

BUSINESS SCHOOL UNDERGRADUATE GUIDE 2024

1495 UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN
BUSINESS SCHOOL




PROGRESS
THROUGH
POSSIBILITIES

BEST OF BOTH

Studying at the University of Aberdeen Business School means you not only benefit from our awards and accolades, but also those of the wider University.

University of Aberdeen

— Founded —
1495


14,500
STUDENTS


RANKED IN
13TH IN UK
AND HIGHEST RISING
TOP 20 UNIVERSITY₁

2019
SCOTTISH
UNIVERSITY
OF THE YEAR₂

Home to
FIVE 
NOBEL PRIZES

2ND
IN THE UK FOR
SUSTAINABLE
EDUCATION₃

Business School

40+
NATIONALITIES



OUR PROGRAMMES
ARE **ACCREDITED**
BY **OVER 8 WORLD**
RENOWNED
INDUSTRY
LEADING BODIES

Real-time trading in our
BLOOMBERG
FINANCE LAB 

90+
RESEARCH ACTIVE
STAFF MEMBERS

93.8%
OF OUR GRADUATES ARE
IN EMPLOYMENT AND/OR
FURTHER STUDY 15 MONTHS
AFTER GRADUATION₄

2
IN THE UK FOR
ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE₁

81%  OF OUR RESEARCH
WAS CLASSIFIED AS
WORLD-LEADING &
INTERNATIONALLY
EXCELLENT₅

5 **RENOWNED**
RESEARCH
CENTRES

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMMES

The Business School offers programmes in core business subject areas, including Accountancy, Business Management, Economics, Finance, International Business and Real Estate.

We believe that it's essential to have an appreciation of disciplines other than your own, providing a deeper understanding of the context of your own core discipline. We call the courses that provide for this, and for other broadening experiences, Enhanced Study. All single honours undergraduate degrees programmes include Enhanced Study, and are structured in such a way that this will not increase your overall workload.

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We believe that it's essential to have an appreciation of disciplines other than your own

Our programmes are designed to be flexible so that students can easily transfer from one programme to another or focus on one specialist area. Students can take courses from other parts of the University, so if you have an interest in languages, history, politics, psychology, legal studies or something else, you can sample courses from elsewhere in your first two years to help you decide what best suits you.

However, if you already know that you would prefer to focus on a single discipline, we offer programmes where students can specialise in one area and gain the essential knowledge and core skills for the subject. If you would like more information about single honours programmes please contact us study@abdn.ac.uk



International Partnerships

The Business School has a number of undergraduate agreements including with South China Normal University, Shandong Normal University and Shanghai University. These allow students to study a 2+2 or a 2+3 at Aberdeen in Accountancy, Business Management, Economics, Finance and Real Estate.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this brochure, but it is subject to alteration without notice. Therefore, the University reserves the right to make variations to the contents or methods of delivery of courses and programmes. Please visit our website for the latest information. The University of Aberdeen Business School continues to pursue best practice and high standards of service for all students. Information is correct at time of going to print.



SOCIETIES

At the University of Aberdeen we have a number of clubs and societies you can join for social or professional purposes, or both! The Business School is home to the biggest societies on campus.

Business and Economics Society

The Economics and Business Society is the official society of the University of Aberdeen Business School and one of the largest societies on campus, with over 200 members. Students have the opportunity to attend debates and presentations from industry speakers to make important connections with potential employers.

Trading and Investment Club

AUTIC's goal is to provide its members with an in-depth understanding of finance, giving hands on experience with investment evaluation and decision making. Students gain exposure to experienced and successful professionals from the wider world of finance.

FinTech and Blockchain Club

AUFBC is a society aimed at building an understanding of the technological disruption affecting the financial industry and the world itself, with the main focus toward financial and blockchain technology. Every week we aim to discuss topics that are hand-picked to expand knowledge, encourage forward-thinking and broaden horizons.

AIESEC

Founded in 1948, AIESEC is a global youth-led organization striving to achieve peace and fulfilment of humankind's potential by activating leadership qualities in youth through learning from practical experiences in challenging environments. Since 2015, we have been collaborating with the UN towards fulfilling the SDGs, while aiming to develop young people by providing internship opportunities abroad.



MA ACCOUNTANCY AND FINANCE

Accountancy and Finance at Aberdeen gives you a thorough grounding in theory, practice and business skills. The course is taught by research active and accounting practice experts, with the advantage of real-life employers and scenarios integrated into your programme.

Why this programme?

- Ranked 2nd in the UK for Accounting and Finance (Guardian University Guide 2023).
- The University of Aberdeen courses are accredited by ICAS, CIMA and ACCA. You will study in a dynamic teaching and research environment and be taught by staff with a wide range of both theoretical and practical backgrounds and experience.
- Students progress into a broad range of accountancy and finance careers.

What you'll study

The four year course provides a background for the career possibilities ahead, with flexibility to build on your strengths and tailor your degree.

Year 1

Accounting & Accountability
Economics for Business & Society
Finance 1: Finance, Risk & Investment
Accounting Principles
The Global Economy
Academic Writing for Business
Getting started at the University of Aberdeen Part 1

Year 2

Management Accounting 2
Finance 2: Business Finance
Financial Accounting 2
Financial Markets & Regulation
Understanding Statistics
Business Law

Year 3

Financial Accounting 3
Management Accounting 3
Finance 3: Corporate
Finance Auditing
Finance 4: International
Financial Management

Year 4

Accounting Theory
Dissertation in Accountancy OR Finance

Career options

- Audit Associate
- Trainee Chartered Accountant
- Accounting technician
- Business advisor
- Forensic accountant
- Finance trainee



Professionally Recognised

MA ACCOUNTANCY

The MA in Accountancy is designed to provide students with an extensive knowledge and understanding of the world of Accountancy and to enable them to succeed as a professional accountant.

Accountancy will develop a student's intellectual skills through analysing and evaluating accounting information and how it is used in a modern economy. They will gain a strong foothold in accountancy and develop the analytical and evaluation skills required.

Our courses are accredited by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS), CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants) and ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants).

Why this programme?

- Ranked 2nd in the UK for Accounting and Finance (Guardian University Guide 2023).
- Learn how complex organisations operate, and benefit from being involved in real-life scenarios.
- Thrive in the international, dynamic environment of our Business School with classmates of over 40 nationalities.
- Benefit from close links with employers and be supported by dedicated careers advisors.

What you'll study

Course delivery is via a mixture of lectures, seminars and small group tutorials. Assessment is by coursework and examinations.

Year 1

Accounting & Accountability
Economics for Business & Society
Accounting & Entrepreneurship
Finance 1: Finance, Risk and Investment
The Global Economy
Professional Skills Part 1
Academic Writing for Business

Year 2

Management Accounting 2
Finance 2: Business Finance
Financial Accounting 2
Understanding Statistics
Business Law

Year 3

Financial Accounting 3
Management Accounting 3
Audit Practice
Taxation

Year 4

Dissertation in Accountancy
Optional Accountancy Courses:
Accounting and Sustainability, Audit Theory and Evolution, Public Sector Accounting, Accounting History, Corporate Governance and Ethics, Contemporary Issues in Accounting, Optional Finance Courses: Empirical Methods in Finance, Financial Strategy and Investment Management.



Career options

- Trainee Chartered Accountant
- Financial Analyst
- Portfolio Manager
- Risk Management Consultant
- Forensic Accountant
- Business Advisor
- Accounting Technician
- Consultancy
- Actuarial Analyst
- Training contracts with the 'Big Four' including Deloitte, PwC, EY and KPMG



Students will gain real-world experience dealing with stocks and securities through our Bloomberg Terminal, a cutting-edge software package that gives continuously updated information on equities, foreign exchange, commodities and other asset classes along with an in-depth global newsfeed.

Gain the skills required to work productively in the financial services industry, picking up the practical skills required for life at the Stock Exchange before you graduate and gain an in-depth understanding of finance in practice.

Bloomberg



The Business School

MA FINANCE

Our MA in Finance is designed to provide students with an extensive knowledge and understanding of the world of Finance. In particular, the degree explores relevant theory in the business world and how it is applied to the world of Finance.

Students will be exposed to the quantitative techniques used in industry and learn how to apply these theories in practice. This degree is an ideal springboard to a brilliant career in any industry.

Why this programme?

- Ranked 2nd in the UK for Accounting and Finance (Guardian University Guide 2023).
- Focus on crucial areas in business such as financial management, corporate finance, personal finance, financial institutions, derivatives and the stock market.
- Learn in a dynamic research environment, inspired by staff who are internationally known for their leading research in accountancy, finance, and business management.
- Students will have access to professional training facilities, such as our trading floor, which uses the same platform as major financial service companies across the world.
- Thrive in the international, dynamic environment of our Business School with classmates of over 40 nationalities.
- Benefit from close links with employers and be supported by dedicated careers advisors.

What you'll study

Course delivery is via a mixture of lectures, seminars and small group tutorials. Assessment is by coursework and examinations. Students will also be required to undertake project work.

Year 1

Economics for Business & Society
Finance 1: Finance, Risk & Investment
Accounting Principles
The Global Economy
Professional Skills Part 1
Academic Writing for Business

Year 2

Finance 2: Business Finance
Financial Markets & Regulation
Understanding Statistics

Year 3

Finance 3: Corporate Finance
International Financial Management

Year 4

Financial Strategy and Investment Management
Empirical Methods in Finance
Derivatives and Treasury Management
Dissertation in Finance

Career options

- Financial Analyst
- Portfolio Manager
- Risk Management Consultant
- Financial Manager
- Personal Financial Adviser
- Securities and Commodities Agent
- Accounting Technician
- Business Advisor
- Tax advisor
- Economist



In my first semester of second year I went to study in Hong Kong, where I was able to study taxation. This has massively helped my career as I was able to secure an internship in business tax later in the summer and I believe my time abroad was a huge selling point.

Sebastian Maciej
MA Accounting and Finance

The Business School

MA BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Business Management at Aberdeen explores the theory and practice of how people and organisations are managed in a highly competitive global business environment. You will benefit from real-life scenarios and the input of national and local employers, giving you the skills, experience and attributes for a head start across a wide range of careers in the international business world.

We provide an opportunity for students to study Management on its own, as a Single Honours Degree or alongside one of a large number of other subjects, as a Dual Degree, such as Business Management & Real Estate. A key benefit of this degree is the flexibility it offers you, in first and second year, to tailor your studies to your own particular interests, through the ability to study subjects from across the whole university.

Why this programme?

- Ranked 13th in the UK for Business Management. (Complete University Guide 2021).
- A high proportion of our staff are research-active.
- In our programmes we put an emphasis on evidence-based management.
- Our programmes ensure choice and flexibility.

What you'll study

Delivery is by means of lectures, seminars and small group tutorials. On specific modules, these will be supplemented by external speakers.

Year 1

Compulsory

Economics for Business & Society
Managing Organisations
Accounting & Entrepreneurship
Professional Skills Part 1
Academic Writing for Business

Year 2

Compulsory

Operations Management
Understanding Statistics
Marketing

Year 3

Research Methods for Business
Optional: New Venture Development,
Business Ethics and Corporate Social
Responsibility, Understanding the
Consumer, Human Resource Management

Year 4

Compulsory

Understanding and Managing Change
Understanding & Managing Behaviour
in Organisations
Business Strategy
Dissertation in Management Studies
Optional: As year 3

Career options

- Graduate Commercial Manager
- Account Manager
- Recruitment Consultant
- Marketing executive
- Systems analyst
- Sales executive



Having a very international background and with its multicultural environment Aberdeen was the clear choice. It also appealed to me that the programme is taught on the university's main campus. This has allowed me to meet students with different degrees, in different years of their studies, all with unique backgrounds, from all over the world.

Zena Marjewko
MA Business Management

The Business School

MA ECONOMICS

Economics at Aberdeen gets to grips with the global economy and the factors that influence wealth from a social and financial perspective. Taught by leading economists, you will gain a thorough understanding of economic theories, models and explore how they work in the real world. You will gain skills that will help you understand what determines income, wealth and wellbeing; global economic policy and its political, social and international impact as well as business and financial decision making.

We are also home to two research centres in energy and labour economics, and Scotland's first experimental economics laboratory.

Why this programme?

- We offer an excellent teaching environment, which is committed to the needs of the industry.
- Our programme can help you gain analytical skills that are important in a wide variety of careers.
- Study in a strong, internationally recognised research environment in areas such as labour and energy economics.

What you'll study

Course delivery is via a mixture of lectures, seminars and small group tutorials. Assessment is by coursework and examinations.

Year 1

Compulsory

The Economics of Business & Society
The Global Economy
Professional Skills Part 1
Academic Writing for Business

Year 2

Compulsory

Intermediate Microeconomics
Intermediate Macroeconomics

Year 3

Optional

Mathematical & Statistical Methods
Development Economics
International Economics
Economics of Natural Resources & the Environment
Industrial Economics
Labour Market Economics
Econometrics
Health Economics

Year 4

Compulsory: Economics Dissertation

Optional: Experimental Economics;
Advanced Microeconomics
Advanced Macroeconomics
History of Economic Thought
Applied Economic Policy Evaluation

Career options

- Business Analyst and Researcher
- Assistant Economist
- Associate Fund Administrator
- Economist
- Financial risk analyst
- Forensic accountant



The Cormack scholarship has impacted me in many ways, firstly it allowed me to live in student accommodation for my first year which is something I always wanted to do but though it would be impossible due to my personal circumstances. I was able to buy a new laptop, books for my course and in general it just improved my financial freedom to do more things.

Archie Simpson
MA Finance

The Business School

MA REAL ESTATE

Real Estate at Aberdeen examines real estate markets from the perspectives of both investment and business, drawing on the latest research and practice.

With a focus on commercial property, housing and infrastructure, our professionally accredited programmes prepare you for an exciting career in property across investment, asset management, valuation and development.

Why this programme?

- Alongside your real estate courses, you have a wide range of choice to develop your personal interests, leading to a variety of degree programmes.
- Opportunity to take part in international competitions run by prestigious organisations such as Cornell, Corenet and the RICS.
- We are a world-class centre of excellence at the cutting edge of real estate research and teaching.
- We incorporate real-life elements in the curriculum, including field trips and site visits.
- We work closely with local, national and international professionals to promote industry standards and best practices.



Fully accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

What you'll study

Modules involve weekly lectures and small group tutorials/seminars. Students will also be required to undertake project work.

Year 1

Compulsory

The Economics of Business & Society
Finance, Risk & Investment
The Global Economy
Understanding Property
Professional Skills Part 1
Academic Writing for Business

Year 2

Compulsory

Land & Property Economics
Land & Property Law
Understanding Statistics
Principles of Property Valuation

Year 3

Compulsory

Applied Valuation
Real Estate Development
and International Investment

Year 4

Compulsory

Real Estate Portfolio Investment
Housing Economics
Real Estate Dissertation

Career options

- Portfolio Manager
- Real Estate Developer
- Fund Analyst
- Valuation Surveyor
- Corporate Real Estate Consultant
- Sustainability Adviser



The MA Economics degree helped me get my internship at BP and it is definitely a major contribution factor when applying for jobs in general. I have most certainly developed strong analytical and quantitative skills along with the ability to critically assess a subject understanding pros and cons rather than just having a broad concept knowledge.

Christian Hristov
MA Economics

MA/MBUS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

The MA (four years) and the MBus (five years) in International Business are programmes designed to develop the international business leaders of the future. They provide students with a broad understanding of international business.

Students will have the opportunity to include the study of a language throughout the programme, whether or not they have any prior knowledge of the language. Periods of study or internships abroad are integral parts of these programmes.

Why this programme?

- You will gain exceptional knowledge and understanding of international business, both its operations and its economic, political and social contexts.
- We deliver a learning experience that provides students with confidence and equips you with the skills required by employers.
- We draw on our globally recognised excellence in teaching and research to challenge students academically and to connect them with the world of practice.
- You will have the option to study a modern language throughout the programme.

What you'll study

Year 1 - Compulsory courses

International Context for Business 1
International Context for Business 2
Optional courses chosen from one specialism of choice (Accountancy, Economics, Finance or Real Estate).

Optional modern language of choice (Spanish, French, German, Gaelic or Mandarin).

Year 2 - Compulsory courses

Big Data in Operations and Supply Chain Management
Big Data in Business and Finance
Optional courses chosen from one specialism of choice (Accountancy, Economics, Finance or Real Estate). Optional modern language of choice (Spanish, French, German, Gaelic or Mandarin).

Year 3 - Compulsory courses

Being an International Manager 1
Being an International Manager 2
Optional courses chosen from one specialism of choice (Accountancy, Economics, Finance or Real Estate). Optional modern language of choice (Spanish, French, German, Gaelic or Mandarin).

Year 4

(Year 5 for MBus – MBus students Year 4 Study Abroad or Placement)
Compulsory courses
Contemporary Issues in International Business 1
Contemporary Issues in International Business 2
Optional courses chosen from one specialism of choice (Accountancy, Economics, Finance or Real Estate). Optional modern language of choice (Spanish, French, German, Gaelic or Mandarin).

Career options


- Management Consultant
- Sales Manager
- International Trader
- Financial Controller
- Business Development Manager
- Marketing Executive
- Business Consultant
- Strategy Analyst
- Cultural Advisor
- International Recruitment Consultant




WE'D LOVE YOU TO JOIN US


CHOOSE THE UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN BUSINESS
SCHOOL TO PLAN A BETTER
FUTURE TODAY.

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