Master in Investment and Finance

People

Academic matters:
- Vimal Balasubramaniam (Director of the Programme)
- Jason Sturgess (Head of the School)
- Yioryos Makedonis (Senior Tutor)

Programme Administration:
- James Kilvington (PGT Programme Manager)
- Joanna Jones (PGT Student Support Officer)
- Serena Spoendlin (Careers Consultant)
Why study an MSc in Investment and Finance?

• Listed in the top Finance Masters in the World!

• eFinancial Careers rankings places MSc Investment and Finance at Queen Mary within the top 15 Masters in Finance programmes in the world for getting a job in large investment banks.
Master in Investment and Finance

• IF Master ranked in the global top 40 in the [Financial Times Global Masters in Finance 2015](#), across the Finance Pre-experience programmes.

• This MSc ranked in the global top 40 in the [Financial Times Global Masters in Finance 2016](#), Pre-experience programmes.

• The MSc ranked in the [eFinancialCareers top 23 for getting a job in investment banking](#) 2016.

• The MSc ranked in the [eFinancialCareers top 20 for getting a job in hedge funds, private equity and asset management](#) 2016.
Master in Investment and Finance

• Taught programme

• The most populous master in the UK (about 300 students per year);

• Offers specialised, practical and theoretical education in an environment of academic excellence

• Four/Five taught modules per semester

• A dissertation
# Master in Investment and Finance

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<th>Semester A</th>
<th>Semester B</th>
<th>Semester C</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Mathematics (ungraded)</td>
<td>Valuation (15 Credits)</td>
<td>Financial Derivatives (15 Credits)</td>
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<td>Asset Pricing, Trading, and Portfolio Construction (30 Credits)</td>
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# MSc in Investment and Finance (CFA pathway)

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<tr>
<th>Pre-Semester A</th>
<th>Semester A</th>
<th>Semester B</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics (ungraded)</td>
<td>Valuation (15 Credits)</td>
<td>Financial Derivatives (15 Credits)</td>
<td>Dissertation (30 Credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistics (ungraded)</td>
<td>Principles of Corporate Finance (15 Credits)</td>
<td>Elective (15 Credits)</td>
<td>CFA training (15 Credits)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Quantitative Techniques Or Econometrics for Finance (15 Credits)</td>
<td>Elective (15 Credits)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Master in Investment and Finance

### Electives (Semester B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Empirical Finance</th>
<th>Fintech</th>
<th>International Finance</th>
<th>Applied Asset Pricing</th>
<th>Asset Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Accounting</td>
<td>Real Estate Finance</td>
<td>Regulating the Chinese Financial System</td>
<td>Topics in Financial Econometrics</td>
<td>Bond Market Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Equity and Venture Capital</td>
<td>Applied Risk Management</td>
<td>Applied Wealth Management</td>
<td>Credit Rating</td>
<td>Mergers and Acquisitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio Construction Theory</td>
<td>Financial Engineering</td>
<td>Strategic Asset Allocation</td>
<td>Systematic Trading Strategies</td>
<td>Statistical Learning Applications for Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Data Analytics</td>
<td>Behavioural Finance</td>
<td>Interest rate derivatives</td>
<td>Structured Finance</td>
<td>Further topics in valuation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Master in Investment and Finance
Semester C electives

New for 2021/22 we are offering the chance to take taught modules in Semester C. At present there are a limited number of choices, if interest is high, we might be able to increase the number of modules we can offer.

Electives running in Semester C
Risk Management for Banking
Principles of Accounting
Mergers and Acquisitions
Statistical Machine Learning in Finance

The exams for Semester C modules take place at the same time as the resit exams, if you take a Semester C taught module and fail, this is likely to mean your graduation will be delayed, by up to six months. If you choose the Research project and Semester C modules, you will be able to reselect (i.e. change) in January, or change to this option.
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Semester A/B additional activities

- Amplify Trading
- Applied Portfolio Management
- C++ for Finance
- VBA for Finance
- Financial Trading Programme
- Live Trader
- R
- Stata
- Foundation course in Technical Analysis
- Matlab
- Python for Finance
- Peston Lectures
- QUMMIF - Investment Club
- QNomics
- The Future of Investment Banking
- Insight into Economic and Financial Consultancy
QUMMIF - It is one of the only investment clubs of its kind in London, established for postgraduate students interested in obtaining relevant, practical work experience in trading and portfolio analysis. Membership is open to all postgraduate students of the School of Economics and Finance. It is an excellent opportunity to acquire financial skills, relevant work experience and knowledge of the financial markets.
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Teaching

**Modules**
Graded modules – those which are compulsory and your elective choices - are typically taught via a weekly lecture and the support class over 11 weeks. The grade for each module comes from the exam, generally worth 80% and an in-sessional assessment, worth the remaining 20% of the overall module mark.

**Lecture teaching**
The majority of your semester A teaching will have a pre-recorded element on QMplus, and also a one-hour live lecture held on campus. These lectures will also be live streamed to those students who are unable to join us in London. Links to the live-stream sessions will be found on the module pages on QMplus.

Exceptions to this format: (a) Asset Pricing, Trading, and Portfolio Construction this is a double module and there are two lectures per week, you’ll need to attend BOTH; (b) Quantitative Techniques where the lectures are just on-line; and (c) Econometrics for Finance, the live lectures for these are two hours long.

**Classes**
You will be allocated to a weekly one-hour support class where you will have the opportunity to work through exercises with a Teaching Assistant. There will be face-to-face sessions on campus and then webinars for those unable to attend in person. Students are advised not to miss the support classes: practice on these exercises is going to be crucial for the final exam.
Master in Investment and Finance
Impact of Covid-19

During the first Semester students can choose to study on-line or come onto campus and attend teaching in person.

Studying On Campus:
• Our preference is for you to study with us in person, as we believe you will have a better learning experience. The University has looked at various safety aspects of the teaching facilities we have, made improvements to some spaces to improve ventilation, and has reduced capacity where necessary, so you should feel confident and safe when here. We would ask that you respect others and wear masks where appropriate – some people may feel more vulnerable and it would be kinder to wear a mask until we all feel safe enough before we stop wearing them.

Studying On-line:
• Because of Covid-19, over the summer we invested in better technology in order to be able to live-stream lectures, to complement the full set of on-line materials which will enable you to take the course remotely until you can join us in person.
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Assessment

• The assessments this year will take place on-line.
• Each of the assessments have been designed with this in mind, and the time allocated will give you enough time to download the question paper, answer them, and then upload your answers (we also include time because you have to type the answers).
• You must to submit your work by the deadline. Late submissions will incur a mark of zero.
• (you are able to submit an extenuating circumstances claim if you have a valid reason for a late submission)

Unless instructed otherwise, collusion is an assessment offence (i.e. you may not work with someone else on your answers, unless you have specifically been instructed you may do so).

Plagiarism – copying or pretending someone else’s work is your own – is always an assessment offence.
Master in Investment and Finance
Assessment

Total Grade in a module
80% Final exams
20% In-sessional assessment (mid-term test, coursework, etc.)

• If you fail the in-sessional assessment you can pass the overall module with the exam.
• If you fail the overall module, you will have a chance pass with a resit exam.
• (if you study well, and ask when you do not understand, then you shouldn’t fail)
Master in Investment and Finance
Assessment

Dissertation
If you are on the CFA pathway, you will undertake a 4,000 word dissertation (worth 30 credits), with the remaining 15 credits coming from your CFA training.
For those students not taking the CFA module, you will complete a slightly longer dissertation, of 7,000 words, which is worth 45 credits.

In both cases
• Details will be given during a presentation in November, with further session at the beginning of semester B
• Deadline for submission of the Dissertation will be the 22\textsuperscript{rd} August 2021.
• You are expected to attend meetings with your dissertation supervisor over the summer, you will be able to do this on-line. (NB the CFA training will be on campus)
• Dissertation Coordinator: Thomai Filipelli.
Master in Investment and Finance
Assessment

Research Project

New for 2021-22 if you would prefer not to write a dissertation you can instead, do a research project – it would be similar to a dissertation, so it will be your own work, but may take the form of a literature review, or a general overview of a topic, so it would be shorter (2,500 words) and this is reflected in its value, as it is worth 15 credits.

To make up for the lower credits you will receive for taking the Research Project, you will take additional elective modules in Semester C, one elective if you are taking the CFA pathway, two electives if not. Please note that the Semester C electives will be taught in person, on campus.
Master in Investment and Finance  
Award Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>College Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>70.0+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>60.0+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>50.0+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail (no award)</td>
<td>0.0 – 49.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Masters in Investment and Finance

Term Dates

Semester A

Weeks 0 and 1 – Pre-sessional courses (week commencing 20th September)
Week 2 - Lectures start (w/c 4th October)

Module registration deadline: 4pm, Friday 8th October 2021 (changes allowed in January)

Week 3 – Tutorial classes and Webinars start (w/c 11th October)

Week 7, Reading week – no teaching (Monday 8th – Friday 12th November)
Week 12 - last day of teaching, Friday 17th December)

Semester A Examination period

Thursday 6th - Sunday 23rd January 2022
(exam timetable to be released mid-November)
Masters in Investment and Finance

Term Dates

Semester B

Week 1 Introductory lectures begin (w/c 24th January)
Week 2 Lectures and support classes begin (w/c 31st January)

Change of module deadline: 4pm, Friday 4th February 2022

Week 7 reading week – no teaching (w/c 7th March)

Week 12 Final Day of Teaching THURSDAY 14th April

Semester B Examination period

Thursday 6th May – Wednesday 1st June 2022

(examination timetable usually released mid-March)
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Semester C

Please Note that Semester C starts before the university’s formal exam period has ended we will try to ensure that the lectures and exams do not clash but we cannot guarantee this just yet.

Sem C is 11 weeks in duration (2 x 5 teaching weeks + Reading week)

- Monday 23rd May; start of teaching
- Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd June are public holidays, no teaching will take place
- 4th – 8th July: Reading week
- CFA Training module: 4-8th July, Monday-Friday 9-5pm (to be confirmed)
- Friday 5th August: Last day of teaching for Semester C

Semester C Examination Period: Monday 15th – Friday 26th August 2022
Master in Investment and Finance

Late Summer Examination Period / Dissertations

LSR period: Monday 15th – Friday 28th August 2022

- This is predominately for resits, i.e. for failed modules from Semester A and Semester B, but also for first attempts ("first sits"), where a student has missed an exam during Sem A and/or Sem B due to accepted Extenuating Circumstances.

- The late summer examination period coincides with the Semester C examination period, so please note, if you fail a Semester C module this could delay your graduation

- **Dissertation and Research Project Submission Deadline**: Monday 22nd August 2022

- Please bear in mind that revising for an exam is not an accepted reason for delaying the submission of your dissertation or the Research Project, so plan accordingly.
Master in Investment and Finance
Module Registration

1. Go to: [https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk](https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk)
2. Log in using your college username and password
3. Choose the modules (compulsory and electives) as listed before (see also the Student Handbook)
4. You need to make your choices now, but there will be an opportunity to make changes to semester B modules, if needed, at the start of semester B.
5. Enter your diet. Once you have entered it, we will check and confirm your selection.
6. Deadline to enter your selections: 4pm, Friday 8th October 2021
Master in Investment and Finance
E-book

As part of an innovative project and with the intention to become “greener”, the School of Economics and Finance provides you with e-books for compulsory modules.

The e-books all run on the same platform (Kortex) and have the same functionalities (you will be able to read them on and off-line, take notes, print parts of them).

You will have access to the e-books by week starting 4th October. You will receive an email and/or video with the instructions. You will also have a dedicated customer care and be able to access them.
Master in Investment and Finance  
Destination of Students  

Previous graduates from this course have moved into careers as:

Management consultants...  
• Risk Managers  
• Financial Managers  
• Asset Managers  
• Investment Analysts  

At organisations such as...  
• Bloomberg  
• Fitch Ratings  
• Moody’s
Useful Links

• Coronavirus advice and updates - https://www.qmul.ac.uk/coronavirus/

• http://my.qmul.ac.uk/news-and-events/coronavirus-communications/

• Postgraduate Study - https://www.qmul.ac.uk/sef/postgraduate/

• Facilities - https://www.qmul.ac.uk/sef/postgraduate/masters/facilities/

• School News - https://www.qmul.ac.uk/sef/news/2020/
Useful Links

Students may come to use **Extenuating Circumstances** because they have missed a midterm or a piece of course work. Extenuating circumstances are defined by the University rules (see AR).

The Academic Regulations are available online at http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/policy_zone/index.html#academic_policies

Your School of Economics and Finance Handbook is available online on QMplus

The Student Guide is available online at: http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk
What you can expect from us

• our teaching introduces you to work that is both stimulating and challenging;

• we use a range of teaching methods as appropriate to individual modules (which means that modules will be taught in a variety of ways) and try to maximise your involvement and participation;

• we are available for consultation during the office hours.

• we aim to read and return assessed work as quickly as possible.
What we expect from you

A strong interest in your chosen subject;

Attendance at all modules (lectures and classes/seminars) for which you are registered;

Full participation in modules: as we are committed to increasing student involvement in learning

Participation in module development via constructive evaluation of the modules you take;

Prompt submission of work you have been set.
Thank you for choosing our School

We wish you an exciting, challenging and rewarding experience