Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann
Quality and Qualifications Ireland

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **Revalidation**

Provider Name	Dublin Business School
Date of Validation	17-Jul-25

	Code	Title	Award	Exit Only
Principal Programme	PG26321	Master of Science in Financial Analytics	Master of Science (Masters Degree at NFQ Level 9) 9M22991 90 credits	N/A
Embedded Programme	PG26322	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Financial Analytics	Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Postgraduate Diploma at NFQ Level 9) 9M22989 60 credits	Yes

	First Intake	Last Intake
Enrolment Interval	Sep-25	Aug-30

Principal Programme

	Full Time	Part Time
Intakes per Annum:	3	3
Minimum Learners per Intake:	10	10
Maximum Learners per Intake:	100	100
Duration (months)	12	24

Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time	Full Time, Part Time

Target Learner Groups

The Master of Science in Financial Analytics programme is aimed at learners with a minimum second-class second-division (2.2) Level 8 honours bachelor's degree or Higher Diploma in a cognate area who wish to specialise in the field of financial analytics with a view to entering industry. Cognate subjects include finance, business, accountancy, computing, information systems, engineering, general science, mathematics, statistics, data analytics, or a related discipline.
Learners with a minimum second class, second division (2.2) Level 8 honours bachelor's degree 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, may also find this programme of interest. Learners can also access this programme through RPL. Such applicants will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
On completion of this programme, learners will have the financial analytics expertise to operate at a professional level and effectively integrate their skills into decision-making in their company. Through the Applied Research Project, learners will develop independent research and problem-solving skills which will be valuable in a variety of contexts in the workplace.

Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The Master's has been designed to meet the growing need for financial professionals with the practical skills required for a rapidly evolving data-driven financial function. In this programme, graduates will understand the core principles of finance, be equipped to utilise data analytics, machine learning, and visualisation tools, apply the appropriate financial analytic models, and acquire enhanced understanding of business decision-making in an ethical and cyber context. This programme provides knowledge and skills in the area of predictive financial modelling, Financial Analytics Utilising Machine Learning, financial risk management, behavioural economics and finance, financial decision-making, data analytics and machine learning, intelligence and visualisation, as well as information and cybersecurity management.

Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

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

1. Evaluate the practical application of the core (risk-reward) fundamentals of finance and identify value enhancing strategies and solutions.
2. Synthesise financial statement analysis, investment appraisal and valuation techniques in complex financial decision-making scenarios.
3. Apply the appropriate analytical tools to analyse and extract value from large structured and unstructured data sets to enhance financial decision-making.
4. Demonstrate a proficiency in the use and application of a range of quantitative tools and techniques in predictive financial modelling.
5. Appraise the evolving importance of human psychology on market valuations and financial decision making in the context of cognitive biases and the nature of incentives.
6. Critically evaluate financial risks and utilise derivatives, and/or other strategies to manage systematic market risk factors.
7. Formulate appropriate risk management frameworks for data governance, ethics, cybersecurity, privacy and other operational risks.
8. Demonstrate proficiency in applying financial intelligence techniques in the context of the visualisation of complex data sets.
9. Display a range of personal and interpersonal skills, including the capacity for continuous learning, initiative taking, performing to deadlines, working in a team, communicating effectively.
10. Utilise research techniques to ideate, design, construct, and present a viable capstone project in the context of contemporary issues within the evolving finance function.

Teaching and Learning Modes	1. Directed Learning 2. E-learning (directed) 3. E-learning (self-directed) 4. Group Discussions 5. Lectures / Classes 6. Practical Sessions 7. Self Directed Learning 8. Tutorials 9. 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 and/or PhD in the following areas: Mathematics, Statistics, Finance, Computer Science, Software Development, Information Systems, Data Analytics, Programming, Financial Technology, etc. In modules where industry experience is desirable, holders of Level 8 honours degrees in the above disciplines, who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of significant senior industry experience may also be considered.	9
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	10	600

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

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Classroom Session	1:60
	Online Lecture	1:60

Programme being replaced by this Programme	Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated
	PG24328	Master of Science in Financial Analytics	25-Apr-24

Embedded Programme

Validation Process: **Revalidation**

Code	Title	Award	Exit Only
PG26322	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Financial Analytics	Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Postgraduate Diploma at NFQ Level 9) 9M22989 60 credits	Yes

	Full Time	Part Time
Duration (months)	6	9

Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time	Full Time, Part Time

Target Learner Groups

The Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Financial Analytics is an embedded exit-only award in the Master of Science in Financial Analytics.

Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The Postgraduate Diploma programme is an embedded exit-only award in the Master of Science in Financial Analytics, for learners who cannot complete the full Master's award. The Postgraduate Diploma is offered as an exit award for those who do not progress in their Master's studies and are not able to complete the research component of this degree.
In common with the Master's, the programme is designed to meet the growing need for financial analysis and practical applied skills in this emerging area. Through the programme, graduates will understand the core principles of finance, be equipped to utilise data and visualisation tools, apply the appropriate financial analytic models, and acquire enhanced understanding of business decision-making in an ethical and cyber context. This programme provides knowledge and skills in the area of predictive financial modelling, Financial Analytics Utilising Machine Learnings, financial risk management, behavioural economics and finance, financial decision-making, data analytics and machine learning, intelligence and visualisation, as well as information and cybersecurity management.
This postgraduate diploma programme aims to incorporate practical skills in each module for the professional development of learners to enhance their employability options. This will enable the learner to integrate seamlessly into an organisation by addressing skills such as awareness of analytical abilities, leadership, self-management, teamwork, and academic writing that are essential for a Level 9 graduate.
It is a 1 year full-time, 9 months part-time programme of three 10 ECTS and six 5 ECTS taught modules.

Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

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

1. Evaluate the practical application of the core (risk-reward) fundamentals of finance and identify value enhancing strategies and solutions.
2. Synthesise financial statement analysis, investment appraisal and valuation techniques in complex financial decision-making scenarios.
3. Apply the appropriate analytical tools to analyse and extract value from large structured and unstructured data sets to enhance financial decision-making.
4. Demonstrate a proficiency in the use and application of a range of quantitative tools and techniques in predictive financial modelling.
5. Appraise the evolving importance of human psychology on market valuations and financial decision making in the context of cognitive biases and the nature of incentives.
6. Critically evaluate financial risks and utilise derivatives, and/or other strategies to manage systematic market risk factors.
7. Formulate appropriate risk management frameworks for data governance, ethics, cybersecurity, privacy and other operational risks.
8. Demonstrate proficiency in applying financial intelligence techniques in the context of the visualisation of complex data sets.
9. Display a range of personal and interpersonal skills, including the capacity for continuous learning, initiative taking, performing to deadlines, working in a team, communicating effectively.

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

Approved Countries	Ireland

Physical Resource Requirements

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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	0	0

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

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Classroom Session	1:60
	Online Lecture	1:60

Programme being replaced by this Programme	Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated
	PG24329	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Financial Analytics	15-Oct-20

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 writting, 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 certfication.
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

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Quality and Qualifications Ireland

Programme and stage schedules

PG26321 Master of Science in Financial Analytics

Name of Provider	Dublin Business School								
Programme Title	PG26321 Master of Science in Financial Analytics								
Award Title	Master of Science					**Exit Award Only**	N/A		
Teaching and learning modalities	Lectures / Classes; Practical Sessions; Tutorials; Directed Learning; E-learning (directed); E-learning (self-directed); Group Discussions; 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	90	Sep 2025	04.1.2	

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 Decision Making	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Data Analytics for Finance	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Predictive Financial Modelling	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Financial Analytics Utilising Machine Learning	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Financial Intelligence and Data Visualisation	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Information & Cybersecurity Management	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Financial Risk Management	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Behavioural Economics and Finance	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Applied Research Methods	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Applied Research Project	3	E	30	750	9	0	741	0	0	100	0	0	0
Dissertation	3	E	30	750	9	0	741	0	0	100	0	0	0

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PG26322 Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Financial Analytics

Name of Provider	Dublin Business School							
Programme Title	PG26322 Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Financial Analytics							
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; 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	Sep 2025	04.1.2

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 Decision Making	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Data Analytics for Finance	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Predictive Financial Modelling	1	M	10	250	48	0	202	0	100	0	0	0	0
Financial Analytics Utilising Machine Learning	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Financial Intelligence and Data Visualisation	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Information & Cybersecurity Management	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Financial Risk Management	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Behavioural Economics and Finance	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0
Applied Research Methods	2	M	5	125	24	0	101	0	100	0	0	0	0