

Programme Information										
Programme Title		Programme Code		HECoS Code						
Financial Technology		N305		For Registry Use Only						
Financial Technology		TBC		For Registry Use Only						
Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits						
				ECTS	CATS					
MSc	1 calendar year (12 months)	Full time	Annually in September	90	180					
MSc	16 Months	Full time	Transfer within Programme	120	240					
Ownership										
Awarding Institution		Imperial College London		Imperial College Business School						
Teaching Institution		Imperial College London		Imperial College Business School						
Associateship		Diploma of Imperial College (DIC)		Main Location(s) of Study						
External Reference										
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points			Master's Degrees in Business and Management							
FHEQ Level			Level 7							
EHEA Level			2nd Cycle							
External Accreditor(s) (if applicable)										
External Accreditor 1:		EQUIS								
Accreditation received:		2006		Accreditation renewal:						
External Accreditor 2:		AACSB International								
Accreditation received:		2012		Accreditation renewal:						
External Accreditor 3:		CFA								
Accreditation received:		2012		Accreditation renewal:						
Collaborative Provision										

Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Specification Details

Programme Lead	Dr Lara Cathcart
Student cohorts covered by specification	2024-25 entry
Date of introduction of programme	September 19
Date of programme specification/revision	February 25

Programme Overview

The programme is run by Imperial College Business School and is a one-year full-time programme. The programme aims to provide students with the opportunity to utilise their capabilities with coding and programming; to develop quantitative and analytical skills and apply technology to large data sets and financial models used within finance. Students will develop the necessary skills to embark on a Fintech orientated career in the financial services sector or to pursue further academic study (doctoral research).

The programme commences in September with examinations taking place at the end of each term. Seven of the Programme's taught modules are compulsory*. In addition, you will take four elective** modules which are taught in the spring and summer terms and you must also successfully pass the Foundations in Financial Technology module. Examinations in the relevant compulsory modules take place directly at the end of the term in which they are taught. The elective modules comprise of 27 hours of lectures and are normally examined directly at the end of the term in which they are taught. You will also devote the summer term and the normal summer vacation period to working on your project. You are assessed by an individual Applied Project of 3,000 words and a short presentation. If you are on an approved work placement, you may, with permission from the Academic Director, be allowed to write a report which incorporates your learning from your work placement. As an alternative to the Applied Project, you can, with permission from the Academic Director, write an individual Research Project which is an original piece of work not exceeding 10,000 words. Completion of a Research Project will require you to take one less elective. The Research Project is particularly suited to those wanting to do a PhD after their MSc programme. It may be possible for projects to be carried out partly or wholly at an external organisation and requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

In addition, there are a number of required online modules: Accounting Primer, Ethics & Professional Standards and the Finance Careers primer, as well as modules in Career & Professional Development.

You may also take the optional Introduction to Maths and C++.

If you secure an extended Work Placement opportunity (4-6 months in duration) you will be able to transfer to the 16 month programme Option in consultation with the Academic Director.

*Compulsory modules are those which are designated as necessary to be taken as part of the programme syllabus. Compulsory modules can be compensated.

** Elective modules are those which are in the same subject area as the field of study and are offered to students in order to offer an element of choice in the curriculum and from which students are able to select. Elective modules can be compensated.

Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the programme successfully will be able to:

- Demonstrate analytical skills to create, manage and interrogate large data sets applicable to the Finance sector;
- Understand, execute, and possibly develop, disruptive financial innovations using appropriate tools and techniques

- Demonstrate a critical awareness of current issues in the fintech landscape;
- Use a range of programming tools to develop live implementations of financial models and use these implementations in practice;
- Analyse and evaluate investment decisions and data - students should be able to apply software to draw valid conclusions about data.

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/about/education/our-graduates/>

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	Normally an Upper Second Class Honours Degree (or international equivalent) in a highly quantitative discipline such as Mathematics, Engineering, Economics, Finance, Science or a computational subject. The Business School does not award credit for Prior Learning (Recognition of Prior Certified Learning (RPCL) or Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL)).
Non-academic Requirements	When selecting candidates, the Business School uses a range of criteria: academic ability, future potential, and the commitment which students will bring to the programme. Candidates should have a well-researched career plan with clear short and long term goals. Two references are also required.
English Language Requirement	<u>Higher requirement</u> IELTS score of 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all elements).
Admissions Test/Interview	You are required to take an online interview via the Kira Talent platform. All interviews are reviewed and scored as part of the Admissions process.

The programme's competency standards documents can be requested from the Business School's Education Quality Office.

Learning & Teaching Approach

Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods

- Lectures
- Practical classes
- Equipment/technique demonstrations (e.g. Bloomberg)
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Case studies
- Group work exercises
- Formal presentations
- Pre-programme on-line modules
- On-line discussion forums
- On-line lecture materials
- Interactive content including video and module quizzes
- Individual Project
- Work Placement Opportunity

Please refer to the Teaching Toolkit for advice on learning and teaching approaches:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/staff/educational-development/teaching-toolkit/>

Overall Workload

Your overall workload consists of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how much

time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each ECTS credit taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 2250 hours per year.

Depending on the elective modules selected, you may spend approximately 20% of your total study hours on lectures, seminars and similar, and around 80% of your time on independent study.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods

Modules will be assessed by one or more of the following types of assessment methods:

- Essays
- Continuous assessments
- Written Examinations/Tests
- Multiple Choice Tests
- Formal Presentations
- Reports
- Case Studies
- Participation

Assessed modules comprise coursework that is designed to help you master key elements of the subject and, in part, to help prepare you for the final assessment, which is typically a report or examination. Examinations are scheduled throughout the year, generally at the end of the term the module is taught or at the start of the subsequent term. Exact timings are detailed in the programme overview section above. The format of examinations may be written, computer-based or timed remote assessment.

Coursework weighting varies among modules. The various assessments allow you to demonstrate that you have met the intended learning outcomes for each module and these collectively contribute towards your achievement of the programme's learning outcomes, detailed above.

Assessments are designed to ensure that you have acquired the core knowledge and skills expected of a Business School graduate and that you are able to apply these in your career aspirations upon completion of the programme.

Academic Feedback Policy

Feedback can take many forms. During lectures and classes, you will receive verbal feedback on the ideas that you contribute to discussions and on in-class presentations. The online teaching materials contain exercises with built-in, immediate, feedback that is received when you submit an answer.

The Business School aims to provide feedback on coursework within two weeks. This will be sent in written form to the individual or the group, as appropriate. Academic staff may also provide verbal feedback of a general nature in class or posted to our virtual learning environment. Office hours offered on all modules also provide an opportunity for individual feedback.

The Business School aims to provide provisional examination grades twenty-five days from the end of the examination period. General feedback to the cohort is provided on examination performance, usually in written form. If you need to resit an examination you may also approach the module leader for feedback on your performance in the first sitting.

You will be provided with a percentage grade for coursework and examinations with the final numerical mark only confirmed after the Board of Examiners Meeting and then released by Registry. Grades received during the year are deemed provisional until confirmed by the Final Board of Examiners.

The university's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Re-sit Policy

The university's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The university's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Additional Programme Costs

This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.

Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
Costs related to the international electives	Optional- if international elective is selected	£1000 - £1500* *exact costs will vary by location
Extended Programme	Mandatory	Students wishing to transfer to the 16-month programme will be required to pay a fee of £1500
Extended Programme	Optional	Varies according to location of extended work placement

Important notice: The Programme Specifications are the result of a large curriculum and pedagogy reform implemented by the Department and supported by the Learning and Teaching Strategy of Imperial College London. The modules, structure and assessments presented in this Programme Specification are correct at time of publication but might change as a result of student and staff feedback and the introduction of new or innovative approaches to teaching and learning. You will be consulted and notified in a timely manner of any changes to this document.

Programme Structure (12 month) ¹					
Year 1 – FHEQ Level 4					
You will study all compulsory modules. On the Applied Project route, you must select 4 electives. On the Research Report route, you must select 3 electives.					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Compulsory/ Elective	Group*	Term	Credits
BUSI97176	Ethics and Professional Standards in Finance	Required		SU	0.0
BUSI97647	Foundations in Financial Technology	Compulsory		September	7.50
BUSI97629	Accounting and Corporate Finance	Compulsory		SP	7.50
BUSI97631	Investments and Portfolio Management	Compulsory		AU	7.50
BUSI97628	Financial Econometrics in R/Python	Compulsory		AU	7.50
BUSI97595	Blockchain and Applications	Compulsory		SP	7.50
BUSI97636	Big Data in Finance I	Compulsory		SP	7.50
BUSI97766	Mathematics for Finance	Compulsory		AU	7.50
BUSI97041	Advanced Corporate Finance	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97143	Advanced Financial Statistics (suspended for 24.25)	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97042	Advanced Options Theory	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI70567	Applied Quantitative Macro Strategies	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97075	Applied Trading Strategies	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97059	Asset Allocation & Investment Strategies	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97541	Big Data in Finance II (suspended for 24.25)	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97052	C++ (Optional)	Optional	A	SP	0.00
BUSI97799	Climate Finance	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97153	Computational Finance with C++	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI70098	Corporate Finance for Practitioners (International Elective)	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97632	Derivatives	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97606	Entrepreneurial Finance and Venture Capital	Elective	A	SU	7.50

¹ **Core** modules are those which serve a fundamental role within the curriculum, and for which achievement of the credits for that module is essential for the achievement of the target award. Core modules must therefore be taken and passed in order to achieve that named award. **Compulsory** modules are those which are designated as necessary to be taken as part of the programme syllabus. Compulsory modules can be compensated. **Elective** modules are those which are in the same subject area as the field of study and are offered to students in order to offer an element of choice in the curriculum and from which students are able to select. Elective modules can be compensated.

BUSI97044	Fixed Income Securities	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97068	Innovation and Strategy in Fintech	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97157	Insurance	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97067	International Elective: Quantitative Equity Investing	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97045	International Finance	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97608	Machine Learning & Finance	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI16645	Market Microstructure: Trading and Liquidity	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97064	Real Estate Investment, Finance and Private Equity	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97604	Shareholder Activism & Corporate Responsibility	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97139	Structured Credit and Equity Products	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI70444	Sustainable Finance Investment	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI70575	Systematic Trading Strategies with Machine Learning Algorithms	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97605	Text Mining for Economics and Finance	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97633	Applied Project	Elective	B	SU/SUP	7.50
BUSI97635	Applied Project (Work Placement)	Elective	B	SU/SUP	7.50
BUSI97627	Project	Elective	B	SU/SUP	15.00
Credit Total					90

Programme Structure (16 month) ^{2 3}					
Year 1&2 - FHEQ Level 7					
You will study all compulsory modules. On the Applied Project route, you must select 30 ECTS of electives PLUS the Applied Project and Extended Work Placement modules. On the Research Report route, you must select 22.5 ECTS of electives, PLUS the Extended Work Placement and Project modules.					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Compulsory/ Elective	Group*	Term	Credits
BUSI97176	Ethics and Professional Standards in Finance	Required		SU	0.0
BUSI97647	Foundations in Financial Technology	Compulsory		September	7.50
BUSI97629	Accounting and Corporate Finance	Compulsory		SP	7.50
BUSI97631	Investments and Portfolio Management	Compulsory		AU	7.50
BUSI97628	Financial Econometrics in R/Python	Compulsory		AU	7.50
BUSI97595	Blockchain and Applications	Compulsory		SP	7.50
BUSI97636	Big Data in Finance I	Compulsory		SP	7.50
BUSI97766	Mathematics for Finance	Compulsory		AU	7.50
BUSI97041	Advanced Corporate Finance	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97143	Advanced Financial Statistics (suspended for 24.25)	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97042	Advanced Options Theory	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI70567	Applied Quantitative Macro Strategies	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97075	Applied Trading Strategies	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97059	Asset Allocation & Investment Strategies	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97541	Big Data in Finance II (suspended for 24.25)	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97052	C++ (Optional)	Optional	A	SP	0.00
BUSI97799	Climate Finance	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97153	Computational Finance with C++	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI70098	Corporate Finance for Practitioners (International Elective)	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97632	Derivatives	Elective	A	SP	7.50

² **Core** modules are those which serve a fundamental role within the curriculum, and for which achievement of the credits for that module is essential for the achievement of the target award. Core modules must therefore be taken and passed in order to achieve that named award. **Compulsory** modules are those which are designated as necessary to be taken as part of the programme syllabus. Compulsory modules can be compensated. **Elective** modules are those which are in the same subject area as the field of study and are offered to students in order to offer an element of choice in the curriculum and from which students are able to select. Elective modules can be compensated.

³ All business School modules are weighted relative to their ECTS value. The Extended Work Placement module is graded pass/fail and is zero weighted. If passed, the ECTS gained will count towards those required to achieve the target award, but performance in these modules will not further affect the degree classification.

BUSI97606	Entrepreneurial Finance and Venture Capital	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97044	Fixed Income Securities	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97068	Innovation and Strategy in Fintech	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97157	Insurance	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97045	International Finance	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97067	International Elective: Quantitative Equity Investing	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97608	Machine Learning & Finance	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI16645	Market Microstructure: Trading and Liquidity	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97064	Real Estate Investment, Finance and Private Equity	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97604	Shareholder Activism & Corporate Responsibility	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97139	Structured Credit and Equity Products	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI70444	Sustainable Finance Investment	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI70575	Systematic Trading Strategies with Machine Learning Algorithms	Elective	A	SU	7.50
BUSI97605	Text Mining for Economics and Finance	Elective	A	SP	7.50
BUSI97633	Applied Project	Elective	B	SU/SUP	7.50
BUSI70559	Extended Work Placement	Elective	C	SU/SUP	30.00
BUSI97627	Project	Elective	B	SU/SUP	15.00
Credit Total					120

Progression and Classification

Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students

Award of a Postgraduate Degree (including MRes)

To qualify for the award of a postgraduate degree a student must have:

1. accumulated credit to the value of no fewer than 90 credits at level 7
2. and no more than 15 credits as a Compensated Pass ;

Classification of Postgraduate Taught Awards

The university sets the class of Degree that may be awarded as follows:

1. Distinction: 70.00% or above.
2. Merit: 60.00% or above but less than 70.00%.
3. Pass: 50% or above but less than 60%.

For a Masters, your classification will be determined through the Programme Overall Weighted Average meeting the threshold for the relevant classification band.

Your degree algorithm provides an appropriate and reliable summary of your performance against the programme learning outcomes. It reflects the design, delivery, and structure of your programme without unduly over-emphasising particular aspects.

Programme Specific Regulations

N/A

Supporting Information

The Programme Handbook is available at: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/business-school/programmes/programme-information/>

The Module Handbook is made available via the Hub once the module commences. Module descriptions are available in the Programme Handbook (link above).

The university's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate-taught/entry-requirements/

The university's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance

The university's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations

Imperial College London is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of the university's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established Imperial as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine".

www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/

Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS)
www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/

This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that you may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if you take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.