

**DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD**

Course Title	<b>BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad)</b>
Awarding Bodies	<b>University of Suffolk</b>
Level of Award <sup>1</sup>	<b>FHEQ Level 6</b>
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	<b>None</b>
Credit Structure <sup>2</sup>	<b>480 Credits</b> <b>Level 4: 120 Credits</b> <b>Level 5: 120 Credits plus 120 placement and study abroad credits*</b> <b>Level 6: 120 Credits</b>  <b>*For an award 'with Professional Placement and Study Abroad', 60 placement credits and 60 study abroad credits are required.</b>
Mode of Attendance	<b>Full-time</b>
Standard Length of Course <sup>3</sup>	<b>4 years full-time</b>
Intended Award	<b>BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad)</b>
Named Exit Awards	<b>None</b>
Entry Requirements <sup>4</sup>	<b>Candidates should normally hold GCSE Grade C or equivalent. The numeracy of non-traditional entrants will be evaluated during the admissions process.</b>
Delivering Institution	<b>Ipswich</b>
UCAS Code	<b>N301</b>

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad) course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2019-20 academic year<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

<sup>3</sup> Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

<sup>4</sup> Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

<sup>5</sup> The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

## **DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD**

### **Course Summary**

Many Business Schools continue to treat the constellation of subject disciplines which constitute Economics, Banking and Finance as, either, a branch of science or as a special form of applied mathematics. This course seeks to develop a broader and more rounded appreciation of the theories, practices and preferences which shape policy on such things as government spending, taxation and banking policy.

To allow students to understand and – in the fullness of time – to intervene usefully and purposefully in the debates which structure public policy, political decision-making and business strategy this course treats Economics, Banking and Finance social scientifically. The course therefore combines the study of microeconomics and macroeconomics with the analysis of ethics, entrepreneurship, banking and finance and business strategy.

In the study of Economics, Banking and Finance therefore we use the tools of social scientific inquiry to examine the complex, contested and often controversial field that is too easily reduced to “EBF”. Thus we consider the key factors – employment, taxation, public spending, banking policy and financial regulation that in so many ways shape our lives and the fortunes of our communities.

The additional sandwich year at the end of Level 5 enables students to engage in professional placement (either in the UK or overseas) and study abroad, each for one semester. The professional placement provides a valuable opportunity for students to put theory into real-life practice, enhancing their skills and understanding of the business environment and expanding their professional networks. Study abroad enables students to develop relevant marketable skills, immerse themselves into another language and culture and enhance their personal development.

### **Course Aims**

- To provide students with a critical understanding of the key principles of economics, banking and finance shaped by a need to ensure their appropriate application.
- To generate an appreciation of the economic and welfare dimensions of wider social, political, legal and environmental issues.
- To ensure a firm foundation of knowledge about the workings of national and global economies and the financial services industry.
- To foster the development of relevant skills, including the usage of appropriate tools of analysis to support business decision-making in a range of settings.
- To develop the necessary analytical skills and simplifying frameworks for the solution of specific theoretical and applied problems in economics, banking and finance at both national and global levels.
- To provide students with an ability to interpret real world economic developments, events and organisations and critically assess the influences which these have in the

## **DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD**

arena of banking and finance.

- To provide students with a valuable and positive learning experience in their academic studies from which students can proceed to further studies in economics, banking and/or finance and to multi-disciplinary areas.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad) course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)<sup>6</sup>.

1. Recognise the importance of economics to the study of business and administration, the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge
2. Demonstrate a systematic understanding of defined aspects of economics, banking and finance including economic and finance models and models of banking regulation.
3. Critically evaluate and synthesise data for economic analysis and information from disparate sources
4. Expound findings effectively, whether orally or in a written format
5. Describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research (including alternative ideas)
6. Manage their own learning, and make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources
7. Apply the methods and techniques that they have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding, and to initiate and carry out projects
8. Evaluate information from a variety of sources
9. Improve self-learning and performance through reflection and evaluation
10. Undertake appropriate further training of a professional or equivalent nature
11. Use computer skills in a variety of learning contexts

### **Course Design**

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmark statements:

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<sup>6</sup> As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

## DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

- Business and Management (2015)
- Economics (2015)

### Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad) comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type <sup>7</sup>
<b>Level 4</b>			
	Business Economics	20	M
	Financial Markets and Institutions	20	R
	Introduction to Business Finance and Quantitative Methods	20	R
	Introduction to Accounting	20	M
	Business Law	20	R
	Management and Managing: An Introduction	20	R
<b>Level 5</b>			
	Topics in Business Research	20	M
	Business Ethics	20	R
	Managing for Innovation and Creativity	20	R
	Modern Banking	20	M
	Financial Risk Management	20	M
	Microeconomic Theory	20	O
	Macroeconomic Theory	20	O
	Business Management in Practice	20	O
<b>Level 5 sandwich year with professional placement and study abroad (leading to placement and study abroad credit)</b>			
	Professional Practice	60	M
	Study abroad module at host institution	40	M
	Study abroad reflective account	20	M
<b>Level 6</b>			

<sup>7</sup> Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

## DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

	Financial Strategy	20	M
	Banking and Financial Regulation	20	M
	Development Economics	20	M
	Dissertation / Business Research Project	40	M
	Global Economy	20	O
	Alternative Economic Ideas	20	O
	Industrial Organisation	20	O

Macroeconomic Theory, Global Economy and Industrial Organisation are offered each year normally in Semester 1. Microeconomic Theory and Alternative Economic Ideas will be offered each year normally in Semester 2. Business Management in Practice is offered annually between Years 1 and 2.

### Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad).

### Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad) are likely to have approximately 10 contact hours per week for level 4, 9 contact hours for level 5 and 6 contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar and practical activity. Students will normally be expected to undertake 30 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises. This will often include making use of online resources (lectures, reading and activities) that are prescribed by the tutor running the module.

Study abroad course delivery will be dependent on the requirements of the host institution. For a half year of study abroad, students will be expected to engage in 195 hours of independent study and 5 hours of tutorials and online support in order to complete the reflective account.

For a half year of professional practice, students are expected to engage in 545 hours of professional practice (including 15 weeks of supervised and relevant work experience), 5 hours of tutorials and online support and 50 hours of independent study.

### Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 75% coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects) and 25% examinations. The nature of the assessment of the sandwich year will depend on the type of activities undertaken: professional

## DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

placements will be assessed by 100% coursework, but assessment of study abroad will vary according to the requirements of the host institution.

### Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

### Course Costs

Students undertaking BA (Hons) Economics, Banking and Finance (with Professional Placement and Study Abroad) will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year (excluding sandwich year, for which the fee will be £1,385 for the year)
Part-time UK/EU	Not applicable
Full-time International	£13,330 per year (excluding sandwich year, for which the fee will be £2,155 for the year)
Part-time International	Not applicable

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students may be required to pay additional costs for trips, residentials as applicable and to incur other costs for optional field trips, exhibitions and, for their sandwich year, for travel to and from their host institution (for study abroad) or to and from their professional placement setting (for professional practice).

### Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).