MSc
Finance and Risk Management

Be Stirling
BE THE DIFFERENCE
The MSc Finance and Risk Management has been developed in response to the increased demand for finance professionals with a financial risk management specialisation.

The course will give students a thorough knowledge of finance while enabling them to understand the different types of risks related to corporations and markets, such as interest rate risk, liquidity risk, portfolio risk and enterprise risk as well as learn how to estimate, manage these risks and hedge against them.

The success of organisations partly depends upon their ability to operate in the face of financial risk, and financial risk management is increasingly recognised as requiring special skills central to the functioning of the organisation. This course will enable students to acquire a broad knowledge of finance and financial risk management relating to fundamental finance theories, investments, banking and relevant regulations before developing specialist skill in risk related areas.

Students can expect to address key questions for organisations including:
What types of financial risks exist in various settings? What are the appropriate ways to classify, measure and assess financial risk? How does the organisation of enterprises, governments and markets change the nature of financial risk? What techniques can be used to transfer financial risk in markets, firms or societies?

WHY STUDY MSc FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT?

WHAT IS FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT?

The course covers at least 70% of the Global Association of Risk Professionals (GARP) syllabus giving a head start on preparation for the Financial Risk Manager Certification professional exams

Students will have access to professional financial databases including Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters Eikon, Datastream, S&P Capital IQ and Financial Times

Amplify Trading Boot Camp where students get first-hand experience in real-world trading, and the Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF)

Stirling’s global research rating we’re among the top 25 in the UK according to REF 2014


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON COURSE CONTENT VISIT: stir.ac.uk/2s3
The course provides the analytical skills needed for a successful career in financial risk management, finance and related areas. It is unique as it teaches students how to identify, measure and manage a broad range of financial risk types including operational risk, foreign exchange risk, liquidity risk and market risk.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students can gain real-world experience by participating in the Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF). The SMIF is a student-led society providing students with the experience of managing actual funds through targeted investments.

As part of the Management School’s focus on enhancing graduate employability we also offer an intensive financial trading Boot Camp for masters students on our finance-related courses. Delivered on campus in conjunction with industry training specialist Amplify, the week long 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.

Finally, the programme’s dissertation project is designed to focus on finance and/or financial risk and so will serve as a portfolio that students can bring with them to the job market. It will also facilitate innovation through active and ethical research with the use of the latest global research and technologies, and through independent, critical and reflective thinking.

“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
MSc Investment Analysis (UK)
The MSc Finance and Risk Management is a one-year, full-time course. You will undertake four taught modules over the autumn semester, and five modules over the spring semester, followed by a supervised dissertation over the summer. The dissertation gives you the opportunity to apply your knowledge by undertaking research on an area that matches your interests and career objectives.

**Autumn Core Modules**
- **Corporate Finance**
  Provides an understanding of how corporations raise finance and how they invest money.
- **Quantitative Methods in Finance**
  Provides the basic statistical and computing skills necessary to fully understand modern financial practices.
- **Economics for Banking and Finance**
  Introduces students to economics as a discipline, assuming no prior knowledge of economics, and focuses on aspects most relevant to careers in banking and finance.
- **Contemporary Issues in Banking**
  Provides an extensive and critical understanding of current issues and problems in the banking industry.

**Spring Core Modules**
- **Risk Management in Banking**
  Provides an extensive and critical understanding of risk management in the banking industry.
- **Derivatives**
  Provides students with an understanding of the key derivative financial products: futures, forwards, options and swaps.
- **Financial Risk Assessment**
  Provides students critical and practical understanding of how to use techniques/models that are necessary to measure, assess and manage financial risks.
- **Empirical Methods in Finance and Accounting**
  Introduces students to advanced empirical methods used in conducting research within applied finance and accounting.
- **Behavioural Finance**
  Examines how psychological factors affect agents in financial markets.
- **International Corporate Finance**
  Provides in-depth study of some of the key areas of finance within an international environment, and in particular, the determinants of foreign exchange rates; the risks associated with international trade and investments and aspects of international portfolio management.
- **Mergers and Acquisitions**
  Covers theoretical and institutional aspects of M&As, and adopts valuation and performance measurement issues.
- **Investment Regulation and Ethics**
  Introduces investment regulation and ethics, with a focus on the international context, and emphasises the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct of the CFA Institute.
- **Investments: Equity Portfolios and Pricing**
  Provides an understanding of investments and portfolio management.
- **Investments: Fixed Income and Alternative Investments**
  Provides an in depth understanding of fixed income securities and their use and relevance in portfolio management.

**On Campus**
Taking advantage of Scotland’s outstanding 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**
The University of Stirling Graduate School will support you in making the most of your time at Stirling – ensuring you develop your skills and, crucially, your employability within a rich academic environment. 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.
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 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 you must provide evidence of your proficiency.

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/124

FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of Stirling Management School is committed to investing in academically talented students. There are various categories of funding available to support the cost of your studies at the University of Stirling.

In addition, CFA Scholarships which reduce the cost of undertaking CFA Level 1 are available on a competitive basis and students may apply during their studies.

Information on some of the most common funding and scholarship opportunities that are available to you can be found here: stir.ac.uk/39

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

This publication can be made available in different formats. Please contact Student Recruitment and Admissions for further information: recruitment@stir.ac.uk

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