

## CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **Revalidation**

<b>Provider Name</b>	Dublin Business School
<b>Date of Validation</b>	27-Nov-25

	Code	Title	Award	Exit Only
<b>Principal Programme</b>	PG26304	Master of Science in International Accounting and Finance	Master of Science (Masters Degree at NFQ Level 9) 9M23105 90 credits	N/A
<b>Embedded Programme</b>	PG26305	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in International Accounting and Finance	Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Postgraduate Diploma at NFQ Level 9) 9M23103 60 credits	Yes

	First Intake	Last Intake
<b>Enrolment Interval</b>	Jan-26	Dec-28

### Principal Programme

	Full Time	Part Time	Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time
<b>Intakes per Annum:</b>	3	3	Full Time, Part Time
<b>Minimum Learners per Intake:</b>	15	15	
<b>Maximum Learners per Intake:</b>	175	50	
<b>Duration (months)</b>	12	24	

### Target Learner Groups

The programme is aimed at learners who wish to specialise in accountancy and finance functions with a view to entering industry in a medium/high-level operational and/or managerial role. Learners will have the foundational knowledge and skills to progress professionally and/or to undertake further professional studies. Learners will achieve the financial expertise and personal skills to work within existing operational teams and make strategic financial management decisions. Learners will be capable of dealing with diverse intrinsic and extrinsic financial business realities in a manner to ensure the sustainability and growth of the business model. Through the applied project learners will develop independent research and problem-solving skills reflective of their expansion of financial management competencies and contribute to their chosen field of inquiry which will be valuable in a variety of contexts in the workplace. This programme is aimed at learners with second class second division (2.2) primary undergraduate honours bachelor degree (Level 8) in a cognate area who wish to specialise in the field of accountancy and finance with a view to entering industry. Cognate subjects include general business, accountancy, and finance related undergraduate/ bachelor degrees, or an equivalent professional qualification such as ACCA or CIMA. Those with a second class second division (2.2) primary undergraduate honours bachelor degree (Level 8) in a non-cognate area plus 3-5 years professional experience in a related field and who require a qualification in this area in order to progress professionally. Learners can also access this programme through RPL and will be assessed on a case by case basis.

#### English Requirements:

International applicants whose first language is not English and who have not previously undertaken a degree taught in English must provide evidence of proficiency in English language equivalent to B2+ or above on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

## Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

Technological innovation has created a wave of disruptive activity that will change the shape of the global economic and financial system over the next decade. Digitisation and ever-increasing volumes of data has led to a demand for graduates (employees) from programmes specifically tailored to the skills required for a changing and increasingly competitive and globalised business landscape. In order to meet this demand, this industry-aligned, strategically-focused and highly applied programme focuses on accounting, quantification of data, treasury functions and corporate finance. It is designed to appeal to graduates seeking to gain exposure to data-driven financial decision-making roles.

It is a 1-year full-time, 2-year part-time programme with taught modules and a Dissertation which combine to lead to a Master of Science in International Accountancy and Finance.

### Full-time Programme Structure

Semester One: Total 30 ECTS Four mandatory modules:

- Principles of Financial Markets (10 ECTS)
- Quantitative Financial Modelling (10 ECTS)
- International Financial Reporting (5 ECTS)
- ESG, Financial Regulation and Ethics (5 ECTS)

Semester Two: Total 30 ECTS Five mandatory modules:

- Advanced Financial Management (10 ECTS)
- Treasury and Risk Management (10 ECTS)
- Advanced International Financial Reporting (5 ECTS) - Strategic Performance Management (5 ECTS)
- Research Methods (5 ECTS)

Semester Three: Total 25 ECTS

Choose Between: - Dissertation (25 ECTS) - Applied Research Project (25 ECTS)

The programme contains a wide range of formative and summative assessments including individual and group work, projects, presentations, simulations, case studies and a capstone. Learners will synthesise their postgraduate studies with experiential learning gaining critical analysis and self-reflection skills to embrace lifelong learning to progress professionally or undertake further studies and/or research. Through the dissertation, learners can develop independent research and problem-solving skills reflective of their expansion of financial management competencies and contribute to their chosen field of inquiry which will be valuable in a variety of contexts in the workplace.

## Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme the learner will be able to:

1. Critically appraise the operations of financial markets, banking institutions and financial service providers in the context of the practical application of the core (risk-reward) fundamentals of finance.
2. Select and utilise a range of quantitative tools and techniques in solving complex problems utilising large data sets in the context of investment decision making and risk management.
3. Critically evaluate the appropriate regulatory frameworks governing the operation of financial markets and the distribution of financial services.
4. Reinforce a systematic understanding and specialised knowledge of international accounting and finance principles, procedures, operations and governance in compliance with ethical best practice and professional standards.
5. Critically appraise the contemporary issues pertinent to accounting and finance professions, and the broader commercial/economic environment, incorporating an awareness of the importance of ethical behaviour and social responsibility.
6. Plan and perform financial statement analysis, investment appraisal, valuation techniques, financing, and the utilisation of derivatives in managing systematic risk factors.
7. Evaluate the impact of innovation upon the specific sectors of the international financial services industry and formulate value enhancing strategies utilising new and evolving technologies.
8. Originate a range of personal and interpersonal skills, including the capacity for continuous learning, initiative taking, performing to deadlines, working in a team, communicating effectively and utilising these skills to enter a professional career or undertake further study.
9. Interpret research philosophies, research design and data collection techniques to assemble qualitative and quantitative data for applied research.
10. Incorporate research techniques to ideate, design, construct and present a viable applied research project in the context of contemporary issues within the international accounting and finance industry.

<b>Teaching and Learning Modes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Directed Learning</li> <li>2. E-learning (directed)</li> <li>3. E-learning (self-directed)</li> <li>4. Group Discussions</li> <li>5. Group Discussions/Interactions</li> <li>6. Lectures / Classes</li> <li>7. Practical Sessions</li> <li>8. Self Directed Learning</li> <li>9. Tutorials</li> <li>10. Workshops</li> </ol>
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<b>Approved Countries</b>	Ireland
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### Physical Resource Requirements

Appropriately equipped computer work area.

Lecture rooms of sufficient size for work in breakout groups/with appropriate multimedia resources.

Appropriate software resources to be used in the teaching and learning of all modules.

Learners are also required to have ongoing access to a computer, related software, and a reliable internet connection.

This means that for learners their laptop or desktop computer will require a minimum of a supported version of a Windows operating system and 4GM RAM.

Computers are in place and available to students in the Library and computer labs. The onus is on the individual learners to procure their own laptop/desktop with the suitable operating system if they choose to work off-campus.

Staff Profiles	Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Lecturer	Lecturing staff will have a minimum of a Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma or Masters level qualification in the following areas: - Accounting and Finance - Research In modules where industry experience is desirable, those who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of senior significant library management experience may also be considered.	9
Academic Director	Academic Director The Academic Director will be responsible for the overall management and development of the programme, the coordination of the organisation and delivery of the programme, and the management and support of learners on the programme through Assistant Academic Directors and Programme Level Managers. The Academic Director is responsible for the suite of programmes in their discipline area and ensures programme offerings are current, employment-focused and academically robust and coherent in construct. The Academic Director provides academic leadership to Faculty and to Programme Teams in the development and delivery of high-quality, progressive, learner-centred education. The Academic Director role is focused around 3 distinct areas: - Governance of discipline area programmes. - Programme development, review, and retention for discipline areas. - Programme innovation, employer engagement and foster business opportunity in the discipline area.	1
Assistant Academic Director	The Assistant Academic Director works alongside the Academic Director across many of their duties, including the management and development of the programme, the coordination of the organisation and delivery of the programme, and the management and support of learners on the programme. The Assistant Academic Director also works in a student facing capacity, through teaching and supporting students more generally throughout their time as DBS. The Assistant Academic Director role is focused around 3 distinct areas: - Effective programme management and teaching, learning and assessment initiatives in DBS programmes. - Implementation of programme development, review, and retention initiatives in the discipline area. - Supporting the discipline Academic Director in discipline development, enhancement and innovation including opportunities for business development, employer-facing initiatives and improved graduate outcomes.	1

Approved Centres	Centre	Minimum Enrolment per Annum	Maximum Enrolment per Annum
	38628L Dublin Business School	15	675

Additional Locations	Location Name	Minimum Enrolment per Annum	Maximum Enrolment per Annum
	N/A		

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Classroom Sessions	1:50
	Online Lectures	1:50

Programme being replaced by this Programme	Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated
	PG24183	Master of Science in International Accounting and Finance	10-Apr-25

## Embedded Programme

Validation Process: **Revalidation**

Code	Title	Award	Exit Only
PG26305	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in International Accounting and Finance	Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Postgraduate Diploma at NFQ Level 9) 9M23103 60 credits	Yes

	Full Time	Part Time	Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time
Duration (months)	9	18	Full Time, Part Time

### Target Learner Groups

The Postgraduate Diploma in International Accounting and Finance is an embedded exit award in the Master of Science in International Accounting and Finance.

### Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

Technological innovation applied to has created a wave of disruptive activity that will change the shape of the global economic and financial system over the next decade.

Digitisation and ever-increasing volumes of data has created demand for graduates (employees) from programmes specifically tailored to the skills required for a changing and increasingly competitive business landscape.

This is an interdisciplinary programme that focuses on accounting, quantification of data, treasury functions and corporate finance. It is designed to appeal to graduates seeking to gain exposure to data driven financial decision-making roles.

It is a 1 year full-time, 2 year part-time programme with taught modules that leads to a Postgraduate Diploma in International Accounting and Finance.

The programme contains a wide range of formative and summative assessments including individual and group work, projects, presentations, case studies and examinations.

Learners will synthesise their postgraduate studies with experiential learning gaining critical analysis and self-reflection skills to embrace lifelong learning to progress professionally or undertake further studies and/or research.

### Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme the learner will be able to:

1. Critically appraise the operations of financial markets, banking institutions and financial service providers in the context of the practical application of the core (risk-reward) fundamentals of finance.
2. Select and utilise a range of quantitative tools and techniques in solving complex problems utilising large data sets in the context of investment decision making and risk management.
3. Critically evaluate the appropriate regulatory frameworks governing the operation of financial markets and the distribution of financial services.
4. Reinforce a systematic understanding and specialised knowledge of international accounting and finance principles, procedures, operations and governance in compliance with ethical best practice and professional standards.
5. Critically appraise the contemporary issues pertinent to accounting and finance professions, and the broader commercial/economic environment, incorporating an awareness of the importance of ethical behaviour and social responsibility.
6. Plan and perform financial statement analysis, investment appraisal, valuation techniques, financing, and the utilisation of derivatives in managing systematic risk factors.
7. Evaluate the impact of innovation upon the specific sectors of the international financial services industry and formulate value enhancing strategies utilising new and evolving technologies.
8. Originate a range of personal and interpersonal skills, including the capacity for continuous learning, initiative taking, performing to deadlines, working in a team, communicating effectively and utilising these skills to enter a professional career or undertake further study.

### Teaching and Learning Modes

1. Directed Learning
2. E-learning (directed)
3. E-learning (self-directed)
4. Group Discussions
5. Group Discussions/Interactions
6. Lectures / Classes
7. Practical Sessions
8. Self Directed Learning
9. Tutorials
10. Workshops

### Approved Countries

Ireland

### Physical Resource Requirements

Appropriately equipped computer work area.

Lecture rooms of sufficient size for work in breakout groups/with appropriate multimedia resources.

Appropriate software resources to be used in the teaching and learning of all modules.

Learners are also required to have ongoing access to a computer, related software, and a reliable internet connection.

This means that for learners their laptop or desktop computer will require a minimum of a supported version of a Windows operating system and 4GM RAM.

Computers are in place and available to students in the Library and computer labs. The onus is on the individual learners to procure their own laptop/desktop with the suitable operating system if they choose to work off-campus.

Staff Profiles	Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Lecturer	Lecturing staff will have a minimum of a Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma or Masters level qualification in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accounting and Finance</li> <li>- Research</li> </ul> In modules where industry experience is desirable, those who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of senior significant library management experience may also be considered.	9
Academic Director	Academic Director The Academic Director will be responsible for the overall management and development of the programme, the coordination of the organisation and delivery of the programme, and the management and support of learners on the programme through Assistant Academic Directors and Programme Level Managers. The Academic Director is responsible for the suite of programmes in their discipline area and ensures programme offerings are current, employment-focused and academically robust and coherent in construct. The Academic Director provides academic leadership to Faculty and to Programme Teams in the development and delivery of high-quality, progressive, learner-centred education. The Academic Director role is focused around 3 distinct areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Governance of discipline area programmes.</li> <li>- Programme development, review, and retention for discipline areas.</li> <li>- Programme innovation, employer engagement and foster business opportunity in the discipline area.</li> </ul>	1
Assistant Academic Director	The Assistant Academic Director works alongside the Academic Director across many of their duties, including the management and development of the programme, the coordination of the organisation and delivery of the programme, and the management and support of learners on the programme. The Assistant Academic Director also works in a student facing capacity, through teaching and supporting students more generally throughout their time as DBS. The Assistant Academic Director role is focused around 3 distinct areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effective programme management and teaching, learning and assessment initiatives in DBS programmes.</li> <li>- Implementation of programme development, review, and retention initiatives in the discipline area.</li> <li>- Supporting the discipline Academic Director in discipline development, enhancement and innovation including opportunities for business development, employer-facing initiatives and improved graduate outcomes.</li> </ul>	1

Approved Centres	Centre	Minimum Enrolment per Annum	Maximum Enrolment per Annum
	38628L Dublin Business School	0	0

Additional Locations	Location Name	Minimum Enrolment per Annum	Maximum Enrolment per Annum
	N/A		

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Classroom Sessions	1:50
	Online Lectures	1:50

Programme being replaced by this Programme	Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated
	PG24184	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in International Accounting and Finance	10-Apr-25

# Conditions of Validation of the Programmes Covered by this Certificate of Validation

## Part 1: Statutory Conditions of Validation

The statutory (section 45(3) of the 2012 Act) conditions of validation are that the provider of the programme shall:

1. Co-operate with and assist QQI in the performance of QQI's functions in so far as those functions relate to the functions of the provider,
2. Establish procedures which are fair and consistent for the assessment of enrolled learners to ensure the standards of knowledge, skill or competence determined by QQI under section 49 (1) are acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by enrolled learners,
3. Continue to comply with section 65 of the 2012 Act in respect of arrangements for the protection of enrolled learners, if applicable, and
4. Provide to QQI such information as QQI may from time to time require for the purposes of the performance of its functions, including information in respect of completion rates.

## Part 2 Conditions of Validation Established by QQI Under section 45(4)(b) of the 2012 Act

### Part 2.1 Condition of Validation Concerning a Change in the QQI Award or Award Standard

1. Where QQI changes an award title, an award specification or an award standard that a programme depends upon, the provider shall not enrol any further learners on the affected programmes unless informed otherwise in writing by QQI (e.g. by the issue of a revised certificate of validation). The programme is considered validated for learners already enrolled on the affected programme.

### Part 2.2 Condition of Validation Concerning the Duration of Enrolment

1. The duration of enrolment is the interval during which learners may be enrolled on the validated programme.

Validation is determined by QQI for a specified number of years of enrolment appropriate to the particular programme as indicated on the certificate on validation subject to unit 9.2.1. It is a condition of validation that the programme does not enrol any new learners outside this interval. A typical duration would be five years.

If a provider wishes to continue to enrol learners to the programme beyond this interval the provider must arrange in good time for it to be validated again by QQI, or exceptionally the provider may apply for extension of the duration of enrolment (unit (14)). In this context the provider may apply for validation of the programme from first principles or, alternatively, the provider may avail of the process for revalidation (unit (13)) by QQI.

### Part 2.3 General Condition of Validation

The provider of the programme shall:

1. Ensure that the programme as implemented does not differ in a material way from the programme as validated; differing in a material way is defined as differing in any aspect of the programme or its implementation that was material to QQI's validation criteria.
2. Ensure that the programme is provided with the appropriate staff and physical resources as validated.
3. Implement in respect of the programme its written quality assurance procedures (as approved by QQI).
4. Make no significant change to the programme without the prior approval of QQI. (See unit (8)).
5. Unless otherwise agreed by QQI in writing, start implementing the programme as validated and enrol learners within 18 months of validation.
6. Continue in respect of the validated programme to comply with section 56 of the 2012 Act in respect of procedures for access, transfer and progression.
7. Implement the programme and procedures for assessment of learners in accordance with the Approved Programme Schedule and notify QQI in writing of any amendments to this arising from changes to the programme; see unit (9).
8. When advertising and promoting the programme and awards, use the programme title as validated, and the correct QQI award title(s), award type(s) and award class(es) indicating the level of the award(s) on the National Framework of Qualifications.

9. Adhere to QQI regulations and procedures for certification.

10. Notify QQI in writing without delay of: a. Any material change to the programme; a. Anything that impacts on the integrity or reputation of the programme or the corresponding QQI awards; b. Anything that infringes the conditions of validation; or c. Anything that would be likely to cause QQI to consider reviewing the validation.

11. Notify QQI in writing to determine the implications for the provider's validated programmes, where the provider is likely to, or planning to, merge (amalgamate) with another entity or to acquire, or be acquired by, another entity (see unit (12.5)) .

12. Report to QQI, when required or requested, on its implementation of the programme and compliance with the conditions of validation.

#### **Part 2.4 General Condition of Validation Arising from Specialised Validation Policy and Criteria**

#### **Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation**

## Programme and stage schedules

### PG26304 Master of Science in International Accounting and Finance

<b>Name of Provider</b>		Dublin Business School											
<b>Programme Title</b>		PG26304 Master of Science in International Accounting and Finance											
<b>Award Title</b>		Master of Science						<b>Exit Award Only</b>		N/A			
<b>Teaching and learning modalities</b>		Lectures / Classes; Practical Sessions; Tutorials; Directed Learning; E-learning (directed); E-learning (self-directed); Group Discussions; Group Discussions/Interactions; Self Directed Learning; Workshops											
<b>Delivery Modes</b>	<b>Award Class</b>	<b>Award NFQ Level</b>	<b>Award EQF Level</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>Stage NFQ Level</b>	<b>Stage Credits</b>	<b>First Intake</b>		<b>ISCED Code</b>				
Both	Major	9	7	Award Stage	9	90	Jan 2026		04.1.1				
<b>Module</b>				<b>Total Student Effort Module (Hours)</b>					<b>Allocation of Marks</b>				
<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>Class Contact Hours</b>	<b>Direct e-learning</b>	<b>Hours of independent learning</b>	<b>Work-based learning efforts</b>	<b>C.A. %</b>	<b>Project %</b>	<b>Skills demonstration %</b>	<b>Exam %</b>	<b>Workbased %</b>
Principles of Financial Markets	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Quantitative Financial Modelling	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
International Financial Reporting	1	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
ESG, Financial Regulation and Ethics	1	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Advanced Financial Management	2	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Treasury and Risk Management	2	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Advanced International Financial Reporting	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Strategic Performance Management	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Research Methods	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	0	100	0	0	0
Dissertation	3	E	25	750	9	0	741	0	0	100	0	0	0
Applied Research Project	3	E	25	750	9	0	741	0	0	100	0	0	0

## PG26305 Postgraduate Diploma in Science in International Accounting and Finance

Name of Provider		Dublin Business School												
Programme Title		PG26305 Postgraduate Diploma in Science in International Accounting and Finance												
Award Title		Postgraduate Diploma in Science							Exit Award Only		Yes			
Teaching and learning modalities		Lectures / Classes; Practical Sessions; Tutorials; Directed Learning; E-learning (directed); E-learning (self-directed); Group Discussions; Group Discussions/Interactions; Self Directed Learning; Workshops												
Delivery Modes	Award Class	Award NFQ Level	Award EQF Level	Stage	Stage NFQ Level	Stage Credits	First Intake			ISCED Code				
Both	Major	9	7	Award Stage	9	60	Jan 2026			04.1.1				
Module				Total Student Effort Module (Hours)					Allocation of Marks					
Title		Semester	Status	Credit	Total Hours	Class Contact Hours	Direct e-learning	Hours of independent learning	Work-based learning efforts	C.A. %	Project %	Skills demonstration %	Exam %	Workbased %
Principles of Financial Markets		1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Quantitative Financial Modelling		1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
International Financial Reporting		1	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
ESG, Financial Regulation and Ethics		1	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Advanced Financial Management		2	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Treasury and Risk Management		2	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Advanced International Financial Reporting		2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Strategic Performance Management		2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0