

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Academic School / Department:</b>	Richmond Business School
<b>Programme:</b>	Accounting and Finance Economics and Finance Finance and Investment
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	6
<b>Course Title:</b>	Senior Project: Finance, Economics and Accounting
<b>Course Code:</b>	FINC 6110
<b>Total Hours:</b>	295
Timetabled Hours:	26
Guided Learning Hours	45
Independent Learning Hours:	224
<b>Credit</b>	32 UK CATS credits 16 ECTS credits 8 US credits

**Course Description:**

The senior project represents the academic pinnacle for students majoring in Accounting, Finance, or Economics. This course requires a high level of independent research into a real-world financial phenomenon, economic problem, or accounting challenge.

Students may choose to:

- Test a financial hypothesis using econometric modelling.
- Conduct a narrative inquiry into accounting standards or economic policy.
- Develop a comprehensive case study on a specific firm's valuation or market performance.
- Utilise quantitative datasets or qualitative interviews (subject to ethical approval).

Under the guidance of a specialist supervisor, students will conduct individual research on an agreed topic within their discipline. Timetabled hours serve as workshops for refreshing advanced research skills and peer-coaching.

**Prerequisites:**

## BUSM 5301: Research Methods and Skills for Business and Enterprise

Credit Requirement: 70 Credits

**Aims and Objectives:**

The course aims to teach students to work independently and to make critical judgments. The course is also an opportunity for students to further develop their research skills and gain in-depth knowledge on the topic related to their major. Ultimately, we hope that students will use the knowledge and skills developed in this course in their job search and career.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A6II, A6III, B6II, B6III, C6I, C6II, C6III, D6I, D6II

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	Programme-Level Outcome
1. Select, evaluate and apply critical thinking to a an economic, financial or business issue or phenomenon	L6B (ii; iii)
2. Apply suitable research methods and techniques in the investigation.	L6A (ii)
3. Synthesise information to arrive at a coherent conclusion and recommendations.	L6A (iii)
4. Demonstrate the capability to work independently.	L6D (i)
5. Demonstrates autonomy in taking personal responsibility for ethical and sustainable practices within the practice of research.	L6D(ii)
6. Demonstrate professional oral and written communication skills.	L6C (i; ii; iii)

**Indicative Content:**

The curriculum focuses on the practical application of advanced research tools:

- Quantitative & Qualitative Methods: Tailored to financial modelling and economic forecasting.
- Research Ethics: Specific focus on data integrity and financial transparency.

- Literature Review: Critiquing academic journals and market reports.
- Reasoning: Inductive and deductive analysis of market trends.
- Technical Writing: Structuring a professional research paper for the financial sector.

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

**Teaching Methodology:**

The course will be delivered through a blend of in-person lectures, workshops, and tutorials.

- Lectures will serve to introduce and explore new concepts and theoretical frameworks.
- Workshops will provide students with practical, hands-on experience, focusing on problem-solving and the application of theory to real-world scenarios.
- Tutorials will offer structured support and guidance for students' coursework and assignments.

Additionally, Guided Learning Hours (asynchronous online activities) will supplement the curriculum with extra learning content. This may include, but not be limited to: flipped classroom activities, recorded lectures, podcasts, vodcasts, quizzes, and online discussions.

**Indicative Text(s):**

Saunders, M.N.K., Lewis, P. and Thornhill, A. (2023) *Research methods for business students*. 9th edn. London: Pearson.

Wagner, S. (2024) *Science pitch: Present your research. Get to the Point*. New York: Springer.

**Journals**

FT-50 journals. Available at: <https://www.ft.com/content/3405a512-5cbb-11e1-8f1f00144feabdc0> (Accessed: November 2024).

**Websites**

The Financial Times. Available at: <https://www.ft.com/> (Accessed: November 2024).

Statistica. Available at: <https://www-statista-com.raiul.koha-ptfs.co.uk>

See syllabus for complete reading list.

**Change Log for this CSD:**

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services