



**UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON**

# Programme Specification 2020–2021

For programmes offered through  
the Centre for Financial and  
Management Studies (CeFiMS)

Postgraduate Certificate  
Postgraduate Diploma  
MSc  
Individual Professional Awards

Important document – please read



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR**

### **Alternative Assessments during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak**

In these unprecedented times, the University has and continues to respond quickly to the impact of COVID-19, which has resulted in changes to our assessment processes.

In line with our current General Regulations, the University may offer you alternative assessments where necessary. This includes holding online timed assessments in place of written examinations, which are usually held at examination centres. Please note that this statement replaces any published information relating to assessments or written examinations in any of our materials including the website. Previously published materials relating to examinations should therefore be read in conjunction with this statement.

The University of London continues to work towards supporting the academic progression of all its students. The University also continues to be mindful of the health and wellbeing of its students during this pandemic, whilst protecting the academic standards of its awards.

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## Important information regarding the Programme Specification

**Last revised:** 25 August 2020

The Programme Specification gives a broad outline of the structure and content of the programme, the entry level qualifications, as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress. Some of the information referred to in this programme specification is included in more detail on the University of London website. Where this is the case, links to the relevant webpage are included.

Where links to external organisations are provided, the University of London is not responsible for their content and does not recommend nor necessarily agree with opinions expressed and services provided at those sites.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided registered students should use the *ask a question* tab in the [student portal](#) otherwise the *Contact Us* button on each webpage should be used.

### Terminology

The following language is specific to the CeFiMS programme:

**Module:** Individual units of a programme are called modules. Each module is a self-contained, formally-structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

### Key revisions made

Programme specifications are revised annually. The quality committee of SOAS University of London, as part of its annual review of standards, confirms the programme structure and the educational aims and learning outcomes, and advises on any development in student support.

Where changes have been made which may impact on continuing students, these are listed below. For all new students, the programme and general information provided in this document is correct and accurate and will be applicable for the current year.

### Significant changes made to the programme specification 2020-21:

No significant changes

## Programme title and awards

Postgraduate Degrees of the University of London may be classified. The award certificate will indicate the level of the academic performance achieved by classifying the award. The classification of the degree will be based on the ratified marks from the completed assessments.

The classification system for the MSc programmes is as follows:

Distinction; Merit; Pass.

Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates are awarded on a Pass/Fail basis only.

Specific rules for the classification of awards are given in the [Programme Regulations](#), under Scheme of Award.

### Qualifications

MSc in Finance (Economic Policy)

MSc in Finance (Financial Sector Management)

MSc in Finance (Quantitative Finance)

MSc in Finance (Banking)

MSc in International Business Administration

MSc in Public Policy and Management

MSc in Finance and Financial Law

MSc in Public Financial Management

Postgraduate Diploma in Economic Policy

Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Sector Management

Postgraduate Diploma in Quantitative Finance

Postgraduate Diploma in Banking

Postgraduate Diploma in Policy Studies

Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management

Postgraduate Diploma in Finance and Financial Law

Postgraduate Diploma in Public Financial Management

Postgraduate Diploma in International Business Administration

Postgraduate Certificate in Economic Policy

Postgraduate Certificate in Financial Sector Management

Postgraduate Certificate in Quantitative Finance

Postgraduate Certificate in Banking

Postgraduate Certificate in Financial Law

Postgraduate Certificate in Public Financial Management

Postgraduate Certificate in Public Management

Postgraduate Certificate in Public Policy

Postgraduate Certificate in International Business Administration

### **Intermediate qualifications**

The intermediate qualifications for these programmes are the Postgraduate Certificates and Postgraduate Diplomas as listed above. Students may be awarded an intermediate qualification and progress to a higher award. The specific rules are given in the [Programme Regulations](#) under Progression rules.

### **Exit qualifications**

The Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates listed above may also be awarded as exit qualifications.

An exit qualification is an intermediate qualification, for which the student may not have registered at the outset but which may be awarded on completion of specific modules/courses (or credit accumulated) in a longer programme of study, if the student leaves the programme.

Students who for academic or personal reasons are unable to complete the modules required for the MSc or PGDip upon which they are registered, may be considered for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate for the successful completion of 120 or 60 credits respectively.

Students whose effective date of registration is 1 July 2018 or earlier will be granted a Postgraduate Diploma as an exit qualification for the successful completion of four 22.5 credit modules, totalling 90 credits.

Exit qualifications are awarded at the discretion of the Board of Examiners and once a student has accepted an exit qualification they will not normally be permitted to continue their study of the same award with the University of London.

### **Individual professional awards**

There is also the provision for individual modules of the programme to be studied and assessed on a stand-alone basis.

### **Award titles may be abbreviated as follows:**

Master of Science - MSc

Postgraduate Diploma - PGDip

Postgraduate Certificate - PGCert

Individual professional award - IPA

### **Level of the programmes**

The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (FHEQ) forms part of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education of the [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education](#) (QAA).

The awards are placed at the following Levels of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ):

MSc Level 7

PGDip Level 7

PGCert Level 7

IPA Level 7

### **Relevant QAA subject benchmarks**

See the [QAA website](#) for information:

Not applicable

### **Awarding body**

University of London

### **Registering body**

University of London

### **Academic Direction**

SOAS, University of London (SOAS) through the Centre for Financial and Management Studies (CeFiMS)

### **Accreditation by professional or statutory body**

The Law Society accredits the MSc in Finance and Financial Law for professional development purposes. Other programmes are not accredited by a professional or statutory body.

### **Language of study and assessment**

English

### **Mode of study**

Distance Learning enhanced by the CeFiMS Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

## **Programme structures**

The structure of each award is dependent upon your date of registration and programme of study.

Full structures are set out in Appendix A of the [Programme Regulations](#).

## **Individual professional awards**

All modules are available to be studied on an individual basis with the exception of the dissertation.

## **Maximum and minimum periods of registration**

The maximum and minimum period of registration, from a student's effective date of registration, are:

	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
<b>Credit bearing individual professional awards</b>	One year	Two years
<b>MSc degrees</b>	Two years	Five years
<b>PGCerts</b>	6 months	Five years
<b>PGDip</b>	One year	Five years

Study materials are made available after registration and on payment of the applicable fee.

## **Credit value of modules**

Further information about the credit systems used by universities in the UK and Europe is provided by the [Quality Assurance Agency](#) and the [European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System](#).

Where credits are assigned to modules of a programme, credit indicates the amount of learning carried out in terms of the notional number of study hours needed, and the specified Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England (FHEQ) credit level indicates the depth, complexity and intellectual demand of learning involved.

For students with an effective date of registration of 1 July 2018 or earlier, studying under the old programme structure, modules are weighted at 22.5 UK credits each.

For students with an effective date of registration of 1 November 2018 and later, or those students who have transferred to the new programme structure, all modules are weighted at 30 UK credits. This is equivalent to 15 ECTS credits.

One UK credit equates to a notional ten hours of study.



## **Recognition of prior learning**

Recognition of prior learning is a generic term for the process by which we recognise and, where appropriate, award credit for learning that has taken place elsewhere, before entry onto this programme of study.

Where the prior learning covered a similar syllabus to a module/course studied elsewhere, credit will be awarded as if you took the [programme title] module/course.

See the [General Regulations](#) (Section 3) and [Programme Regulations](#) for more rules relating to prior learning.

Prior learning will not be recognised or accredited for this programme.

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## **Entrance requirements**

Applicants must submit an application in line with the procedures and deadlines set out on the [website](#).

All entrance requirements are set out in detail on the programme page under the [Requirements tab](#).

We consider qualifications from around the world. Details are available [here](#) and in the [Qualifications for Entrance](#) schedule.

Further information about the qualifications and their entry requirements can be found here: <https://www.soas.ac.uk/cefims/programmes/>

Please refer to the programme you are interested in studying.

## **English language requirements**

All applicants must satisfy the English language requirements for the programme. These are set out in detail on the SOAS website <https://www.soas.ac.uk/cefims/programmes/>

Where an applicant does not meet the prescribed English language proficiency requirements but believes that they can demonstrate the requisite proficiency for admission the University may, at its discretion, consider the application.

## **Internet access and computer specification**

Students will require regular access to a computer with an internet connection to use the University of London's online resources and systems. A webcam may be required in the event that online timed assessments (if offered) are proctored, and in such a case, it is a student's responsibility to ensure that they have a webcam.

The computer should have at least the following minimum specification:

- a web browser with Cookies and JavaScript enabled (a latest version of Firefox or Chrome is recommended);
- a good internet connection;

And the following applications installed:

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- a word processor that accepts Microsoft Word formats (.doc and .docx);
- a pdf reader.

### Students with access requirements

The University of London welcomes applications from disabled students and/or those who have access requirements. The University will make every effort to provide reasonable adjustments to enable those with a disability, learning difficulty or access requirements to have the same opportunity as all other students to successfully complete their studies.

The University is committed to managing the application procedure and the programme itself to ensure that services are accessible for all students and that an inclusive environment is created. Students with a disability, or others who may need access arrangements to assist in taking examinations, should complete the relevant section of the application form, or contact the [Inclusive Practice Manager](#). A separate room or other arrangements may be considered.

Requests are considered by a University panel, whose purpose is to ensure that students with disabilities and/or specific access requirements are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged by such arrangements when compared with other students. These considerations remain separate from the academic selection processes.

For further information, see [Inclusive Practice Policy](#)

### Sources of funding and scholarships

Information about potential sources of funding and scholarships is updated annually and where available is included in the prospectus web pages.

For further information see the [website](#)

## Educational aims and learning outcomes of the programmes

### Learning outcomes of the programmes

Depending on the programme being studied the aims are to provide an understanding of the framework, models and approaches, concepts and principles, and techniques, including quantitative techniques, as applicable to these programmes.

Within the regulations, students may study modules in any order. The elective modules are not in themselves more difficult than the core modules, however, as students progress through the programmes they will develop a greater understanding and a sophistication of thinking.

### Subject specific – knowledge and understanding:

#### MSc programmes

On successful completion of **MSc in Finance (Quantitative Finance)**, students should:

- understand the statistical basis of financial asset pricing;
- be familiar with the main tools for the quantitative management of risk;
- know how to apply econometric methods for the analysis of financial market data;

- become acquainted with the use of financial derivatives for hedging risks.

On successful completion of the **MSc in Finance (Economic Policy)**, students should:

- become acquainted with the main concepts in macroeconomics and in microeconomics;
- know how financial markets work and how they interact with the real economy;
- learn about the role of exchange rates in international finance;
- understand how economic policy can be related to economic theory.

On successful completion of the **MSc in Finance (Financial Sector Management)**, students should:

- become acquainted with financing and investing activities in the financial services sector;
- understand the role of the capital market and relevant theories governing the capital market;
- know how equity and bond are used and be able to compute risk and return of the different asset classes;
- understand the nature of financial risk management and various risk management techniques;
- learn about the current issues in finance such as market efficiency, currency carry trade, high-frequency trading and tax-arbitrage.

On successful completion of the **MSc in Finance (Banking)**, students should:

- have mastered the most advanced technical skills related to the core banking activities and their theoretical underpinnings. In particular, individual (household) financial management (e.g. retirement and financial planning), small/medium sized businesses' as well as and large companies' financial needs;
- understand the role of the banking system intermediating risks, maturities and the access to financial markets and the dynamics of its business;
- be able to frame a financial plan for individuals and corporations, manage financial resources and needs, design the most efficient and effective investment strategies, implement it, measure its performances and communicate it to potential clients managing their expectations;
- be able to complete analyses and projects and communicate results and recommendations effectively and in a timely manner through report writing and the most suitable forms according to the principles of relationship management.

On successful completion of the **MSc in Finance and Financial Law**, students should:

- understand the main ideas and methods used in law and in finance;
- be able to relate principles and practice to the financial decisions taken by enterprises in modern corporations;

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- understand the essential elements of the legal principles of national and international corporate finance;
- understand the law as applicable to risk management, financial regulation, mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings, bond issues and loans.

On successful completion of the **MSc in International Business Administration** students should:

- have knowledge of International management and areas of expertise relevant to the practice of international management;
- have knowledge of the skills practiced by managers of Multi-national Corporations and the skills needed by managers and in the Chinese (including China, Hong Kong and Taiwan) and Sub-Saharan Africa business world;
- understand how far the practice of management in the regions is influenced by local economic, legal, cultural, political and institutional factors, and how far by global factors;
- have skills in differentiating the influence of local and global factors on management in the region;
- be able to question existing assumptions about the multi-national business world and understand unconventional ideas;
- be able to collect first-hand data by conducting interviews and questionnaire survey and be equipped to research their own organisations, whether as academic researchers or consultants.

On successful completion of the **MSc in Public Policy and Management**, students should:

- have detailed knowledge of theories of the policy cycle and of the role of institutional conditions in shaping the trajectory of the policy process;
- have detailed knowledge of public management theories and doctrines, and of their application in administrative practices;
- understand the formulation of strategies for the implementation of public policies;
- understand the principles and tools for managing organisational change in public sector organisations.

On successful completion of the **MSc in Public Financial Management** students should:

- have detailed knowledge of the fundamental functions of public financial management as related to planning and performance, revenues, audit and compliance, and financial reporting;
- have detailed knowledge of theories and doctrines of planning, budgeting, revenue management, auditing and compliance, and financial reporting, and of their application in administrative practices;
- understand the issues attached to planning and budgeting in the public domain, to performance management of public sector organisations, and to the management of the stream of public revenues;

- understand the role, principles and tools for auditing in public sector organisations and approaches and techniques for compliance.

### **PGDip programmes**

On successful completion of **PGDip in Policy Studies**, students should be able to:

- construct and apply models, systems, and techniques;
- interpret policy statements and programmatic documents that inform the conduct of public sector organisations;
- explain how models learned in the programme may be used to inform policy decisions in different policy domains and institutional contexts;
- assess and appraise models, systems and techniques taught in the programme.

On successful completion of **PGDip in Public Financial Management**, students should be able to:

- construct and apply models, systems, and techniques;
- interpret public sector financial planning documents, budgets, financial statements, and other documents that are relevant to the financial management of public sector organisations;
- explain how models learned in the programme may be used to make decisions that are relevant for the financial management of public sector organisations in different policy domains, institutional contexts, and scenarios of public finance;
- assess and appraise models, systems and techniques taught in the programme.

On successful completion of **PGDip in Public Management**, students should be able to:

- construct and apply models, systems, and techniques;
- explain how models learned in the programme may be used to inform managerial decisions in different policy domains, institutional contexts, and public sector organisations;
- assess and appraise models, systems and techniques taught in the programme
- understand and critically appraise case studies and qualitative research.

On successful completion of **PGDip Economic Policy**, students should be able to:

- assess data and evidence critically from printed sources;
- assess and demonstrate how well the theories and models relevant to economic policy stand up to empirical analysis;
- interpret and critically evaluate scholarly and professional articles on economic policy formulation and analysis;
- develop a systematic understanding of relevant economic theory and techniques (including innovative areas such as impact analysis).

On successful completion of **PGDip in Finance and Financial Law**, students should be able to use and to evaluate:



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- legal principles of finance and their application;
- financial analysis of securities;
- the financial, legal and economic context of firms, markets and banks.

On successful completion of **PGDip in Financial Sector Management**, students should be able to:

- assess data and evidence critically from printed sources;
- assess and demonstrate how well the theories and models relevant to financial sector management stand up to empirical analysis;
- interpret and critically evaluate scholarly and professional articles on corporate finance and governance, risk management, financial markets and systems and their place in the global context;
- develop a systematic understanding of relevant financial theory and techniques.

On successful completion of **PGDip in Quantitative Finance**, students should be able to:

- assess data and evidence critically from printed sources;
- assess and demonstrate how well the theories and models relevant to financial assets and market data stand up to empirical analysis;
- carry out econometric work relevant to issues in finance;
- interpret and critically evaluate scholarly and professional articles employing econometric techniques;
- develop a systematic understanding of innovative financial products (derivatives).

On successful completion of **PGDip in Banking**, students should be able to:

- frame a financial plan for individuals and corporations;
- manage financial resources and needs;
- design the most efficient and effective investment strategy;
- implement these investment strategies, measure its performances and communicate it to potential clients managing their expectations;
- Frame different banking business models and choose the best one according to different market conditions;
- assess and appraise models, systems and techniques taught in the programme;
- understand and critically appraise case studies and qualitative research.

On successful completion of **PGDip in International Business Administration** students should:

- have required understanding and expertise of relevant areas of International management required to the practice of international management;
- have knowledge of the skills practiced by managers of Multi-National Corporations

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- understand how far the practice of management in the regions is influenced by local economic, legal, cultural, political and institutional factors, and how far by global factors;
- be able to question existing assumptions about the multi-national business world and understand unconventional ideas.

### **PGCert programmes**

On successful completion of **PGCert in Banking**, students should be able to:

- understand specific aspects of the banking activity;
- frame a financial plan for individuals and corporations;
- manage financial resources and needs, design the most efficient and effective investment strategy, implement it;
- measure its performances and communicate it to potential clients managing their expectations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in Economic Policy**, students should be able to:

- analyse and critically appraise economic policy decisions;
- design interventions in policy areas;
- execute, or instruct how to execute, policies and programmes in economic policy organisations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in Public Policy**, students should be able to:

- analyse and critically appraise public policy decisions;
- design interventions in policy areas;
- execute, or instruct how to execute, policies and programmes in public sector organisations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in Public Management**, students should be able to:

- analyse and critically appraise public policy decisions;
- design interventions in policy areas;
- execute, or instruct how to execute, policies and programmes in public sector organisations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in Public Financial Management**, students should be able to:

- analyse and critically appraise public policy decisions;
- design interventions in policy areas;
- execute, or instruct how to execute, policies and programmes in public sector organisations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in Quantitative Finance**, students should be able to:

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- analyse and critically appraise quantitative finance models;
- design quantitative financial models;
- execute, or instruct how to execute, investment in financial organisations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in Financial Sector Management**, students should be able to:

- analyse and critically appraise quantitative finance models;
- design quantitative financial models;
- execute, or instruct how to execute, investment in financial organisations.

On successful completion of **PGCert in International Business Administration** students should:

- have required understanding and expertise of relevant areas of International management required to the practice of international management;
- understand how far the practice of management in the regions is influenced by local economic, legal, cultural, political and institutional factors, and how far by global factors.

### Intellectual and transferable skills:

On successful completion of any of the programmes offered through the Centre for Financial and Management Studies, students should be able to:

- think creatively;
- gather, question and analyse information;
- develop arguments in a systematic fashion;
- express ideas clearly in written work and develop problem solving skills by applying theory and theoretical models in practical situations;
- manage their own learning, including working effectively to deadlines, plan, organise and prioritise tasks.

In addition to this, students who successfully complete an MSc in Finance (Quantitative Finance); Finance (Economic Policy); Finance (Financial Sector Management); Finance and Financial Law or Public Financial Management, should be able to:

- apply numerical and quantitative skills

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## Learning, teaching and assessment strategies

These programmes are taught using academically rigorous and up-to-date learning materials and resources. A study guide, provided for each module studied, is intended to steer the student through the module as well as introduce the student to particular topics within the syllabus. They are written with distance learning principles in mind and complement the textbooks and key readings and articles that are provided for most modules. All study guides are now provided in electronic format via the VLE.

Supplementary study materials, where appropriate, include items such as video lectures on that expand on important issues that have been raised in the module. Useful administrative information and suggestions on how to study by distance learning are provided online.

To help a student to organise their time, a Study Timetable is provided for each module. This sets out the timetable for coursework and assignment deadlines. Instead of a continuous sequence of modules, gaps are allowed so that students can catch up with other commitments. Modules are therefore run in four sessions throughout the year and each module is normally available at least twice in a twelve-month period.

The VLE gives instant access to current module materials, electronic journals and other materials provided online by the University of London. There is a direct link to a named tutor who marks and comments on assignments. The tutor is also available to answer any questions the student may have about the academic content of the programme. A member of the administrative staff is also available to answer questions about the administrative aspect of the student's studies. A technical team can help with any difficulties in accessing the VLE. There is also access to discussion forums with other students.

Each module, with the exception of the dissertation, has two marked assignments which will take the form of written work prepared in response to a task or tasks specified by the Programme Director. The assignments help students to know how well they are doing as well as being part of the formal assessment for the programmes.

MSc students may opt to undertake a Dissertation that relates to theory and policy issues. The purpose of this is to enable the student to develop and demonstrate their capacity to carry out a substantial piece of independent academic work on a selected topic. Students will be assessed on their capacity to define a topic, to articulate a coherent scheme for examining the topic, to gather necessary information and to analyse and present this information in a way that satisfactorily assesses the topic that they have set themselves.

For each module, with the exception of the dissertation, students will be assessed by written examination and by coursework. Questions are structured to allow students to demonstrate that they have acquired appropriate knowledge and understanding. The way that students manage data, solve problems, evaluate ideas and the organisational skills they use to structure their written answers allows the standard of intellectual and transferable skills to be assessed.

Assessment criteria for the programme take into account the level at which these skills have been achieved.

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## **Assessment methods**

For all programmes, each 22.5 and 30 credit module, with the exception of the Dissertation, is assessed by one three-hour unseen written examination and by the submission of two compulsory assignments of 2,500 words each.

Students cannot sit the written examination for a module unless they have completed all the compulsory assignments for that module.

The grade awarded for the module is based on the mark obtained in the written examination and on the combined mark for the assignments on the module. The ratio of written examination to coursework is 70:30.

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The Dissertation is assessed by the submission of a written dissertation of not more than 10,000 words, excluding the bibliography and appendices.

### Individual modules

A student may choose whether or not to be formally assessed in the credit bearing individual modules for which they are registered. Students who choose to be formally assessed will be examined in the same way as those registered on the degree programme.

Examinations take place in September to October each year and are held at established centres worldwide.

Full details of the dates of all examinations are available on the [website](#).

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## Student support and guidance

The following summarises the support and guidance available to students:

- The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE): This gives access to materials (including lessons, activities and assignments) for each module studied.
- Module subject guides for each module studied; these introduce and develop the topics.
- Online student café and discussion areas – which allow students to communicate with each other.
- Textbooks and articles that are important to the subject.
- Multimedia tools – module lectures on DVD that expand on the important issues that have been raised in the module or computer software may be included.
- A SOAS email account.
- [Programme Regulations](#).
- [The University of London Online Library](#): This provides a range of full-text, multidisciplinary databases where journal articles, book reviews and reports can be found.
- The SOAS Online Library
- The SOAS On-campus Library
- University of London library: Registered students may use the resources located within the Senate House library

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## Quality evaluation and enhancement

The University of London delivers the majority of its flexible and distance learning programmes through a collaboration between the University of London Worldwide and member institutions of the University of London. However some of the flexible and distance learning programmes draw solely on academic input from the University of London, and are delivered without academic lead by a member institution. The policies, partnerships (where



applicable) and quality assurance mechanisms applicable for the programmes are defined in the following key documents: The Quality Framework, the [Quality Assurance Schedules](#), [Guidelines for Examinations](#), [General Regulations](#) and, for each programme, [programme specific regulations](#).

### **Awards standards**

All University of London qualifications have to align with the [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies](#) to assure appropriate standards for each qualification. In addition, every programme that is developed by a member institution of the University of London (or a consortium with representation by more than one member institution) will be developed to the same standard as would be applied within the institution concerned. Proportionate and robust approval procedures, including external scrutiny and student engagement are in place for all programmes. Learning materials are written and all assessments are set and marked by academic staff who are required to apply the University's academic standards.

### **Review and evaluation mechanisms**

Some of the key mechanisms in place to assure the standards of all University of London qualifications and the quality of the student experience, include:

- Annual programme reports: produced for all programmes in order to review and enhance the provision and to plan ahead;
- Independent external examiners: submit reports every year to confirm that a programme has been assessed properly and meets the appropriate academic standards;
- Annual student information statistics: prepared for all systematic reporting within the University of London;
- Periodic programme reviews: carried out every 4-6 years to review how a programme has developed over time and to make sure that it remains current and up-to-date.

Improvements are made as necessary to ensure that systems remain effective and rigorous.

### **Student feedback and engagement**

The principal channel for collecting feedback from students is the Student Experience Survey. Carried out every two years, this collects feedback from the student body on a range of topics relating to the student lifecycle. The results are analysed externally and then considered in a number of different ways, including by the programme team, principal committees and the senior leadership team. Details of any resulting actions taken are published on the Virtual Learning Environment and the Student Portal.

Additionally, on completion of their programme of study students will be invited to take a survey that seeks to measure what they have gained from their studies.

There are also opportunities for students to get involved in governance. An undergraduate and postgraduate student member is appointed by the University to the majority of committees through an annual appointment round. Some programmes also recruit student members at the programme level. Students are frequently invited to take part in quality review processes such as Periodic Programme Reviews, Programme approval, Thematic Reviews, MOOC review panels and ad hoc focus groups. Opportunities such as these are

advertised through social media and on the website. More information can be found on the [website](#).

Students can also apply to join the Student Voice Group, which meets four times a year to consider initiatives for enhancing student experience. Notes from these meetings are published on the Student Portal.

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## **After graduation**

### **Further study**

Successful completion of the programme may allow students to progress to a higher level award in the subject area.

### **Graduate employment routes**

These programmes are designed for those who wish to pursue careers in the financial services, government, development organisations, education and consultancy.

#### **Finance and Financial Law**

The MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Finance and Financial Law create a new kind of financial services professional: graduates who are trained in both finance and law. Graduates of the MSc FFL find that their specialist knowledge is in demand by international banks and investment firms, legal practices, regulatory institutions and the academic world.

As a graduate of the Postgraduate Certificate in Financial Law, you will be well prepared for working in the financial services sector or as a regulator with responsibility for financial institutions. The Certificate would also be beneficial to existing members of commercial law firms wishing to offer an improved service to clients in the financial sector, or for financiers wishing to enter such sectors as compliance or begin careers in the government services

#### **Banking**

As a graduate of the MSc in Finance (Banking), Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate in Banking you will be well prepared for positions in banking, asset management, pension funds, regulators and financial institutions.

#### **Economic Policy**

As a graduate of the MSc Finance (Economic Policy), the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate in Economic Policy you will be well prepared for positions in government, central banks, other public organisations, international institutions and consultancy.

#### **Financial Sector Management**

As a graduate of the MSc in Finance (Financial Sector Management), the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate in Financial Sector Management you will be well prepared for management positions in deposit banks, investment banks, fund management, consultancy, central banks and international bodies.

#### **Quantitative Finance**

As a graduate of the MSc in Finance (Quantitative Finance), the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate in Quantitative Finance, you will be well prepared for research and other positions in banking, fund management, consultancy, central banks and international bodies.

### **International Business Administration**

As a graduate of the MSc in International Business Administration, you will be well prepared for a senior position in modern corporations, banks, financial services companies, business consultancies, regulatory authorities and international organisations.

### **Public Policy and Management**

As a graduate of the MSc in Public Policy and Management you will be well prepared for senior positions in national and sub-national government sectors, international organisations, regional development and aid agencies, and NGOs.

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate in Policy Studies are likely to work in government, at national and sub-national levels, both as politicians and officials, within international organisations offering help to governments, in consultancies in public sector analysis and reform, and in NGOs operating in development and service delivery fields.

The Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Public Management prepare graduates for managing and advising public sector organisations. There is an emphasis on managing people, managing change and designing and using information systems.

### **Public Financial Management**

Organisations need managers with a thorough understanding of public finance so that they can make financial decisions and design and operate financial systems for collecting, spending and accounting for public expenditure. Depending on which options you choose, the MSc, Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate in Public Financial Management will enable you to make decisions about investment projects, when and how to use privatisation and public-private partnerships, and how to manage the financial relationships between national and sub-national governments.

The MSc in Public Financial Management is suitable for people working in central Financial Ministries, or in financial management roles in line Ministries, sub-national governments or financial scrutiny functions in Parliaments or Supreme Audit Institutions. It will also be valuable for people working in consultancy and advisory functions, and in international financial institutions.

### **The Alumni Community**

Upon finishing a course of study, graduates automatically become part of the University of London alumni community, a diverse global network of more than one million graduates in over 180 countries, providing lifelong links to the University and to each other.

Alumni are encouraged to keep in touch after they graduate and to become active members of the alumni community; in return they receive a number of benefits and services, including an extensive programme of events and engagement opportunities.

More information is available on the alumni [webpage](#).

Follow the alumni community on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#)