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Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

About this document

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As a student registered with the University of London you are governed by the current General Regulations and Programme Regulations associated with your programme of study.

These Programme Regulations are designed and developed by the University of London. The Programme Regulations will provide the detailed rules and guidance for your programme of study.

In addition to Programme Regulations, you will have to abide by the <u>General Regulations</u>. These regulations apply to all students registered for a programme of study with the University of London and provide the rules governing registration and assessment on all programmes; they also indicate what you may expect on completion of your programme of study and how you may pursue a complaint, should that be necessary. Programme Regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations.

The relevant General Regulations and the Programme Regulations relating to your registration with us are for the current year and not in the year in which you initially registered.

On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.

Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant <u>Courses page</u> of the website. The Programme Specification gives a broad outline of the structure and content of the programmes, as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress.

Terminology

The following language is specific to BSc Professional Accountancy:

Module: Individual units of the programme are called modules. Each module is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

Throughout the Regulations, 'we' 'us' and 'our' mean the University of London; 'you' and 'your' mean the student, or where applicable, all students.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided please contact us. You should use the *ask a question* button in the Student Portal.

1 Structure of the programme

Appendix A gives the full structure and content of the programme.

Qualifications

1.1

The following named qualification is awarded under these regulations:

Bachelor of Science in Professional Accountancy.

Qualification structures

1.2

The BSc Professional Accountancy consists of:

- Recognised prior learning (240 credits) on the basis of:
 - three ACCA Applied Knowledge exams (Business and Technology, Management Accounting, Financial Accounting) – equivalent to FHEQ Level 4; and
 - four ACCA specific exams (Corporate and Business Law, Taxation, Financial Reporting, Audit and Assurance) – equivalent to Levels 5 and 6;
- Three compulsory University of London Level 6 modules:
 - Financial management (PR3010) (30 credits)
 - Performance management (PR3020) (30 credits)
 - o Project (PR3030) (60 credits).

1.5

There is no provision to study for individual modules on a stand-alone basis.

2 Registration

2.1

Effective date of registration

Your effective date of registration will be either:

- 1 March, if you first register before the February registration deadline;
- 1 September, if you first register before the August registration deadline.

Date of first assessments

2.2

If your effective date of registration is:

- 1 March, you will take your first taught end-of-module assessment(s) in July of the same year;
- 1 September, you will take your first taught end-of-module assessment(s) in January of the following year.

Study sessions

2.3

The programme has two registration points in the year. There are two study sessions in a year, beginning in March and September. Each session is followed by an end-of-module assessment. The Project module (PR3030) is taught over two sessions.

Period of registration

See the Programme Specification for the minimum periods of registration applicable to this programme.

2.4

The minimum and maximum periods of registration to complete the programme are counted from your effective date of registration.

2.5

The maximum period of registration for the BSc in Professional Accountancy is three years.

3 Recognition of prior learning (RPL)

To be read in conjunction with the **General Regulations**, Section 3.

3.1

We will grant 240 credits in recognition of prior learning towards the award of the BSc Professional Accountancy if you have passed:

 Three ACCA Applied Knowledge exams (Business Technology, Management Accounting, Financial Accounting) equivalent to FHEQ Level 4; and four ACCA specific exams (Corporate and Business Law, Taxation, Financial Reporting, Audit and Assurance) – equivalent to Levels 5 and 6.

3.2

All ACCA exams must have been completed within the timeframe below.

From the start date of when they start the BSc Professional Accountancy programme, no more than five years have passed since the achievement of the student's first ACCA passes or achievement of the qualification that provided their eligible exemptions (whichever is earlier).

3.3

We will take into account the guidance provided by ACCA in respect of eligibility, when considering applications for RPL.

3.4

All applications to the programme will be confirmed by ACCA for eligibility.

Exemptions

3.5

You may be eligible for exemptions from ACCA under the ACCA's exemption policy.

More information is available by contacting ACCA directly.

4 Module selection

4.1

Each 30-credit module will be taught over one 16 week session. Following teaching there is a revision period. Assessments will take place over the subsequent weeks.

4.2

You must register for at least 30 credits in your first study session.

4.3

You may register for a maximum of 60 credits in each session.

In order to complete within the minimum period of registration you should register on a 30 credit module and the Project in your first session; then in your second session you should register on the remaining 30 credit module alongside completing the Project.

In a session where you are registered for the Project (PR3030), this will count as 30 credits per session.

If you are not planning on completing within the minimum registration period, we advise you to register on one or two 30 credit modules first; then register on the Project module in a subsequent session.

Module availability

4.4

In exceptional circumstances, we may not run a module if an insufficient number of students have registered. This is because we may not be able to provide an appropriate learning experience and/or assessment opportunity to meet the learning outcomes of the module.

We will make every reasonable effort to inform you of any such changes as early as possible and to provide you with reasonable alternative arrangements.

5 Assessment for the programme

5.1

Summary table of assessment

Module	Element of assessment	Element weighting	To pass the element you must get:	To pass the module you must get:	
Taught modules	End of module assessment	100%	A mark of at least 40%	A mark of at least 40%	
Project	Literature review/Project topic outline (Element 1)	25%	A mark of at least 40%	As a minimum a pass in Element 2; a mark of at least 40% in assessment Element 3; marks are subject to weighting and depend on marks in all elements including	
	Ethics form (Element 2)	n/a	A confirmation of a pass		
	Final project (Element 3)	75%	A mark of at least 40%	Element 1	

5.2

You must complete the module assessment when you register for a module. If you do not have mitigating circumstances and you do not complete the assessment for a module you will be given a mark of zero for that element and it **will** count as an attempt.

Project

5.3

For the *Project* module, if you submit Element 1: Literature review which receives a Provisional fail mark, or do not submit Element 1 by the deadline indicated in the VLE, the examiners may require you to (re)submit the coursework within a prescribed period which may mean (re)submitting before or alongside Element 3: Final project. This would still be considered part of the same attempt. If you do not submit or re-submit within the prescribed period and you fail the *Project* module overall, you will be required to make an attempt at Element 1 and/or Element 3: Final project in a subsequent session.

5.4

If you are required to resubmit any project or coursework elements, you must ensure that any materials used from your previous submission are referenced correctly.

Further information on referencing can be found on the Student portal.

Research ethics

5.5

All BSc Professional Accountancy students undertaking the Project are required to obtain ethical approval. This is to ensure that any research involving participants and/or study of real-world data conforms to general ethical principles and standards. You should ensure you are able to identify ethical implications as well as act in an ethical manner when engaging in research.

Further information about research ethics and how to submit the ethics self-evaluation form is in the VLE.

Mitigating circumstances

See General Regulations for Rules for taking assessments.

See the website for information on the submission of mitigating circumstances.

You must bring any mitigating circumstances to our attention as soon as you become aware that your performance may be adversely affected by serious circumstances beyond your control. You should do this before the deadline date for coursework and project elements, and no later than three weeks after the written examination date.

Penalty for exceeding the word count

5.6

For coursework and project elements, you should not exceed the word limits by more than 10%. If the word count is between 10% to 20% above the word limit, marks may be deducted. If the word count exceeds the word limit by more than 20%, you may receive a mark of zero for your work.

Late submission of coursework elements

5.7

You must keep to the deadlines given in the VLE. Unless prior permission is granted, coursework elements that are submitted after the deadline will not be marked and you will receive a zero for the element.

6 Number of attempts permitted at an assessment element

6.1

The maximum number of attempts permitted for an assessment element is three.

6.2

You will fail the assessment if your overall mark for the module is below 40%.

6.3

If you obtain less than 40% in any module at the first attempt and subsequently pass as the second attempt, you will receive a capped mark of 40% for that module.

Resitting the assessment of a failed module

If you resit the assessment for a module, you will have to pay a fee when you re-register for the module to resit the assessment. The fee payable is outlined in the <u>fee schedule</u>.

You will not be allocated a tutor group but will have access to the learning materials on the VLE and will be required to resubmit your summative assessment.

6.4

If you fail a module you will be offered the opportunity to resit the assessment in a specific session.

6.5

If you do not make a second attempt at a failed module at the first opportunity, you will be required to repeat the module in full. **You will be required to pay the full module fee.**

Repeating a failed module

If you repeat a module, you will have to pay the full module fee when you re-register for the module. When you repeat a failed module, you will be allocated a tutor group, you will have access to the learning materials on the VLE and you will be required to resubmit your summative assessment.

Please note that the assessment brief may change each session, and you are required to respond to the brief for the session for which you are registered.

6.6

You may choose when you repeat a failed module. You do not have to take the assessment at the next available study session.

7 Schemes of award

7.1

To calculate the final classification, the marks for the University of London modules are weighted by credit value.

7.2

All assessments will be marked according to the published Assessment Criteria.

7.3

The following mark scheme is used for the BSc Professional Accountancy:

Mark range	Classification
70% and over	First Class Honours
60% – 69%	Second Class Honours (Upper Division)
50% – 59%	Second Class Honours (Lower Division)
40% – 49%	Third Class Honours
0% – 39%	Fail

7.4

To be considered for the award you must have passed the assessment for all three modules.

Date of award

7.5

If your final assessment takes place in the July examination session, the date of award will be 1 September in the year of the final assessment that contributes to the award.

If your final assessment takes place in the January examination session, the date of award will be 1 March in the year of the final assessment that contributes to the award.

Appendix A – Structure of the programme

The BSc Professional Accountancy consists of:

- Recognised prior learning (240 credits) on the basis of three ACCA Applied Knowledge exams (Business and Technology, Management Accounting, Financial Accounting) – equivalent to FHEQ Level 4; and, four ACCA specific exams (Corporate and Business Law, Taxation, Financial Reporting, Audit and Assurance) – equivalent to Levels 5 and 6
- Three compulsory FHEQ Level 6 modules:
 - Financial management (30 credits) (PR3010)
 - o Performance management (30 credits) (PR3020)
 - o Project (60 credits) (PR3030).

Appendix B - Module outlines

Financial management (PR3010)

This module aims to provide you with advanced knowledge of the scope and nature of financial management issues within modern corporations. Mastering the financial function involves understanding the major strands of financial management theory, such as: working capital management; capital investment appraisal; risk management; business valuation. The module seeks to apply the theory to real world applications. You will learn to justify and make efficient decisions regarding financing, investments, valuation, and risk. By the end of the module, you will be equipped with the necessary technical knowledge and skills to tackle financial management challenges in modern corporations, while also considering sustainability, ethical issues, and technological advancements.

Performance management (PR3020)

This module aims to equip you to design, use and critically appraise various management accounting and performance management techniques. Effective performance management helps organisations succeed in complex business environments. You will extend your knowledge of management accounting approaches such as budgeting, planning and control, and performance evaluation. You will learn how to employ advanced management accounting techniques and how to evaluate their strengths and limitations. By taking a critical approach to evaluating these techniques and theories, you will be equipped to contribute meaningfully to organisational strategy taking into consideration ethical and sustainability challenges.

Project (PR3030)

This module aims to equip you with essential research, academic, and professional skills necessary to develop a viable project. It focuses on enhancing your ability to identify an issue, conduct thorough investigations and effectively communicate your findings. You will be introduced to a range of research methods and methodologies relevant to the accounting field, providing a solid foundation that enables you to contribute to both academic and professional practice literature.

The module offers you the opportunity to delve into your specialist interests within a particular area and demonstrate your capability to conduct guided, in-depth individual research. The Project module serves as an integrative element that leverages your intellectual and analytical skills, as well as your accumulated knowledge.

Through this module, the aim is to provide you with the opportunity to apply and further develop your research skills, extending your knowledge, understanding, and ability to critically analyse a topic in a specialist area of interest.

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Appendix C - Assessment criteria

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These assessment criteria provide information about what is required to achieve a particular mark for a module. These criteria are indicative and not all the criteria listed are necessarily relevant to the award of Honours in individual programmes. In programmes where the final result is calculated by aggregate or other mathematical formula, these criteria apply to the individual components of the degree.

Mark	Grade	Characteristics
70–100	First Class	 Demonstrates an excellent grasp of the relevant knowledge base. Answer is consistently informed by the major conventions and practices of the area of study, with high levels of breadth and depth.
		Clearly demonstrates excellent, or outstanding, understanding of the different perspectives or approaches associated with the area of study.
		Evidence of excellent, or outstanding, analysis and discussion.
		 Evidence of the ability to answer more unusual or demanding questions, involving application of in-depth and advanced understanding of the subject and its methods.
		Excellent, or outstanding, presentation and structure.
		Demonstrates exceptional critical analysis with advanced knowledge and understanding. Consistently synthesises a wide range of views and information, showing sophisticated perception and insight.
		All sources are accurately cited using a consistent referencing style. Use of Al tools, if permitted and applicable, is transparently acknowledged and appropriately integrated.
		Numerical responses are fully accurate, clearly presented, and well- explained. Methods are appropriate and justified.
60–69	Upper Second	Demonstrates a sophisticated grasp of the relevant knowledge base. Answer is generally well informed by the major conventions and practices of the area of study.
		Demonstrates wide and accurate understanding of the different perspectives or approaches associated with the area of study. With good breadth and depth.
		Evidence of very good analysis and discussion.
		Evidence of the ability to solve some of the more unusual or demanding questions involving the use of significant understanding of the subject.
		Very good levels of consistency and accuracy.
		Demonstrates thorough critical analysis with strong knowledge and understanding. Able to evaluate and synthesise a range of views and information with thoughtful interpretation.
		Most sources are cited correctly. Minor inconsistencies in referencing. Al use, if permitted and applicable, is acknowledged but may lack details.
		 Numerical responses are mostly accurate with clear workings. Minor errors may be present but do not affect overall interpretation.

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Mark	Grade	Characteristics
50–59	Lower Second	Demonstrates a sound grasp of the relevant knowledge base. Answer is generally well-informed by the major conventions and practices of the area of study, if sometimes balanced towards the descriptive rather than the analytical.
		Demonstrates sound understanding of the different perspectives or approaches associated with the area of study. With good breadth and depth.
		Evidence of sound analysis and discussion.
		Evidence of some ability to solve some of the more unusual or demanding questions involving the use of significant understanding of the subject.
		Sound levels of consistency and accuracy.
		Demonstrates sound critical analysis with knowledge and understanding. Generally able to evaluate and synthesise a range of views and information with thoughtful interpretation.
		 Not all sources are cited correctly. Minor inconsistencies in referencing. Al use, if permitted and applicable, is acknowledged but may lack details.
		Numerical responses are mostly accurate with some workings. Some errors may be present, which may affect overall interpretation.
40–49	Third Class	Demonstrates a sufficient grasp of the relevant knowledge base in key aspects of their area of study, sufficient to deal with terminology, facts and concepts.
		Demonstrates sufficient understanding of the different perspectives or approaches associated with the area of study. With some breadth and depth.
		Evidence of sufficient analysis and discussion.
		Evidence of limited ability to solve some of the more unusual or demanding questions involving the use of significant understanding of the subject.
		Sufficient levels of consistency and accuracy.
		 Demonstrates basic critical analysis with knowledge and understanding. Generally able to evaluate and synthesise some views and information with some interpretation.
		Evidence of sources cited incorrectly. General inconsistencies in referencing. Al use, if permitted and applicable, is acknowledged but often lacks details.
		Numerical responses are often inaccurate and may be without workings. Errors may be present, which affect overall interpretation.

Mark	Grade	Characteristics
30–39	Fail	 Superficial coverage of questions that is highly descriptive. Contains serious omissions and/or significant errors. Some understanding evident, but shows no ability to present anything other than very basic and simplistic answers. Disorganised in structure and poor clarity of expression. Limited evidence of reading or thought of an appropriate nature. Limited competence in core basic techniques of the subject area or competence only in a small part of the module material. Basic critical analysis with limited ability to evaluate views and information. Shows understanding of key concepts but lacks depth and synthesis. Limited citation of sources. Referencing is inconsistent or mostly missing. Al use, if permitted and applicable, is not acknowledged. Numerical responses are mostly inaccurate or incomplete. Workings are unclear or missing.
0–29	Fail	 No information or very little information presented. Almost entirely inaccurate information. No evidence of understanding. No evidence or very little evidence of reading of appropriate and relevant material. No competence or limited competence in core basic techniques of the subject. Poor, or extremely poor, structure. Lack of direction and clarity. No evidence of understanding of the basic syllabus. Fails to demonstrate adequate critical analysis. Arguments are weak or poorly constructed, with limited understanding of key concepts and minimal or no evaluation of information. Very limited or no referencing or citation. Al use, if permitted and applicable, is unacknowledged or inappropriate. Numerical responses are incorrect or absent. No evidence of method or understanding.