

Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For Academic Year 2025/26

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	BSc (Hons) Economics and Finance BSc (Hons) Economics and Finance with Work Placement Year (see Annex for details) BSc (Hons) Economics and Finance with International Year (see Annex for details)
Award type	Single Honours
Mode of study	Full-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Normal length of the programme	3 years; 4 years with either the International Year or Placement Year between years 2 and 3
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele Campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	N/A
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	<p>UK students:</p> <p>Fee for 2025/26 is £9,535*</p> <p>International students:</p> <p>Fee for 2025/26 is £17,700**</p> <p>The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee</p> <p>The fee for either the work placement year or entrepreneurship year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee</p>

Please note this document applies to Level 4 (Year 1) students only in 2025/26. Level 5 (Year 2) and Level 6 (Year 3) students should refer instead to the document labelled '2024/25'

How this information might change: Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

*** These fees are for new students. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>*

2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on this subject. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives you the opportunity to take some modules in other disciplines and in modern foreign languages as part of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

3. Overview of the Programme

Financial Economics is a dynamic discipline that explores the motives and interactions of participants in financial markets, exchange rate markets, stock markets, banking, financial intermediaries, cryptocurrencies, and central bank digital currencies. Our BSc Economics and Finance programme equips you with the skills to analyze these interactions and develop policies for improved efficiency in financial markets. As a future Economist you will gain a deep understanding of financial economic models and tools, enabling you to assess financial environments accurately and implement effective interventions. As a BSc Economics and Finance graduate from Keele Business School, you also build a comprehensive portfolio showcasing your strengths and capabilities, making you well prepared for a successful career in your chosen field.

Our underpinning strengths-based curriculum will equip you with the key attributes necessary for success in various industries. Graduates can pursue careers in stock markets, finance, banking, consultancy, wealth fund management, exchange rates forecasting, actuary, data resilience etc.

Our BSc Economics and Finance programme delivers cutting-edge content through a scaffolded and supported learning approach, ensuring you gain both theoretical knowledge and practical econometric skills in financial markets. You will join core modules and choose optional modules, receiving training in econometric policy, quantitative economic research, financial and exchange rate analysis, and forecasting. Engaging in real-world projects and live trading simulations will enhance your understanding and application of economic principles, building your confidence and competence.

With Keele Business School's strong connections to local businesses and commitment to offering placement opportunities, you will benefit from embedded business engagement, gaining professional experience, career readiness and thus enhanced employability that will set you apart from other graduates.

Keele Business School offers BSc Economic programmes as well as BA Economics:

- BSc Economics & Finance is for students who have a strong quantitative background and wish to apply their quantitative expertise to financial aspects of economic analysis. This would be reflected in graduates' employment prospects as they would seek employment in companies specializing in financial economics such as stock market analysis, exchange rate analysis and forecasting, and wealth fund management.
- BSc Economics is for students who have a strong quantitative background and who wish to maintain a broader perspective of economic analysis and applications.
- BA Economics is for students who have a strong qualitative background and wish to apply their skills in qualitative economics problem solving.

4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to blend theory and applied financial economic skills with a clear impact focus. The programme, via the portfolio of available core and optional modules, provides a breadth of additional strengths in key growing financial economic areas such as: financial econometrics and business analytics, financial engineering, time-series company performance, 'live' stock-market trading, and new financial intermediaries.

By the end of the programme, successful students will develop:

- A systematic understanding of financial economics.
- Advanced skills in applied statistics in economics and finance.
- The ability to apply financial economic techniques in different contexts.
- Resolving financial economic problems by employing financial engineering.
- Substantially improved employability through enhanced financial practical skills.

5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to:

- Financial economics theories and analytical frameworks.
- Drivers of financial markets, including exchange rate markets and stock markets.
- Scenario analysis in financial economics and its implications for financial engineering.
- Financial economics and financial market impacts to the wider economy.
- Forecasting, estimating and evaluating financial markets efficiency.

Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- Apply advanced thinking and evaluation on financial economic modelling.
- Employ cutting-edge econometric modelling including financial economic engineering.
- Design and apply financial econometric modelling.
- Evaluate the efficiency of financial markets.
- Produce professional reports on financial econometrics and interpret their results.

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will have acquired:

- Conduct advanced modelling of financial economic relationships.
- Produce key economic findings and convey them effectively to non-specialized audiences in a variety of ways (written as well as oral).
- Work effectively with information technology and data assessment employing statistical software.
- Manage their own learning, reflect on, and plan their own academic work thus demonstrating academic independence.

The programme is academically rigorous and delivered in a very supportive, student-friendly, and inclusive environment. It equips students with a range of skills and capabilities that are very highly sought after by prospective employers. In addition to subject-specific knowledge, it develops reasoning ability skills, advanced literacy (essay-writing, presentations) and advanced cutting-edge empirical skills (advanced statistical inferencing, data collection and evaluation and findings' presentation), time-management and capacity for independent study. In thus arms its graduates with intellectual, professional, and personal resources which they will draw throughout their lives.

Keele Graduate Attributes

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

6. How is the programme taught?

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Interactive lectures setting the framework of analysis for the content material and its applications, reading and independent study. Some lecture classes may feature activities such as group discussion, quizzes that involve voting, ranking preferences, or other interactive activities.
- Small group tutorials covering key issues from the lectures, which are explored and discussed in more depth. Students are encouraged (and expected) to participate, and if feasible, to lead the discussions.

Some tutorials and seminars consist largely of student presentations, and many are based on the application of business ideas to case studies drawn from the media and the findings of relevant academic research.

- Practical, computer-based, lab classes where students acquire the hands-on skills associated with descriptive/soft data analysis and interpretation. This includes live training in the Bloomberg Terminals which is highly sought after by employers.
- Independent study based on directed reading from textbooks, research monographs, academic journals, business case studies, official government publications and the media.
- Web-based learning using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE). The KLE is used to give students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools, and as a platform for online discussions, quizzes, and blogs. KLE discussions are not limited to academic content only but cover wider aspects of academic life and facilitate exchange of information and ideas. They thus contribute massively to the development of an Economics community.
- Peer Assisted Learning: students are actively supported to learn from each other, reinforcing their knowledge through teaching and collaboration. This peer interaction can solidify learning and foster communication skills and experiential learning.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through specific areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

7. Teaching Staff

The programme is taught by highly qualified staff with specialist qualifications in economics. All current members of academic staff have doctorates (PhDs or equivalent) in relevant areas and hold (or are completing) qualifications in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Membership of the Advance Higher Education is encouraged in KBS, and most members of staff are currently either Fellows, Senior Fellows, or Principal Fellow.

All academic staff are active researchers and scholars whose work has been disseminated in various outlets. This research and scholarship inform the teaching in the programme. This means that we are teaching cutting edge knowledge, with staff often actively researching or practising in that area. Additionally, some of our staff actively research teaching and learning within higher education, so how we teach is also at the forefront of higher education practice.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules.

Global Challenge Pathways

This programme includes the option for you to take a Global Challenge Pathway. These modules offer you an exciting opportunity to work with students and staff from different disciplines to explore topical global issues such as power and conflict, health inequalities, climate change, generative AI, social justice, global citizenship, and enterprise from different perspectives.

Global Challenge Pathways can either be taken as one 15-credit module at Levels 4, 5 and 6, or one 15-credit module at Levels 5 and 6. For more information about our Global Challenge Pathways please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/globalchallengepathways/>

Modern Languages or Certificate in TESOL

Alternatively, you could choose to study modules with the University Language Centre. The Language Centre

offers three pathways; The Language Specialist, The Language Taster, and The Trinity Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL). Language Centre modules are available separately for students at Level 4. At Levels 5 and 6 they are included within the Global Challenge Pathways.

If you choose the Language Specialist pathway, you will automatically be enrolled on a Semester 2 Modern Language module as a continuation of your language of choice. Undertaking a Modern Languages module in Semester 2 is compulsory if you wish to continue to the Language Specialist Global Challenge Pathway the following academic year.

For more information about Language Centre option modules available to you please visit the following webpages.

For new (Level 4) students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/languagecentre/>

For current (Level 5 and Level 6) students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/academiclife/global-challenge-pathways/>

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows.

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 4	105	15	15
Level 5	75	45	45
Level 6	75	45	45

Module Lists

Level 4

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Introductory Macroeconomic and Microeconomic Principles	ECO-10037	30	Semester 1
Professional and Academic Development 1	MAN-10071	15	Semester 1
Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance	ECO-10041	30	Semester 1-2
Principles of Financial and Management Accounting	ACC-10003	30	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Teams, People and Performance	MAN-10081	15	Semester 2

Level 5

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Intermediate Economic Principles	ECO-20057	30	Semester 1
Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics	ECO-20067	30	Semester 2
Professional and Academic Development 2	MAN-20199	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
International Money and Banking	ECO-20059	30	Semester 2
Financial Markets, Institutions and Technology	FIN-20007	30	Semester 2
Contemporary Business Ethics Debates	MAN-20209	15	Semester 2

Level 5 Module Rules

You will have to choose ONE of: International Money and Banking OR Financial Markets, Institutions and Technology

You will have to choose ONE of: Contemporary Business Ethics Debates OR Global Challenge Pathway

Level 6

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Advanced Economic Principles	ECO-30063	30	Semester 1
Econometrics and Data Analytics	ECO-30071	30	Semester 1
Professional Academic Development 3	MAN-30163	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Dissertation	ECO-30057	30	Semester 2
Corporate Strategic Finance	FIN-30003	30	Semester 2
Investment Management and Financial Engineering	FIN-30009	30	Semester 2
Digital Showcase	MAN-30183	15	Semester 2

Level 6 Module Rules

You will have to choose ONE of: Investment Management and Financial Engineering OR Corporate Strategic Finance OR Dissertation

You will have to choose ONE of: The Digital Showcase OR Global Challenge Pathway

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Level 4

In Year 1 (Level 4) and Year 2 (Level 5) these learning outcomes are achieved in the compulsory modules which all students are required to take. Some of these outcomes may also be achieved or reinforced in elective modules together with other outcomes not stated here. In Year 3 (Level 6) the stated outcomes are achieved by taking any of the modules offered in each semester.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Financial economics theories and analytical frameworks.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting
Drivers of financial markets, including exchange rate markets and stock markets.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting
Scenario analysis in financial economics and its implications for financial engineering.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting
Financial economics and financial market impacts to the wider economy.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting
Forecasting, estimating and evaluating financial markets efficiency.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Apply advanced thinking and evaluation on financial economic modelling.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting
Employ cutting-edge econometric modelling including financial economic engineering.	Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance
Design and apply financial econometric modelling.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance
Evaluate the efficiency of financial markets.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting Global Challenge Pathway
Produce professional reports on financial econometrics and interpret their results.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Principles of Finance & Accounting Global Challenge Pathway (incl. Language)

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Conduct advanced modelling of financial economic relationships.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance
Produce key economic findings and convey them effectively to non-specialized audiences in a variety of ways (written as well as oral).	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Sustainability and the Global Economy Professional and Academic Development 1 Global Challenge Pathway
Work effectively with information technology and data assessment employing statistical software.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance
Manage their own learning, reflect on, and plan their own academic work thus demonstrating academic independence.	Introductory Macroeconomic & Microeconomic Principles Quantitative Methods for Economics & Finance Sustainability and the Global Economy Professional and Academic Development 1 Teams, People and Performance Global Challenge Pathway

Level 5

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Financial economics theories and analytical frameworks.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology
Drivers of financial markets, including exchange rate markets and stock markets.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology
Scenario analysis in financial economics and its implications for financial engineering.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology
Financial economics and financial market impacts to the wider economy.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology
Forecasting, estimating and evaluating financial markets efficiency.	Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Apply advanced thinking and evaluation on financial economic modelling.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking
Employ cutting-edge econometric modelling including financial economic engineering.	Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics
Design and apply financial econometric modelling.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics
Evaluate the efficiency of financial markets.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology Global Challenge Pathway
Produce professional reports on financial econometrics and interpret their results.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology Global Challenge Pathway

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Conduct advanced modelling of financial economic relationships.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology
Produce key economic findings and convey them effectively to non-specialized audiences in a variety of ways (written as well as oral).	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology Professional and Academic Development 2 Contemporary Business Ethics Debates Global Challenge Pathway
Work effectively with information technology and data assessment employing statistical software.	Intermediate Economic Principles Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology Global Challenge Pathway
Manage their own learning, reflect on, and plan their own academic work thus demonstrating academic independence.	Intermediate Economic Principles International Money and Banking Financial Markets, Institutions & Technology Professional and Academic Development 2 Contemporary Business Ethics Debates Global Challenge Pathway

Level 6

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Financial economics theories and analytical frameworks.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics & Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation
Drivers of financial markets, including exchange rate markets and stock markets.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation
Scenario analysis in financial economics and its implications for financial engineering.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation
Financial economics and financial market impacts to the wider economy.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation
Forecasting, estimating and evaluating financial markets efficiency.	Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Apply advanced thinking and evaluation on financial economic modelling.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Business Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation
Employ cutting-edge econometric modelling including financial economic engineering.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance
Design and apply financial econometric modelling.	Econometrics and Data Analytics
Evaluate the efficiency of financial markets.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation Global Challenge Pathway
Produce professional reports on financial econometrics and interpret their results.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation Strengths Based Portfolio Global Challenge Pathway

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	Module in which this is delivered
Conduct advanced modelling of financial economic relationships.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation
Produce key economic findings and convey them effectively to non-specialized audiences in a variety of ways (written as well as oral).	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation Professional and Academic Development 3 Global Challenge Pathway
Work effectively with information technology and data assessment employing statistical software.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation The Digital Showcase Global Challenge Pathway
Manage their own learning, reflect on, and plan their own academic work thus demonstrating academic independence.	Advanced Economic Principles Econometrics and Data Analytics Investment Management and Financial Engineering Corporate Strategic Finance Modern Finance Dissertation Professional and Academic Development 3 The Digital Showcase Global Challenge Pathway

9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

BSc (Hons) Economics and Finance	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6 You must accumulate at least 270 credits in your main subject (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 90 credits in each of the three years of study, to graduate with a named single honours degree in this subject.
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

International Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'international year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

Work Placement Year option: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Work Placement Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on the BSc Economics reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular, and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The list below provides a description of the assessment methods used on the programme:

- Unseen closed and open book assessments in different formats test students' knowledge in Economics and their ability to apply that knowledge responsibly in understanding domestic and global economic developments and challenges. Examinations may consist of essays, short answers, computer-based exams, multiple choice Exams and 'Live Trading' Exams.
- Essays and Reports, including those based on case study material, also test the quality and application of subject knowledge. In addition, in years 1 and 2, essays and reports allow students to demonstrate their ability to carry out bibliographic research and to communicate their ideas effectively in writing in an appropriate scholarly style using the Harvard, or recognized alternative, system of referencing.
- Portfolios create a vehicle to promote active student learning and development of economic reasoning skills. This also enhances experiential learning and provides students with the opportunity to reflect on the practical and employability usefulness of content material.
- Class tests taken either conventionally or online via the Keele Virtual Learning Environment assess students' subject knowledge and their ability to apply it to problems in a structured and focused way.
- Short research papers test students' knowledge of different research methodologies. They also enable students to demonstrate their ability to formulate research questions and to answer them using an appropriate strategy.
- Dissertations at year-3 test students' ability to undertake independent study, framing a problem, critically evaluating relevant literature including alternative methodologies and methods, applying a clear methodology through to conclusion, and presenting the results in a coherent, logical manner.
- 'Live Trading' techniques are tests in IT Labs in intermediate and advanced quantitative modules at Levels 5 and 6 (e.g. Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Economics & Econometrics and Data Analytics).

Assessment methods depend on the individual nature of the modules. Year-3 assessments test students' knowledge and understanding of the main body of material, key concepts, methods, and analytical frameworks; they also test analytical and critical thinking and presentation skills.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity

	Scheduled learning and teaching activities	Guided independent Study	Placements
Year 1 (Level 4)	17.6%	82%	0.3%
Year 2 (Level 5)	16.6%	83.4%	0%
Year 3 (Level 6)	16%	84%	0%

12. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an external body, but it is overseen by Government Economic Service (GES). GES is the main employer of Economists in the UK Government and more broadly in the UK Public Sector. It oversees economic provision in the UK higher education. Level 5 and Level 6 students in Economic programmes are encouraged to apply to GES placements and Graduate Schemes respectively.

13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

The entry requirements for BSc Economics and Finance are BBB or equivalent qualifications. See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

Students must score a minimum of 60 percent in 'Quantitative Methods in Economics and Finance' at Level 4 to progress at Level 5. Students should also score a minimum of 60 percent in 'Statistics with Bloomberg and Introduction to Econometrics' at Level 5 to be able to progress at Level 6 on the BSc Economics and Finance. If students fail to meet these thresholds, they would automatically transfer to BA Economics.

English for Academic Purposes

Please note: All new international students entering the university will provide a sample of Academic English during their registration. Using this sample, the Language Centre may allocate you to an English language module which will become compulsory. This will replace any GCP modules. *NB:* students can take an EAP module only with the approval of the English Language Programme Director and are not able to take any other Language modules in the same academic year.

English Language Modules at Level 4:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 5:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 6:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2); ENL-90005 Advanced Business English Communication
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

15. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module and tutorial group leaders are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules and in the tutorial groups for which they are responsible. They also give individual feedback on in-course assessments and more general feedback on examinations.
- The Programme Director monitors overall student progress, undertakes progress reviews, and provides a general point of contact for students.
- The Programme Director is also responsible for all aspects of programme coordination. They may be consulted on a wide range of issues and, among other things, commonly may be approached to provide a reference for job and other applications.
- The Programme Director acts as first point of contact for students on non-academic issues which may affect their learning and can refer students to a range of specialist health, welfare, and financial services co-ordinated by the University.
- Each student is allocated an Academic Mentor for the duration of their studies. The Mentor provides individual student support in accordance with the University guidelines.
- Students whose first language is not English are offered language classes, facilities, and services by the University's Language Centre. Students have access to one-to-one tutorials for individual help and advice and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice.
- Additional help with university level study skills is available from the Learning Support Officer in Keele Business School.
- All members of teaching staff on the Programme are available to see students during advertised weekly office hours and at other times by appointment.

16. Learning Resources

Teaching on the BSc Economics programme largely takes place in the Smart Innovation Hub 7, which is a new state-of-the-art home for Keele Business School.

The learning resources available to students on the programme include:

- The extensive collection of economics materials held in the University Library, including books and journals; often in digitized form (e-books, online journals) accessible online to Keele students with their Keele credentials.
- The Keele Learning Environment (KLE) provides easy access to a range of learning resources including lecture notes, electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library and other resources - video, audio and text-based - accessible from external providers via the internet.
- In years 2 and 3, students will have access to the Bloomberg Platform, a cutting-edge information portal with its wealth of news and analyses, real-time datasets and simulated online trading platforms. The platform is used by banks and other financial services organizations in their daily operations. At KBS, Bloomberg is available in the dedicated KBS Multifunctional IT suite to which students of specific modules have access.
- Extensive online datasets are given by the Bloomberg Portal as mentioned, and by Thomson Reuters Eikon and Data-stream, an industry-standard source of economic, financial, and business data. This is available via a computer link located in the KBS Multifunctional IT suite.
- Students will have the opportunity to use statistical/econometric software packages such as STATA to perform complex numerical analysis in their essays and Dissertation module.
- Microsoft Office & Teams - students have access to Microsoft Office and KBS uses the Microsoft Teams

platform for many of its online learning activities.

17. Other Learning Opportunities

Study abroad (semester)

Students on the programme have the potential opportunity to spend a semester abroad in their second year studying at one of Keele's international partner universities.

Exactly which countries are available depends on the student's choice of degree subjects. An indicative list of countries is on the website (<http://www.keele.ac.uk/studyabroad/partneruniversities/>); however this does not guarantee the availability of study in a specific country as this is subject to the University's application process for studying abroad.

No additional tuition fees are payable for a single semester studying abroad but students do have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad to be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Whilst students are studying abroad any Student Finance eligibility will continue, where applicable students may be eligible for specific travel or disability grants. Students studying in Erasmus+ destinations may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible for income dependent bursaries at Keele. Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the International Year.

Work Placement Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with Work Placement Year' degree programme or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking their year-long placement. Eligibility rules are included in the Annex.

Students wishing to take the work placement year should meet with the Programme Director to obtain their signature to confirm agreement before they will be allowed to commence their placement.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa must check with the Immigration Compliance Team prior to commencing any form of placement.

A summary of the Work Placement Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the Work Placement Year.

18. Additional Costs

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

19. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.

- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Economics (2023) https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/sbs/sbs-economics-23.pdf?sfvrsn=e271a881_6

c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

d. The Economics profession is not accredited by any professional body. The BSc Economics Programme:

- offers the opportunity to apply to the Government Economic Service (GES)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/civil-service-government-economic-service>) which requires an Economics UG or PG Degree (by at least 50%);

- covers the key Economics topics required by the Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA), Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK) - Part III: Economics <https://www.cfainstitute.org/en/programs/cfa/curriculum/cbok>

- covers the standards stipulated by the Institute for Apprenticeships for Economics: [Professional economist \(integrated degree\) / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

21. Annex - International Year

Economics and Finance with International Year

International Year Programme

Students registered for this Single Honours programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the International Year option. Students accepted onto this option will have an extra year of study (the International Year) at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the standard programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the International Year option.

International Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:

1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject
2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially

Entry Requirements for the International Year

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 55% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the International Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 55% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 55% requirement may progress to the International Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's Academic Mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutor, in line with recommended Academic Mentoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

1. Describe, discuss, and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments.
2. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation.
3. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.
4. Apply advanced critical and analytical thinking, relying on policy and application.
5. Employ cutting-edge econometric modelling including time-series modelling.
6. Construct, estimate and present econometric models and evaluate their robustness and effectiveness.
7. Conduct research in applied quantitative economics.
8. Produce professional reports on financial econometric models' findings and interpret their results.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

Regulations

Students registered for the International Year are subject to the programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any module with significant overlap to the Level 6 modules they will study on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

Additional costs for the International Year

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

22. Annex - Work Placement Year

Economics and Finance with Work Placement Year

Work Placement Year summary

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

Work Placement Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with:

1. The opportunity to carry out a long-term placement based learning experience (minimum 30 weeks equivalent of full-time work) between Years 2 and 3 (Levels 5 and 6) of their degree programme.

Entry Requirements for the Work Placement Year

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module, (* or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

* We recommend where possible students undertake a placement of between 9 - 12 months on a full-time basis to maximize academic and personal growth. However, the Work Placement Year mandates a minimum of 24 weeks in duration, ideally on a full-time basis, but no less than 21 hours per week. This enables those undertaking an unpaid placement to work on a part-time basis alongside.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Academic Performance (an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the Work Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Work Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- *(International students only)* Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Work Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.

Students may not register for the Work Placement Year if already enrolled on either the International Year and an Entrepreneurship Year.

Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organization at around 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again (or conduct a telephone/video call tutorial) at around 15 weeks into the placement.
- Weekly supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement.

Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

- Evaluate their own employability skills (via a SWOT Analysis) together with an analysis of sector skill demands to create Intended Placement Outcomes in order to develop the skill areas which they have identified as being weak or needing further enhancement;
- Develop, through practice on placement, the employment-related skills identified through their SWOT analysis and Intended Learning Outcomes;
- Reflect on and apply academic themes, concepts and theory as explored at Level 4 and Level 5 to complex real situations on work placement;
- Reflect on and critically evaluate their learning from the work placement and previous learning;
- Explain how their chosen professional or placement sector operates and what skills are needed to develop their career.

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module (MAN-30068) which involves:

- the submission of two portfolios of evidence, one at the beginning of the placement (usually after six weeks into the placement) and one at the end of the placement and before the start of their final year of undergraduate studies.

Regulations

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated Work Placement Year module (MAN-30068)

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

- (i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and
- (ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

Additional costs for the Work Placement Year

Tuition fees for students on the Work Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Work Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

Version History

This document

Date Approved: 27 March 2025

Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
1.1	2024/25	CHRISTOPHER TSOUKIS	12 March 2025	Annual review with a couple of minor changes: - Professional Academic Development 2 (MAN-20199) replaces Professional Development (MAN-20090).
1	2024/25	CHRISTOPHER TSOUKIS	30 May 2024	
1.1	2023/24	CHRISTOPHER TSOUKIS		
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