Dissertation (Finance) B805

Presentation pattern November to October

Qualification description

The Open University Business School’s MSc in Finance is for individuals who want to develop as finance professionals. This is a rigorous Masters degree requiring aptitude for analytical and quantitative methods to engage with theories of finance and their applications. The scope of the knowledge, skills and applications covered in this qualification enables professional development and practice in wide ranging roles in finance such as in investment and portfolio management, corporate finance and treasury, consultancy and investment banking. Both early career finance professionals and those aspiring to enter a finance profession will find the MSc in Finance a professionally rewarding and intellectually challenging higher education experience. It also offers an opportunity to acquire and develop research skills and techniques relevant to higher academic qualifications in finance.

Module description

B805 is the final module in the Masters in Finance. This module will enable students to demonstrate the research skills expected at Master level. These include the ability to: formulate a research problem; review relevant literature; design research to address the problem; collect and analyse data; and communicate findings and conclusions effectively. The module is a 12 month long programme which requires students to carry out a research project in Finance and write a dissertation.

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- a relevant postgraduate degree in a finance-related subject or relevant professional qualification and experience in finance
- knowledge of recent and current developments and experience of issues in the area of financial management, including practice in internationally diverse settings
- ability to direct and support research activity on a one-to-one supervisor-to-student basis at postgraduate level
- recent evidence (in the last three years) of successfully supporting students to conduct research at dissertation level or a similar output
- an understanding of working across sectors (e.g. public, private and non-for-profit) and functions (e.g. marketing or strategy) possibly demonstrated through consultancy and/or collaborative project work
- demonstrable knowledge of qualitative and/or quantitative research methods
- ability to critique and comment on the academic literature, relating theory to practice, and supporting students to develop reflective learning and critical engagement skills
- ability to give constructive written feedback at postgraduate level
- ability to facilitate learning of students at postgraduate level possibly evidenced by recent (in the last three years) of mentoring, teaching and or coaching
- evidence of good presentation and facilitation skills in virtual environments showing the ability to use synchronous (e.g. web conferencing) and asynchronous media (e.g. online forums) to help students learn
- current or recent evidence (in the last three years) of working with people from different cultural contexts, demonstrating an understanding of different perspectives on work, learning etc.
It would be an advantage to have:
- a PhD, MSc or MPhil or other relevant postgraduate qualification
- experience of working in the finance sector

Additional information
- tuition is all online and there is no residential school

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

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<th>Credit awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:</th>
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<td>Number of assignments submitted by the student:</td>
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<td>Number of students likely to be in a standard group:</td>
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<td>Estimated number of hours per presentation:</td>
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