures are updated to include real-time events in the world, and we use a number of mobile apps to interact with our lecturers.'

Ali (BSc Accounting and Finance)

# What will you study?

## 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 employer;
- 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.

Study Abroad courses allow for direct entry. Entry for the professional placement degree is by transfer only. Allocation for this option is merit based, depending on first-year examination results, and will require the applicant to secure a suitable placement role with an ICAEW-accredited employer.

## 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 your employer may offer you the opportunity to complete the first stage of the professional accounting examinations of the ICAEW. In addition, some exemptions from exams may already be available on the basis of the units you studied during the first two years of your course.

## 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.

## Professional Liaison Network

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Law has a dedicated team – the Professional Liaison Network (PLN) – that runs a number of schemes linking students with organisations and professionals relevant to your degree programme. This can enrich your studies as you gain an insight into how the accounting and finance discipline is used in the wider world. The professional mentoring scheme provides students in the second year of study with the option of having a finance professional or accountant as a mentor. The scheme was introduced two years ago with recent mentors drawn from a wide range of organisations and sectors, including banking, asset management, chartered accounting, broking, advisory, equity research, and the pharmaceutical and health sectors. The PLN also runs 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.



'At Bristol, whether you are into sports or volunteering, there is always something for you. For my course I got to choose optional and open units in my second and third years, and staff are always willing to help.'

Annie (BSc Accounting and Management)

## 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 at the end of the teaching block in January or in 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.



**'Bristol will fit you just right! The community is very supportive. The Careers Service is fantastic, and I have benefited a lot from their talks, events and quick-fix sessions.'**

Noor (BSc Accounting and Management)

## Careers and graduate destinations

Bristol graduates are in demand, especially those with degrees in accounting and finance. We are the second most targeted university in the UK by *The Times* top 100 graduate employers.\* Among the top 20 UK employers in the research, half are accounting, banking and consultancy firms. You will have plenty of graduate-level career opportunities after your degree.

Accreditation by leading accountancy professional bodies and the resulting exemptions from professional examinations mean that our graduates can 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 works 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 2019, High Fliers Research



### Graduate employers

KPMG  
PwC  
Moore Stephens  
Handelsbanken  
Mazars



### Career destinations

Auditor  
Accounts Associate  
Financial Services Manager  
Business Technology Analyst  
Assurance Graduate

Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey 2016/17. Find out more at [bristol.ac.uk/careers/be-inspired](http://bristol.ac.uk/careers/be-inspired).

# Making your application

Visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting) for more information about our courses.

## Typical offer for BSc Accounting and Finance

**A-levels** AAA (contextual ABB) including A in Mathematics, or A\*AB including A in Mathematics.

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

Our contextual offer is a grade reduction of up to two grades below the standard entry requirements, made to applicants from under-represented groups. Find out more at [bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers](http://bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers).

**GCSEs** No specific subjects required.

## Selection process UCAS.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting).



Read more about how we support you when you are here:

[bristol.ac.uk/students](http://bristol.ac.uk/students)

## Application advice for accounting and finance courses

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.

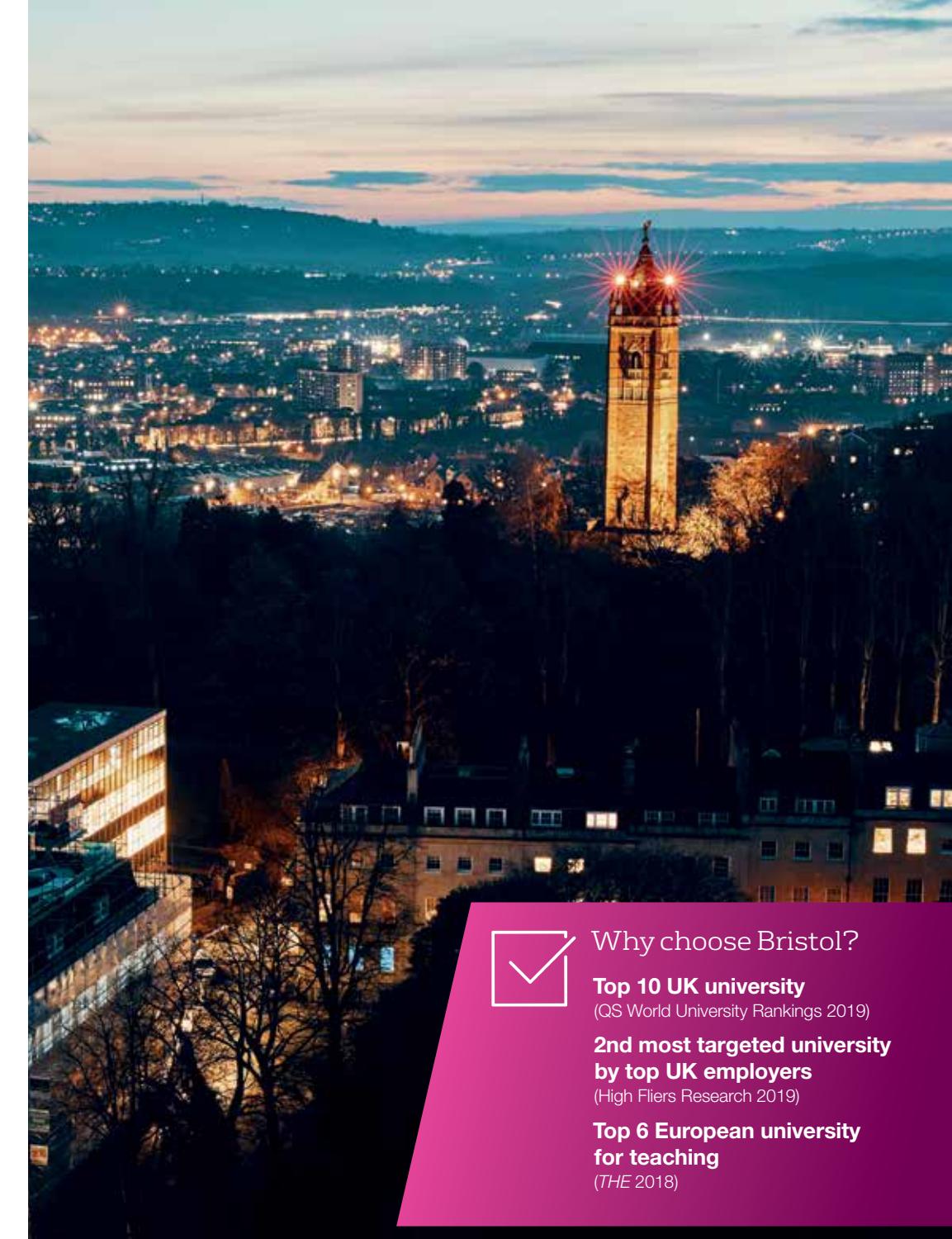
For BSc Accounting and Management, A-Level Mathematics is not required (7 or A in GCSE Mathematics is required instead). Entry requirements for all our courses can be found at [bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting).

## Further information

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

This information is correct at the time of printing (May 2019), but we recommend you check the University website for the latest information:

[bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-accounting).



Why choose Bristol?

**Top 10 UK university**  
(QS World University Rankings 2019)

**2nd most targeted university by top UK employers**  
(High Fliers Research 2019)

**Top 6 European university for teaching**  
(THE 2018)