ICMA Centre

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES IN FINANCE
2016 - 2017

www.icmacentre.ac.uk
Part of the triple-accredited Henley Business School, the ICMA Centre is the product of the first active collaboration between the securities industry and a university finance department. Our mission is to deliver teaching and research in finance of the highest standard and to contribute actively to policy debate.

The ICMA Centre provides uniquely designed undergraduate degrees in finance, integrating finance theory with practice, achieved through the use of three dealing rooms; all equipped with the latest industry software from Thomson Reuters, as well as our own simulation software platform (ICTrader). To experience the thrill and pressure of a live market – take positions, quote two-way prices and manage the risk of a $50–100 million trading book – gives our students an insight and experience unavailable in more traditional finance degrees offered elsewhere in Europe.

We are known for our student-focused ethos, which contributes to both high achievement rates and the close relationships we maintain with our alumni. This ongoing relationship with former students provides networking and industry-based opportunities for new graduates and current students. With our alumni based in 154 countries, these opportunities are global, as well as local.

Careers, internships & alumni
At the ICMA Centre we offer the full range of career advisory and professional development services to all our students through our Career Development Unit. We provide highly focused support, including individual coaching, to give our graduates the edge when applying for career opportunities within the extremely competitive financial services industry. Our Career Development Unit is staffed by professionals with extensive experience in the City and graduate recruitment. A variety of workshops, presentations and events are offered throughout the year designed to help students make an informed choice of future career.

Students will also attend workshops specially designed to help them develop the personal qualities that all graduate recruiters seek.
ICMA Centre graduates are well placed to enter the business world and our graduates go on to work for a wide range of leading employers both in the UK and internationally. Just some of the graduate destinations include: Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, Barclays Capital, BNP Paribas, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, Fidelity Investments, Goldman Sachs, HSBC, Morgan Stanley and Rabobank.

Close links with industry

Supported by the securities industry through the International Capital Market Association (ICMA), the Centre maintains close links with the investment banking community. Throughout your studies you will benefit from lectures and presentations by senior professionals working within the banking and securities industries. The Centre is highly regarded by leading professional associations and our graduates enjoy all the benefits of being associated with world-class professional bodies.

Internships

Students are encouraged to undertake an internship during the summer vacation between the second and third years to enhance their CV and graduate employment prospects. We offer a dedicated taught programme of ‘career management skills’ for undergraduates to help them in this process.

ICMA Centre alumni network

As a graduate you will become a member of the ICMA Centre’s dedicated alumni association, as well as part of Henley Business School’s 68,000 strong global alumni network. Alumni receive invitations to a wide range of annual events and continue to engage with news and events in the School via regular e-newsletters and social media.

I chose to study at the ICMA Centre due to its growing reputation within the industry and also the state-of-the-art trading facilities which enable practical experience of concepts taught in lectures. The BSc Finance & Investment Banking is industry-specific and provides a good understanding of the economic drivers behind markets as well as an in-depth knowledge of investment finance. Studying here opened my eyes to the finance industry. Also the trading sessions were my main inspiration behind becoming a trader and these sessions were viewed favourably by employers.

Andrew Coles
Futures Trader, Schneider Trading Associates

STUDENT SURVIVAL ITEM – #1

Diary
Keep track of your deadlines. No teachers (or parents!) to nag you here.
This degree will provide you with a unique skill set, making you a valuable asset to companies from your first day. This three-year honours programme attracts students from all over the world with an interest in finance.

**What to expect**

The programme combines finance theory with practical trading and financial modelling skills to make you work-ready at the end of your studies. The integration of theory with practice is enhanced through the use of the Centre’s state-of-the-art dealing rooms.

In the first year you will study the core subjects of economics, accounting and finance and be introduced to securities dealing. In the second year, you cover areas of specialisation, including portfolio management, debt markets and instruments, and corporate finance. You will undertake practical market making and hedging in the dealing rooms. The third year offers more opportunities for specialisation in fields such as risk management and financial engineering.

**What’s next?**

Graduates enter a variety of careers in the financial services sector, principally in the City of London but also in other international financial centres and the wider corporate finance industry.

The ICMA Centre has the most extensive non-investment bank dealing room facilities in the world with over **100 terminals** in three dealing rooms equipped with Thomson Reuters Eikon and 12 Bloomberg terminals.

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This innovative programme is taught jointly by Henley Business School and the School of Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences. It provides a thorough and balanced curriculum in both disciplines and has been accredited by the British Psychological Society.

**What to expect**

The area of finance and psychology is rapidly growing as financial markets look for explanations to recent crises in areas outside of mainstream economics and finance. It is clear that issues commonly discussed in psychology impact upon financial market behaviour.

Students will obtain a critical grasp of core theory in finance and psychology along with thorough knowledge, skills of application and analysis.

We recognise the importance of career development and have integrated specialist career management into the programme, thereby providing our students with a tool kit to help them achieve their career aspirations. Our graduates will enter the market with knowledge and skills to enable them to gain excellent careers in areas such as sales and trading, asset management, operations and risk management.

**What’s next?**

We expect our graduates to become priority hires in the competitive investment banking recruitment market. The degree is accredited by the British Psychological Society; therefore graduates are also qualified to enter professional training in psychology.
This degree suits anyone seeking a career in financial services or other business sectors. It includes one year of study at the prestigious University of Venice, taught entirely in English. The programme offers students a truly international experience.

**What to expect**

This degree provides a unique opportunity to gain a deep understanding of the key aspects of corporate financing, business management, accounting, economics and business law.

In the first year you will study finance, economics and accounting and will be introduced to computer simulations of securities dealing. The second year will be spent at the University of Venice where you will study a range of modules including human resource management, international business strategy, marketing, management accounting and business law together with a research project in a finance related area. The third year offers a blend of finance and management modules and more opportunities for specialisation. You will be able to choose modules from a broad selection of options to tailor your degree towards your own interests.

**What’s next?**

Graduates will be prepared for managerial roles in a variety of sectors including banking, investment and insurance industries or in the finance functions of large enterprises.

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This course aims to provide a thorough degree-level education in mathematics, with a focus on differential equations and analysis, along with topics from finance, which will help to prepare you for a career in the financial markets.

**What to expect**

This degree is designed for those who wish to develop their mathematical skills alongside skills in finance and investment banking.

The ICMA Centre will provide an up-to-date and near-market education in financial engineering, utilising its world-leading facilities and long-standing experience in running trading simulations.

The core of the mathematical content includes differential equations and analysis, while in finance the main areas include securities and financial modelling.

It is also possible to undertake a placement within a relevant business, providing you with a great opportunity to gain first-hand work experience.

**What’s next?**

Upon graduation students will have developed the skills and understanding required for a variety of careers including scientific work in industry and the financial services sector.

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“...What attracted me most to the ICMA Centre was that it offered you a hands-on experience of what it is like in the finance sector of the economy. The modern facilities and the international environment also greatly appealed to me.”

Juvereya Shoab
BSc Finance and Investment Banking

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**STUDENT SURVIVAL ITEM – #2**

Saucepan
There’s so much more to life than noodles and baked beans.
Run jointly by the Department of Economics and the ICMA Centre, Henley Business School, this programme is designed for those interested in the operation and impact of financial markets in a broader economic context.

What to expect

The recent financial crisis has dramatically demonstrated that it is important to understand how economic issues and financial markets interact, and that this is especially the case when a market is global, subject to rapid fluctuations, and affects national and international economies.

The programme offers a thorough and balanced curriculum across the fields of economics, finance, investment and banking. The programme combines rigorous coverage of the principles of economics with an in-depth treatment of the structures and pricing models used in financial markets.

Students will obtain a thorough knowledge of economic and financial analysis and obtain practical experience relating to the design and trading of financial assets.

What’s next?

Graduates will be trained as economists with particular knowledge of financial markets, enabling them to pursue careers across a wide range of fields, both within and outside the financial sector.

See page 8 for entry requirements

For further information visit: www.icmacentre.ac.uk

“"The great thing about the ICMA Centre is that many of the faculty work, or have worked, in industry – meaning you are learning from both the academic and the practical side of how the markets really work. It’s been a great experience. I enjoyed every year at the ICMA Centre and I gained really valuable skills and experience.”

Eva Sajbenova
PwC, London

“"The best thing about the ICMA Centre is its wonderful sense of community! It’s great to learn in such a friendly and dynamic atmosphere where you feel supported and encouraged to achieve your best. We receive the highest-class education in an excellent potential-maximising environment.”

Dina Ghanma
BSc Finance & Investment Banking student
Academic entry requirements

Entry requirements vary depending on your chosen degree programme but generally you are expected to achieve grades AAB from 3 A Levels (excluding General Studies and Key Skills).

Unless otherwise stated, applicants completing the International Baccalaureate must pass the Diploma and achieve 35 points.

Please visit www.icmacentre.ac.uk for specific entry requirements for each degree programme.

We also welcome applicants with equivalent UK and international qualifications.