

MSc Financial Economics – SH506

1. Context and Objectives

The objectives of the MSc Financial Economics programme are:

- To provide advanced postgraduate training in financial economics with emphasis on financial markets and international finance, and with applications to real world situations by business firms, financial institutions, and government agencies.
- To prepare individuals to assume key positions of responsibility by upgrading their knowledge and skills to comparable international standards.
- To develop the ability to identify problems and the capacity for decision-making, leading to practical solutions.
- To enhance the individual's capacity to meet emerging challenges within an organisation with a view to increasing domestic and international competitiveness in a rapidly changing global environment.

2. Learning Outcomes

On completion of the programme, students should be able to:

- Experiment with different forms of derivatives for hedging purposes
- Interpret results from applied quantitative techniques on different types of data
- Analyse the economic health of an economy using macroeconomic data
- Discuss policies to be envisaged in light of various economic and financial challenges which impact on different economic agents
- Compare and contrast between different asset pricing models
- Formulate corporate financial strategies based on real-world problems

3. Teaching and Learning Methods

As far as possible, a blended approach will be used. These might include among others: face to face lectures, e-learning (moodle), problem based learning, case studies, document analysis, practical lab sessions (where applicable), assignments, seminars, tutorials, open learning materials, textbooks and independent study as well as collaborative learning.

4. Entry Requirements

General Entry Requirements

In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to Postgraduate degree Programmes.

Programme Requirements

At least a Second Class Honours Degree from a recognised University.

General and Programme Requirements - Special Cases

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the general and programme requirements for admission:

- (i) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
- (ii) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.
- (iii) Applicants who hold a full practising professional qualification obtained by examination.

5. Programme Duration

| | Minimum Yrs | Maximum Yrs |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Master's Degree: | 2 | 4 |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 2 | 4 |

6. Minimum LCCS Credits Required

Minimum LCCS Credits Required for Degree Award: 72 LCCS Credits

| | Core Modules | Electives | Dissertation | Total |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------|
| Master Degree | 36 | 18 | 18 | 72 |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 36 | 18 | - | 54 |

For each Academic Year

| Year | LCCS Credits |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | 36 |
| 2 | 36 |
| Total | 72 |

7. Assessment and Deadlines

Continuous and written assessment of modules

All modules will carry 100 marks and will be taught over 1 semester and examined at the end of the academic year with details as follows (unless otherwise specified):

Written examination of 2 to 3 hour duration. The continuous assessment will count for 40 to 50% of the overall percentage mark of the module(s). Examinations will count for 50 to 60% of the overall percentage mark of the module(s). Continuous assessment can be based on seminars and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test.

Examinations for all modules whether taught in semester 1, 2, 3, or 4 would be held at the end of the academic year.

An overall total of 40% for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass a module, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination.

Students are required to submit work for continuous assessment by due dates. Failure to do so will normally incur penalties.

No retake examinations will be organised. Instead, students will be allowed to carry forward a maximum of three modules at any point in time and will be allowed to sit for the examinations with the next cohort of students.

All modules carry their own credit value.

Submission Deadlines for Dissertation

- a. 1st draft end of July in the final year
- b. Final copy: Last working day of August in the final year by 4.00 pm at latest

Three copies of the dissertation (two spiral-bound copies and one soft copy in a single PDF text file on electronic storage media) should be submitted to the Faculty/Centre Registry and in addition, a soft copy of the dissertation in a single PDF text file should be uploaded on the "Turnitin' Platform" in the final assignment submission link indicated by the Programme /Project Coordinator.

8. List of Modules

| CODE | MODULE NAME | HRS/ WK | LCCS CREDITS |
|---------------------|---|------------|-----------------|
| CORE MODULES | | | |
| ECON 6012 | Economics of Financial Markets ¹⁺ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6013 | Quantitative Techniques ¹ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6014 | Macroeconomic Environment ¹ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6015 | Asset Pricing and Financial Derivatives ²⁺ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6016 | International Financial Markets ² | 3 + 0 | 6 |

| | | | |
|------------------|---|-------|----|
| ECON 6041 | Corporate Financial Strategy ² | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6000 | Dissertation | - | 18 |
| ELECTIVES | | | |
| ECON 6017 | Actuarial Analysis ⁴ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| DFA 6300 | Financial Reporting, Analysis and Corporate Governance ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6019 | Financial Services Regulation ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6038 | Contemporary Issues in Financial Economics ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6021 | Financial Econometrics ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| | | | |
| ECON 6037 | Advanced Financial Modelling & Forecasting ⁴ | 3 + 0 | 6 |

9. Programme Plan

YEAR 1

| CODE | MODULE NAME | HRS/WK L + P | LCCS CREDITS |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| CORE MODULES | | | |
| ECON 6012 | Economics of Financial Markets ¹⁺ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6013 | Quantitative Techniques ¹ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6014 | Macroeconomic Environment ¹ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6015 | Asset Pricing and Financial Derivatives ²⁺ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6016 | International Financial Markets ² | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6041 | Corporate Financial Strategy ² | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| Sub Total | | | 36 |

YEAR 2

| CODE | MODULE NAME | HRS/WK L + P | LCCS CREDITS |
|------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ECON 6000 | Dissertation | - | 18 |
| ELECTIVES | Choose 3 from the following with 2 in semester 3 and 1 in semester 4: | | |
| ECON 6017 | Actuarial Analysis ⁴ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| DFA 6300 | Financial Reporting, Analysis and Corporate Governance ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6038 | Contemporary Issues in Financial Economics ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6019 | Financial Services Regulation ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6021 | Financial Econometrics ³ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| ECON 6037 | Advanced Financial Modelling & Forecasting ⁴ | 3 + 0 | 6 |
| Sub Total | | | 36 |
| TOTAL | | | 72 |

NOTE

- (i) Electives will be offered subject to availability of minimum number of students and Faculty resources.
- (ii) ^{1, 2, 3 and 4} represent modules taught in semester 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively but examined at the end of the academic year.
- (iii) + represent modules assessed jointly.