



UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON
INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMMES

Think Ahead



Postgraduate courses in

Professional Accountancy

MSc, Postgraduate
Certificate

2016–2017

Programme direction by: UCL

The World Class: studied
anywhere, valued everywhere.

londoninternational.ac.uk/msc-accountancy

Gain a University of London degree, wherever you are

1 **A mark of excellence**

A degree from the University of London is a mark of excellence, respected by employers and universities worldwide.

2 **Study without relocating**

You can study wherever you live and gain a prestigious qualification. In many countries, you can take classes at local teaching institutions.

3 **Quality of learning**

All our programmes are developed and assessed by the renowned Colleges of the University of London.

4 **Employability**

Our degrees are internationally recognised and open doors to lucrative careers in law, business, politics, education, IT and other industries.

5 **Join the World Class**

On graduation, you'll join a global community of influential alumni, from leaders of business and industry, to Nobel Prize winners.





“In the increasingly competitive environment of worldwide access to higher education, the University of London International Programmes continue to offer a guarantee of quality, value and intellectual rigour.”

Professor Sir Adrian Smith FRS
Vice-Chancellor,
University of London

Contents

Two qualifications in one	4
Why study for a University of London degree?	5
Online-supported distance learning	6
How you study	8
Structure and module outlines	9
Entrance requirements and how to apply	10

Two qualifications in one



By taking the University of London master's route to ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) membership you will be rewarded with two world-renowned qualifications. The University of London and ACCA, the global body for professional accountants, are enabling you to complete an MSc in Professional Accountancy and your ACCA professional accountancy qualification at the same time. This route will be of value to accountants aspiring to senior roles and enable them to stand out from the crowd in terms of their qualifications.

Compared with the cost of studying for an accountancy qualification and an MSc separately, this will save time and money for many ACCA students, affiliates and members.

Dual recognition

With the creation of this MSc, ACCA will uniquely and for the first time recognise two MSc modules as counting towards the professional level of the ACCA Qualification. The University of London will recognise ACCA exams as counting towards the MSc.

You have flexibility in how you structure your studies and there are different pathways to the award depending on the stage you are at in your ACCA professional qualification journey. ACCA students who have passed the Fundamentals level exams can continue towards their ACCA Qualification by using the MSc as an equivalent to the two Professionals options exams (P4 and P5).

ACCA members and affiliates can complement their professional qualification with this MSc by completing one University of London module and a project only. The University of London recognises the learning that has taken place as part of the ACCA journey and applies this as credit towards the MSc.

What the experts say:

Helen Brand OBE,
Chief Executive, ACCA

'Providing global access to a prestigious master's qualification as part of ACCA's professional qualification will offer our students and members the opportunity to enhance their employability even further.'

Dr Alan Parkinson (FCCA),
Principal Teaching Fellow
and Deputy Director
(Education) of the School
of Management, UCL

'This MSc offers teaching informed by research and insights into real world issues. It will offer practical solutions to the challenges of making organisations work as they should, not least in the financial context.'

Why study for a University of London degree?

A trusted name in global education

Founded in 1836, the University of London is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the UK. In 1858, the University of London established the University of London International Programmes to make its degrees accessible to students across the world. Our past students include many people who have shaped the world we live in, including seven Nobel Prize winners – among them Nelson Mandela – and leaders of business, industry and science. We now have more than 50,000 students in 180 countries.

Programme direction

Academics within UCL's School of Management will provide the programme direction to the MSc, designing the modules, developing the learning content, and setting and marking the assessments. Therefore you benefit from UCL's academic expertise and cutting-edge research.

In the 2015/16 QS World University Rankings, UCL is ranked seventh in the world's top universities. Its prestigious

School of Management has an excellent reputation for high quality research and teaching. The School underpins that research and teaching through a focus on operations, data analytics, innovation and enterprise.

About the UCL programme team



Lynsie Chew,
Programme
Director

Lynsie has a track record of delivering accounting and finance in an

innovative way and has won three awards for the quality of her teaching. She is co-editor/co-author of three Pearson custom textbooks and engages in scholarship research on an international basis.

She is one of the School's e-learning champions and is undertaking a Doctorate in Education, focusing on Learning Technologies. Lynsie is also the module leader for the 'Strategic financial project' module on the MSc Professional Accountancy.



Dr Alan Parkinson
(FCCA), Principal
Teaching Fellow
and Deputy
Director (Education)
of the School of
Management

Alan is responsible for the curricula for all the degree programmes at the School of Management, and is also Teaching Lead for the School's Accounting Group. He has extensive international training and consultancy expertise, and is Professor in Managerial Accounting at Tongji University, Shanghai. Alan is Module Leader for 'Global issues for the finance professional'.

The UCL programme team is also joined by experienced University of London adjuncts **Steve Lumby** as 'Strategic financial management' Module Leader and **Barry McCarthy** as 'Strategic performance management' Module Leader.

Online-supported distance learning

Fit studying around your schedule

You can set your own workload and complete the MSc in under a year, or take longer if that is more convenient, and depending on where you are on your ACCA journey. You can study from one to three modules at the same time.

Each module takes 22 weeks to complete and you will need to allow about 12–15 study hours per week, which includes time spent on coursework and revision. There are fixed times for submitting coursework. To help you meet these deadlines you are provided with a clear structure for your learning and online tools to plan and manage your time. Modules may run between one and four times a year.

Comprehensive and interactive study resources

You study using materials developed for online learning, provided in a choice of formats for use with different types of computers, including mobile devices. Study materials include videos, readings, computer software, case studies and more. Interactive exercises and quizzes with automated feedback are embedded throughout.

There are links within the modules to the University of London Online Library and study resources. You do not need to purchase any additional textbooks.

Network with professionals worldwide

The University's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) enables you to network with other professionals in your tutor group worldwide. You will be able to share perspectives, compare approaches and gain a truly global viewpoint.

Web-supported learning

You can choose the web-supported study option which provides you with an Online Tutor and Student Relationship Manager to support you in your studies. They will introduce the key content at the start of each module, guide you on the assessment, participate in online forums, and respond to your queries.

Getting started

As soon as you register you can start on the orientation module. This will help you get up to speed with the programme concepts and help you hone your study skills.





Local teaching support

As an alternative to the web-supported learning option – depending on where you live – you may be able to take face-to-face classes at a local teaching centre for an additional fee. We are establishing a network of centres in the locations where students are planning to study. These centres have been recognised by the University of London for the quality and standards of their teaching. The list of centres is on our website: londoninternational.ac.uk/online-search/institutions Classes may be held on a part-time or block basis.

Assessment

The degree is assessed through a combination of methods including coursework, projects and written paper examinations. The grade you achieve for each module is based on all the elements of assessment. If your module includes an exam, you can take it in any

of our exam centres worldwide. You can submit coursework and projects online through the University's VLE.

Build up your qualifications

You may be able to start your studies with a Postgraduate Certificate if you have not passed all the ACCA P1–P3 exams. When you have successfully completed the Certificate and ACCA P1–P3 exams you can transfer to the MSc programme.

Celebrate your graduation

Mark your achievement with your friends and family at the annual graduation ceremony in London, which is usually presided over by the University of London's Vice-Chancellor or Chancellor HRH Princess Royal.

Join a global alumni network

On graduation you become a member of the University of London International Programmes Alumni Association. You may participate in our global events and meet other graduates in your academic or professional field.

What the students say:

Christine Woo Shi Yuin,
Assistant Manager, Sundat
Pte Ltd, Vietnam

'ACCA and the MSc will help me to be more competent in my position as the assistant manager of a finance department.'

Helen B. Amaefule,
Management Accountant, UK

'The opportunity to complete the ACCA and gain an MSC at the same time is exciting. I feel privileged, the University of London is recognised worldwide as a leader in education, and I believe this qualification will open worldwide opportunities.'

Muhammad Adeel Khan,
Assistant Financial
Controller, The Clarence Hotel,
Dublin, Ireland

'The main benefit of gaining two world recognised certificates is that it will greatly enhance my career prospects in a very competitive job market.'

Structure

Like the ACCA Qualification, the MSc in Professional Accountancy has been designed to support you in developing the high-level knowledge and intellectual skills needed for leadership of the finance function in a global context. This programme will help you develop the commercial, strategic and creative skills to address the challenges presented by today's fast-paced, volatile and interconnected world.

Pathway 1 – MSc for ACCA students who have passed P1–P3

Completed ACCA F1–F9 (or a recognised degree) plus ACCA P1–P3

Eligible to register for the MSc with 90 credits recognised prior learning (RPL)

Need to complete two University of London option modules and the Project for the MSc

- ACCA Professional Papers P1–P3 (90 credits)
- Strategic financial management (30 credits)
- Strategic performance management (30 credits)
- Strategic financial project (30 credits)

Pathway 1 – Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) with transfer to the MSc once P1–P3 successfully completed

Completed ACCA F1–F9 (or a recognised degree). Have not completed ACCA P1–P3 although may have started it

Are eligible to register for the PGCert. Will need to complete 2 x University of London modules **and** P1–P3 to be eligible to transfer (with 90 credits RPL) to the MSc. Will then complete the Project for the MSc

PGCert in Professional Accountancy (60 credits)

- Strategic financial management (30 credits)
- Strategic performance management (30 credits)

MSc – Pathway 1 (180 credits) if you transfer from the PGCert

- PG Cert in Professional Accountancy (60 credits)
- ACCA Professional Papers P1–P3 (90 credits)
- Strategic financial project (30 credits)

Pathway 2 – MSc in Professional Accountancy for ACCA members and affiliates

An ACCA member or affiliate with a compliant continuing professional development (CPD) record with ACCA.

May be eligible to register for the MSc with 120 credits RPL. There is a limit of five years for recognition of prior learning. If you passed your last professional level paper over five years before the start of the MSc you will need to pass the online preparation test for the programme

- ACCA affiliate or member (120 credits)
- Global issues for the finance professional (30 credits)
- Strategic financial project (30 credits)

Module outlines

MSc in Professional Accountancy – Pathway 1

The MSc comprises the relevant ACCA papers (or their equivalent) **and**

Three modules

Strategic financial management

Strategic performance management

Strategic financial project

MSc in Professional Accountancy – Pathway 2

Two modules

Global issues for the finance professional

Strategic financial project

Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Accountancy

Two modules

Strategic financial management

Strategic performance management

Strategic financial management

This module will give you the tools to evaluate business financing options, manage financial risks, and make appropriate investment decisions. It takes a proactive and logical approach to decision making in areas such as investment appraisal; financial risk management; capital structures; dividend policy; mergers and acquisitions; and using financial instruments to manage risks.

Assessment: This module is assessed by coursework and an examination.

Strategic performance management

This module develops the skills to design, implement and evaluate an organisation's performance management system. The emphasis is on making well-informed decisions, gaining insights into the blend of financial analysis and managerial judgement required to enable managers to make sound decisions. It provides the essential toolkit that managers need when faced with making hard-edged decisions to improve performance in the context of a complex and ever-changing business environment.

Assessment: This module is assessed by coursework and an examination.

Strategic financial project

This is a mandatory capstone module which presents an opportunity to challenge yourself to demonstrate independent academic research skills and apply them in a professional context. You will present an analysis of, and potential solutions and recommendations to, an accounting/finance-related business issue. As a result of this process you will develop a critical self-awareness which will increase your personal effectiveness in a business context.

Assessment: This module is assessed by coursework and a project.

Global Issues for the finance professional (part of Pathway 2, only for members and affiliates)

This provides insights into how finance and accounting is evolving in today's unpredictable global environment. It will give you the skills to think critically and creatively in selecting alternative solutions and solving complex problems. The module addresses topical issues such as the valuation of intangibles; the impact of the Basel Accord on financial risk management practices; global mergers and acquisitions; financial reporting and accounting standards; selected topical issues in sustainability including tax avoidance.

Assessment: This module is assessed by coursework and a project.

Entrance requirements and how to apply



Entrance requirements

Only those registered with ACCA are eligible to study towards the MSc in Professional Accountancy.

Qualifications required under Pathway 1:

Passed all the ACCA F1–F9 exams, and passed the ACCA P1, P2 and P3 exams.

Qualifications required under Pathway 2:

If you passed the last of the ACCA Professional level exams more than five years ago, you must be able to demonstrate that your CPD record is compliant with the ACCA policy on

CPD since you became a member. This includes an up-to-date CPD declaration for the current year. Additionally, you will be required to successfully pass the assessment for the University of London Professional Accountancy Online Preparation Test which will be available on demand.

Qualifications required for the Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Accountancy:

Passed all the ACCA F1–F9 exams or their equivalent.

Please refer to our website for the English language requirements for the programme: londoninternational.ac.uk/msc-accountancy

How to apply

You can apply online at: londoninternational.ac.uk/msc-accountancy


After you have completed the application process you will receive feedback on your eligibility. If you are successful you will be able to register and pay for the first modules you wish to take.

How much will it cost?

Please see the website for the fee schedule. The fees vary depending on which country you live in, and whether you choose web-supported learning or classes at a local teaching institution.

You will pay for each module as you take it. The module fee includes access to study materials and entry into the assessments (written examination, coursework and project as applicable associated with the module) but excludes the fee charged by the local exam centre which you must pay directly.

You will also need to pay your ACCA subscription fees as normal to continue to be eligible to study towards and be awarded the MSc.



The information contained in this leaflet was correct at the date of publication but may be subject to change. The University does not intend by publication or distribution of this leaflet to create any contractual or other legal relation with applicants, registered students, their advisers or any other persons. For the most up-to-date information please visit our website.

Published by University of London International Programmes (Design, Editorial and Production).

Copyright © University of London, June 2016.

For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website or contact us at:

The Student Advice Centre
University of London
Senate House
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU
United Kingdom

Telephone +44 (0)20 7862 8360
enquiries.londoninternational.ac.uk

Follow us on:



londoninternational.ac.uk/youtube



londoninternational.ac.uk/facebook



londoninternational.ac.uk/twitter



londoninternational.ac.uk/instagram



londoninternational.ac.uk/linkedin



londoninternational.ac.uk/googleplus



londoninternational.ac.uk/flickr



londoninternational.ac.uk/blog

- londoninternational.ac.uk/msc-accountancy
- accaglobal.com/msc