

# School of Management and Languages



Full-Time / Part-Time

FINANCE  
FINANCE AND  
MANAGEMENT  
MSc / PG DIPLOMA

Distinctly Ambitious  
[www.hw.ac.uk](http://www.hw.ac.uk)

## Your University an overview

Heriot-Watt University offers a superb environment for postgraduate study. We are one of the UK's leading universities, recognised internationally for excellent teaching and research in our specialist areas of science, engineering, business management, languages and textile design.

Our community of postgraduate students is made up of bright, highly imaginative and self-motivated individuals, who work closely with our forward-looking and energetic research-active academic staff. This collaborative atmosphere is fundamental to Heriot-Watt's enviable academic and research reputation.

Those of you who choose to study with us will discover high quality taught and research programmes, flexible student-centred delivery, unrivalled facilities and pioneering research.

[www.sml.hw.ac.uk](http://www.sml.hw.ac.uk)

ROYAL EXCHANGE

## PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

Scotland, and Edinburgh in particular, has a long and well established reputation in finance. Edinburgh is home to several global financial institutions such as Royal Bank of Scotland and Standard Life. Heriot-Watt has close links with the financial community and our first postgraduate course in the area of finance was established in 1978 when George Home left his post as Deputy Managing Director at the Royal Bank of Scotland to become a Professor here at Heriot-Watt.

With the continuing globalization of world economies an understanding of finance, the financial markets and their relation to economic performance is becoming increasingly vital for not only the financial services industry, but also for business and industry in general.

Therefore graduates who have an understanding of business and management and, in particular, financial management are much in demand when it comes to employment.

If you are looking to advance your career in financial services, or work at management level with a financial focus, then our Finance programmes can offer you the knowledge and skills you need to get ahead.

## PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The aim of these programmes is to prepare you for a range of managerial and professional careers in the financial world. By combining the latest developments in knowledge, research and practice from the financial and business world to build upon and enhance all of your existing knowledge, skills and experience you will have an excellent platform for a career in the financial world.

## Finance

Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer: May to August
Corporate Finance Corporate Governance Financial Analysis Financial Markets	Derivatives Research Methods Research in Finance  and one from: • Comparative Financial Reporting • Emerging Financial Markets • International Managerial Accounting • Modern Portfolio Theory	MSc Dissertation

## Finance and Management

Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer: May to August
Competitive Strategy Corporate Governance Financial Analysis  and one from: • Corporate Finance • Financial Markets	Emerging Financial Markets Project Management Research Methods  and one from: • Comparative Financial Reporting • Project Finance, Accounting and Control • Research in Finance	MSc Dissertation

Key knowledge, skills and understanding gained include:

- Systematic understanding of knowledge in the area of finance, business and management
- Critical awareness of current issues in both the academic discipline and professional practice
- Ability to understand and evaluate a comprehensive range of research techniques used in the area of finance, business and management
- Ability to understand how research techniques are put into practice in order to create and interpret knowledge
- Ability to critically evaluate academic and professional research and analysis, and financial and business media articles on finance, business and managerial environment; and
- Decision-making skills; people management skills, leadership skills, team working skills and presentation skills

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The programmes commence in September each year.

Semester 1 begins in September and finishes in December. Semester 2 starts in January and finishes in May. Four taught courses are taken during each semester.

The MSc dissertation commences in May and is submitted by the end of August.

## TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

Conventional lectures are complemented with independent research, case studies, group work and project work. You will be encouraged to develop your own critical thinking in order to evaluate different analytical frameworks and theories and then apply them to the real world of business.

You will be assessed through a combination of examinations, course work and an independent research project in the form of a written dissertation.

[www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply/](http://www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply/)

Emphasis is placed on high individual academic standards as well as acquiring and developing a range of transferable business skills. Assessment exercises can therefore include writing business reports, making effective presentations as well as team and group work.

## GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

The demand for graduate-level credentials reflects the growing complexity of global trade. Potential careers graduates could go on to include financial and managerial positions within government and public sector, financial institutions, banks, business and industry.

Previous graduates have gone on to successful careers as stockbrokers, foreign exchange dealers, tax consultants, financial advisers, business advisers, and project managers. Other graduates have gone on to PhD study at universities both in the UK and abroad.

To read more about what our graduates do please visit the School of Management & Languages website at [www.sml.hw.ac.uk](http://www.sml.hw.ac.uk)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should hold a good (first or second class) Honours degree or its non-UK equivalent in a relevant subject from a recognised British or overseas university. In addition, further work or project experience in finance will be of further advantage.

If you are unsure of whether or not you would be eligible to apply, please contact us in the School for an assessment of your qualifications and suitability for entry.

## LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

If your first language is not English, or your first degree was not taught in English, we'll need to see evidence of your English language ability. The minimum requirement for English language is IELTS 6.5 or equivalent. We offer a range of English language courses to help you meet the English language requirement prior to starting your masters programme:

- 2 semesters English (for IELTS of 4.5-5.0)
- 12 weeks English (for IELTS of 5.5)
- 6 weeks English (for IELTS 5.5\*-6.0) (\*minimum 5.5 reading and writing)

Further details can be found at: [www.english.hw.ac.uk](http://www.english.hw.ac.uk)

## FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition fees for all postgraduate programmes are available online at: [www.hw.ac.uk/fees](http://www.hw.ac.uk/fees)

There are a range of University scholarships available as well as funding from government bodies, funding trusts, research councils and employers. Details can be found online at: [www.hw.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.hw.ac.uk/scholarships)

## HOW TO APPLY

You can either complete an online application form or download a paper copy of the application form to complete and post back to us.

For further details about the application process, including the application forms and guidance notes, please visit: [www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply](http://www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply)

## CONTACT

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## 5 GOOD REASONS

- 1 Strong links with the financial sector in Edinburgh, a major centre for fund management and life assurance
- 2 Working with real data from financial markets and conduct empirical research which will prepare you for analytical jobs in the financial sector
- 3 We have a wide range of expertise and research interests in finance, accounting and management, all of which feed into teaching
- 4 Heriot-Watt offers several postgraduate finance programmes so there is an active student body to exchange subject views with
- 5 Programmes provide an excellent platform for a career in finance divisions of multinational corporations