

UNIVERSITY of STIRLING
**Management
School**



REDEFINE

**WITH A
MASTERS**

MSc INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

REDEFINE AT STIRLING

WHY AN MSc INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE?

Globalisation, growth of multinational enterprises, convergence of international accounting practices and the expansion of the European Union all contribute to the importance of an international focus in accounting and finance education.

The increasing influence of international financial reporting standards and the shortage in some countries of international accounting expertise have led to significant demand for relevant education.

The ACCA-accredited MSc International Accounting and Finance reflects these developments. It provides a solid foundation for students seeking a qualification as a Certified Accountant of international standing or for those students looking to understand recent developments and key trends in international finance.



For further information on the course content visit: stir.ac.uk/14

WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE?

International accounting and finance provides specialised training in the reporting and analysis skills required by global organisations. It also enables students to establish an appreciation of issues relating to international investments from a range of perspectives.

At Stirling, there is a strong focus on developing a deep understanding of international accounting standards as well as corporate

governance and social and environmental accounting. This takes place as students are equipped with an appreciation of international financial markets.

On completion of the course our ACCA accreditation entitles students to exemption from ACCA papers F1-F4. Exemption from F7 and F9 may also be available based on the spring semester elective modules chosen.



This course provides rigorous training for those seeking a career working in international finance or within a multinational corporation as well as for those wishing to pursue higher studies, such as a PhD.

PROFESSOR DAVID MCMILLAN
Course Director





TOP REASONS TO STUDY WITH US

1

Accredited by ACCA

offers successful graduates exemption from up to six of the global accounting body's papers

2

Week long masterclass

run by Amplify Trading this will give you practical experience of trading markets

3

Expert teaching team

led by Professor David McMillan, an internationally respected expert in modelling and forecasting of asset returns, and author of more than 100 papers in peer-reviewed journals

4

Stirling's global research rating

we're among the top 25 in the UK according to REF 2014

5

Student Managed Investment Fund

practical experience analysing the value of stocks, and constructing and managing a portfolio using professional data sources with regular input and visits from industry professionals



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the University of Stirling Management School MSc International Accounting and Finance are in high demand, finding employment in a wide variety of roles. Alumni work in investment banking, insurance, financial regulation, accounting and management consultancy.

Organisations with manufacturing facilities, staff or service centres in more than one country

recruit our students, as do organisations that trade across national borders. There is also high demand for professionals with international accounting and finance expertise within Britain. The UK Commission for Employment and Skills has highlighted the need for skills in areas such as regulation in international commerce.

PREPARING BUSINESS LEADERS OF THE FUTURE

Postgraduate education at the University of Stirling Management School goes beyond textbooks and lecture rooms by also focusing on professional and personal development. Our unique Flying Start Leadership programme, at the beginning of the academic year, equips students with the awareness, knowledge and techniques essential for building a successful career. These range from practical skills, like effective public speaking, to developing ways to work under pressure in difficult situations and manage conflict.





DEVELOPING REAL-WORLD EXPERTISE

As part of the Management School's focus on enhancing graduate employability, we offer an intensive trading Boot Camp for Masters students on our finance related courses. Delivered on campus in conjunction with industry training specialist Amplify Trading, the course bridges the gap between academic theories of financial markets and the real world.

Students have the opportunity to trade in a simulated environment across a variety of futures contracts quoted on the Chicago Mercantile

Exchange, which provides exposure to stocks, bonds, currencies and commodities. An awards ceremony concludes the week.

The Stirling Amplify Trading Boot Camp won the CFA Institute's Innovative Delivery of Education (IDEA) Award in 2015 and was shortlisted for the Herald Higher Education Awards for Scotland in the Innovation Technology Excellence category and the Wharton-QS Stars Reimagine Education Awards, in the Presence Learning category.

ABOUT THE COURSE

The MSc International Accounting and Finance is a one-year, full-time course, of two 15-week semesters, followed by a supervised dissertation. Teaching includes lectures, seminars, workshops and practical case study exercises.

A Postgraduate Diploma follows exam success at the end of the second semester. The Masters degree is awarded after students have satisfactorily completed the dissertation.



There is an exponential learning curve during the Amplify Trading Boot Camp. You get to execute your decisions right there, right then. The live prices with which you trade, change every second, and you make gains and losses all the time.



KYLE PEARCE
Student, Stirling Management School (UK)

COURSE STRUCTURE

Semester 1

Core autumn modules

Accounting and Society

Gives a comprehensive overview of accountability in different contexts, such as international accounting regulation, accounting theory, auditing and corporate governance, social and environmental accounting, and accounting for management purposes.

Corporate Finance

Provides an understanding of how corporations raise finance and how they invest money.

Financial Reporting

Methods for interpretation of reported accounting information are explored and applied to 'live' data.

Quantitative Methods in Finance

Provides the statistical and computing skills necessary to fully understand modern finance operations.

Semester 2

Students undertake five or six modules from the following selection enabling them to tailor the course to their own interests, and at least one accounting module must be selected.

Introduction to Research Methods

Introduces students to generic and subject-specific research training. It also aims to prepare students for the dissertation module as well as to lay the foundations for more advanced postgraduate research.

Empirical Methods in Accounting and Finance

Introduces students to econometrics techniques required to undertake research in finance and to understand empirical papers published in academic journals. It also prepares students for the dissertation module as well as laying the foundations for more advanced postgraduate research.

Financial Statement Analysis

Develops skills in the interpretation and use of financial statements, focusing on company valuation and identification of companies that may become insolvent.



Accounting

Topics in International Accounting

Introduces international accounting in its theoretical context and practical relevance, and explores financial reporting in different national or regulatory contexts.

Advanced Financial Reporting

Introduces students to the practical application of international financial reporting standards.

Finance

Derivatives

Focuses on the uses and the pricing of the key derivative instruments: options, futures, forwards and swaps.

Mergers and Acquisitions

Focuses on the financial and economic aspects of M&A activity and other forms of corporate restructuring, such as spin-offs, carve-outs and sell-offs.

Investments: Equity Portfolios and Pricing

Provides an understanding of equity portfolio management and pricing. Focuses on the valuation of equities and the management of equity portfolios.

Investments: Fixed Income and Alternative Investments

Provides an understanding of security valuation and portfolio management. Focuses on the valuation of both fixed-interest securities and issues around alternative investment products such as hedge funds, fund of funds and venture capital.

International Corporate Finance

In-depth study of corporate finance within an international environment and, in particular, the operation of the foreign exchange market.

Behavioural Finance

Drawing on insights from psychology, this provides an alternative perspective to traditional finance theory based on rational decision-making.

POSTGRADUATE STUDY AT STIRLING

ON CAMPUS

Taking advantage of Scotland's pristine natural scenery, the University of Stirling is an inspiring and peaceful place to study. Postgraduate students can apply for University accommodation and use study areas conducive to working towards successful completion of a Masters degree.

The University offers extensive indoor and outdoor sports facilities, a shopping precinct and arts centre. We have a large team of librarians and IT specialists available for one-to-one guidance with research skills and use of the University's high-tech learning environment. Assistive technologies are available for students with disabilities.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI SUPPORT

At the Management School support is provided to help students make the most of their time at Stirling. We have excellent links with major employers in business and industry and our Career Development Centre works closely with students in preparation for the transition to work. The relationship with students does not stop at graduation. We maintain links with our alumni through international events and social media.

ACCREDITATION AND AFFILIATION

We are a member of the Association of Business Schools; the European Foundation for Management Development; in partnership with the Chartered Management Institute; and are signatories to the Principles for Responsible Management Education.



This course allowed me to enter a totally different world, learning how money circulates, and about financial markets, and the mechanisms for investing, saving, and earning.

Within months, from minimal understanding of such matters, I developed an essential grounding in accounting procedures, and financial reporting which gave me insight into professional practices.



BORAM LEE

MSc International Accounting and Finance (Korea)



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

You'll need a minimum of a second class Honours degree in any subject, or an equivalent qualification. However, you can still apply if you don't have these formal qualifications, but bring significant work experience in a relevant area. A background in accounting or finance is not required, but you should be comfortable with the level of numeracy required to interpret statistics and financial reports.

If English is not your first language applicants must provide evidence of proficiency. For details of English language requirements for this course, visit: stir.ac.uk/3f

If you don't meet the required criteria for this course, you can complete the Graduate Diploma in Business, Finance and Sport to gain a guaranteed entry onto this Masters degree: stir.ac.uk/1z4

FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Fees are reviewed each year and you can pay in full before the course starts in which case you may be eligible for a discount, or by instalments. More on course fees, payment options and scholarships funded by Stirling Management School, the University and external organisations may be found at: stir.ac.uk/2cp

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Photography: For a list of photographers who have contributed to the University of Stirling photo library, contact: marketingtools@stir.ac.uk

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