

Curriculum Advice for New Business School Students 2023

Welcome to the University of Aberdeen Business School. In this document you will find some guidance that will help you when you are making your on-line course selections.

All students must register for **120 credits** in each academic year – 60 in the first sub-session and 60 in the second sub-session. All courses at level 1 are 15 credits. So that means you need to choose **eight courses**: four in the first sub-session and four in the second sub-session. For single honours students, of these 120 credits, **30 credits** should be **enhanced study courses** at level 1. *Enhanced study courses can be comprised of (i) sustained study courses, (ii) sixth century (SX) courses, or (iii) “discipline breadth” courses (these are any courses that are not compulsory courses or options in your degree programme). Normally students should take at least 15 credits of SX coded courses during their period of undergraduate study. **Joint honours students are exempt from these requirements for enhanced study.***

Some courses will be compulsory. For example, students registered for MA Economics, will have to study two 15-credit courses in Economics as their compulsory courses, as shown in the grid below. Other degree programmes may have more, or less, compulsory courses than this example.

Your first task is to decide which additional courses to select alongside your compulsory courses. This document aims to give you some guidance as to which courses fit well with Business School degree programmes.

Your main aim should be to leave as many degree pathways as possible open to you. This normally involves choosing groups of courses that would open the door to other degree programmes, rather than picking single courses at random. So, in the grid below, an Economics student could potentially select pairs of courses from another three disciplines. You may think at this stage you only have interests in one discipline, so this flexibility is unnecessary, but our experience shows that our students’ interests change over time, and they value having the flexibility to switch degree programmes later.

Let us look at each degree programme in turn:

MA Economics (single or joint honours degrees)

In the grid below, we show in blue the compulsory courses for this degree programme.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
	Discipline 2 – Course 1	15		Discipline 2 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 3 – Course 1	15		Discipline 3 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 4 – Course 1	15		Discipline 4 – Course 2	15

We now add two further “pathways”. For example, by adding the courses shaded in pink, we open up the possibility to do a joint-honours degrees with Finance or single or joint honours degrees in Business Management.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15		Discipline 2 – Course 2	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
	Discipline 4 – Course 1	15		Discipline 4 – Course 2	15

Since the courses shaded pink are not part of the prescribed degree programme for Economics, this student **automatically satisfies** the enhanced study requirement by way of “disciplinary breadth”. The final three 15-credit slots may be filled by another discipline pairing, or by other courses. Here for example we select a sixth century course, together with a further discipline course from Accountancy, and one from real estate, opening up a fourth and fifth pathway to possibly do joint honours degrees in Accountancy or Real Estate.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15	SX 150X	Sixth Century Course	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	PO 1504	Understanding Property	15

MA Business Management (single or joint honours degrees)

In the grid below, we show in blue the compulsory courses for this degree programme.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15		Discipline 1 – Course 2	15
EC 1006	Economics for Business and Society	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
	Discipline 3 – Course 1	15		Discipline 3 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 4 – Course 1	15		Discipline 4 – Course 2	15

As it stands this neither provides any alternative “pathways” to Management, nor does it satisfy the requirement for enhanced study. It is possible to satisfy both these criteria by the addition of carefully selected courses, for example adding a second semester Economics course gives an additional “pathway” (to do a single or joint honours degrees in Economics) and satisfies the disciplinary breadth route to enhanced study.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15		Discipline 1 – Course 2	15
EC 1006	Economics for Business and Society	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
	Discipline 3 – Course 1	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
	Discipline 4 – Course 1	15		Discipline 4 – Course 2	15

Adding a first semester Finance course gives an additional “pathway” (to do a joint honours degree in Finance) and a first semester Accountancy course gives an additional “pathway” (to do a joint honours degree in Accountancy). Here we show the final two slots filled by a sixth century course and an IB course for illustration.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15	IN 1501	International Context for Business 2	15
EC1006	Economics for Business and Society	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	SX 150X	Sixth Century Course	15

MA Finance (single and joint honours)

In the grid below, we show in blue the four compulsory courses for this degree programme.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
	Discipline 2 – Course 1	15		Discipline 2 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 3 – Course 1	15		Discipline 3 – Course 2	15

As well as enabling students to take the degree of MA in Finance, this matrix of courses automatically allows students to take MA Economics, but as it stands it does not satisfy the requirement for enhanced study. It is possible to remedy this by the addition of carefully selected courses, for example adding a first semester Accountancy course, and a second semester Business Management course gives a further additional “pathway” (to the joint honours MA Accountancy degree) and satisfies the disciplinary breadth route to enhanced study.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15		Discipline 2 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 3 – Course 1	15		Discipline 3 – Course 2	15

Adding a first semester Business Management course gives a fourth additional pathway” (to the single or joint honours MA Business Management degrees). Here we show the final slots filled by an IB course and a sixth century course for illustration.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	IN 1501	International Context for Business 2	15
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15	SX 150X	Sixth Century Course	15

MA Accountancy (single and joint honours)

In the grid below, we show in blue the compulsory courses for this degree programme.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	AC 1516	Accounting Principles	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15		Discipline 2 – Course 2	15
EC1006	Economics for Business and Society	15		Discipline 3 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 4 – Course 1	15		Discipline 4 – Course 2	15

By the addition of carefully selected courses, for example adding a first semester Business Management course, and a second semester Economics course gives two additional “pathways” (to single or joint honours Business Management and Economics degrees) and satisfies the disciplinary breadth route to enhanced study. Adding a further Real Estate second semester course would provide an additional element of interest to the programme (and additional joint degree possibilities) and we show a Sixth Century course to complete the set for illustration.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	AC 1516	Accounting Principles	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	SX 150X	Sixth Century Course	15
EC1006	Economics for Business and Society	15	PO 1504	Understanding Property	15
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15

Again even if you have registered for a joint degree it is advisable to consider other degrees or joint degrees when choosing your options. It is not at all unusual for students to change their degree intentions over the four years they are here. For example, many students taking economics or accountancy find that they also enjoy finance and wish to move to a joint degree in both disciplines. So we would advise all students, whether registered for a single or joint honours degree, to choose subjects that allow them the option to take at least three honours degrees.

MA Real Estate (single or joint honours degrees)

In the grid below, we show in blue the compulsory courses for this degree programme.

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	PO 1504	Understanding Property	15
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15	SX 150X	Sixth Century Course	15

We now add two further “pathways”. For example, by adding the course shaded in pink, we open up the possibility to do a joint honours degree in Finance. Adding the course shaded in green opens up the possibility to do a joint honours degree in Accountancy. Finally, adding one further course opens up the possibility to do single or joint honours degrees in Business Management. The final slot we have shown a Sixth Century course for illustration.

Joint degrees

Joint degrees combine courses from different disciplines. Of course, you need not limit yourself to within the business school. There are many joint degree possibilities outwith the business school, which can also be used as a template for making astute course choices. A very popular combination is to combine courses from the business school with courses from social sciences, for example, Economics and International Relations. The starting point would look something like this:

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
PI 1013	Introduction to International relations	15	PI 1516	Introduction to Political Science: British Politics and the EU	15
	Discipline 3 – Course 1	15		Discipline 3 – Course 2	15
	Discipline 4 – Course 1	15		Discipline 4 – Course 2	15

The courses shaded in blue represent the compulsory Economics courses, and those in pink the compulsory IR courses. You can then add further courses from the business school (as above) or from social sciences (for example, sociology), or indeed any other school.

MA/MBus International Business

This special degree programme has a largely defined curriculum depending on (a) the specialism chosen and (b) if the degree is taken with a modern language. The grids below show the possible curricula.

MA/MBus International Business (Accountancy specialism)

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
IN 1001	International Context for Business 1	15	IN 1501	International Context for Business 2	15
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	AC 1516	Accounting Principles	15
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
	EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	15		EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	15

MA/MBus International Business (Economics specialism)

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
IN 1001	International Context for Business 1	15	IN 1501	International Context for Business 2	15
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
	Any other course of choice	15		Any other course of choice	15
	EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	15		EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	15

MA/MBus International Business (Finance specialism)

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
IN 1001	International Context for Business 1	15	IN 1501	International Context for Business 2	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
	EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR	15		EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR	15

	Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)			Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	
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MA/MBus International Business (Real Estate specialism)

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
IN 1001	International Context for Business 1	15	IN 1501	International Context for Business 2	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	PO 1504	Understanding Property	15
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
	EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	15		EITHER Language – Course 1 (if with modern language) OR Any other course of choice (if not with modern language)	15

The courses shaded in blue represent the compulsory IB courses, and the courses shaded green the compulsory specialism courses. The with modern language options are Spanish, German, French, Mandarin and Gaelic. The specific language courses will be confirmed by Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture staff after a short competency test.

Where can I find help and support?

For curriculum advice, the best source of help and support is the Programme Director for your degree. They are listed below:

- Accountancy: Dr Sarah Smith
- Business Management: Professor Donald Hislop
- Economics: Dr Yu Aoki
- Finance: [Dr Laura McCann](#)
- International Business: [Professor Ignacio Canales](#)
- Real Estate: Nan Liu

The Business School Director of Education may also be consulted for more complex queries: [Professor W David McCausland](#).

Continuing students – year 2

- Second year courses in the Business School, compulsory for degrees in:
 - Economics
 - EC2003 Intermediate Microeconomics (30)
 - EC2503 Intermediate Macroeconomics (30)
 - Real Estate
 - PO2009 Land and Property Economics (15)
 - PO2010 Land and Property Law (15)
 - PO2509 Principles of Property Valuation (15)
 - PO2508 Understanding Statistics (15)
 - Business Management
 - MS2006 Marketing (15)
 - PO2508 Understanding Statistics (15)
 - MS2511 Operations Management (15)
 - Finance
 - FI2004 Finance 2: Business Finance (15)
 - PO2508 Understanding Statistics (15)
 - FI2501 Financial Markets and Regulation (15)
 - Accountancy
 - FI2004 Finance 2: Business Finance (15)
 - AC2031 Management Accounting 2 (15)
 - PO2508 Understanding Statistics (15)
 - AC2530 Financial Accounting 2 (15)
 - International Business (year 2)
 - IN 2002 Big Data in Operations and Supply Chain Management (15)
 - IN 2502 Big Data in Business and Finance (15)
 - Accountancy specialism:
 - AC 2030 Business Finance
 - AC 2029 Management Accounting 2
 - AC 2526 Financial Accounting 2
 - PO 2504 Understanding Statistics
 - Select Modern Language Option or 30 credit points from courses of choice
 - Economics specialism:
 - EC 2003 Intermediate Microeconomics
 - EC 2503 Intermediate Macroeconomics
 - Select Modern Language Option or 30 credit points from courses of choice
 - Finance specialism:
 - FI 2004 Finance 2: Business Finance
 - FI 2501 Financial Markets and Regulation
 - PO 2504 Understanding Statistics
 - Select Modern Language Option or 45 credit points from courses of choice
 - Real Estate specialism:
 - PO 2009 Land and Property Economics
 - PO 2010 Land and Property Law
 - PO 2509 Principles of Property Valuation
 - PO 2504 Understanding Statistics

- Select Modern Language Option or 30 credit points from courses of choice

Resits

- The **validity of the class certificate** as an entitlement to admission to an end of course assessment shall be limited to the academic year in respect of which it is awarded and to the academic year immediately following. Students holding a valid Class Certificate are permitted a total of **three** opportunities of assessment within this period.
- **Progression requirements:** candidates may not progress
 - from programme **year 1 to programme year 2** unless they have accumulated, by award or recognition, **at least 90 credit** points at level 1
 - from programme **year 2 to programme year 3** unless they have accumulated, by award or recognition, **at least 210 credit points** at levels 1 and 2
- Candidates registered for **part-time study** may not register for more than **75 credit points** in any academic year, nor more than **45 credit points** in either half-session. Candidates registered for more than 75 credit points in any academic year are deemed to be full-time.

Appendix

Abridged Business School degree matrices – year I (see [calendar](#) for full regulations) (see above for IB)

Economics

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15

Accountancy

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
AC 1011	Accounting and Accountability	15	AC 1516	Accounting Principles	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15			
EC1006	Economics for Business and Society	15			

Finance

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15

Business Management

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
MS 1009	Managing Organisations	15			
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	AC 1517	Accounting and Entrepreneurship	15

Real Estate

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 1006	The Economics of Business and Society	15	EC 1506	The Global Economy	15
FI 1004	Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment	15	PO 1504	Understanding Property	15

Abridged Business School degree matrices – year 2 (see [calendar](#) for full regulations) (see above for IB)

Economics

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
EC 2003	Intermediate Microeconomics ‡	30	EC 2503	Intermediate Microeconomics ‡	30

Accountancy

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
AC 2031	Management Accounting ‡	15	AC 2528	Financial Accounting ‡	15
FI 2004	Finance 2:Business Finance ‡	15	PO 2508	Understanding Statistics	15
			LS 2533**	Business Law	15

Finance

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
			FI 2501	Financial Markets and Regulation	15
FI 2004	Finance 2: Business Finance ‡	15	PO 2508	Understanding Statistics	15

Business Management

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
MS 2006	Marketing	15	MS 2511	Operations Management ‡	15
			PO 2508	Understanding Statistics	15

Real Estate

First Sub-session			Second Sub-session		
Course Code	Course Title	Credit points	Course Code	Course Title	Credit points
PO 2007	Land and Property Law	15	PO 2508	Understanding Statistics	15
PO 2008	Land and Property Economics ‡	15	PO 2506	Principles of Property Valuation ‡	15

‡ indicates prerequisites apply, ** for ICAS accreditation