



**UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON**

# Programme Specification 2025–2026

Economics, Management,  
Finance and the Social  
Sciences (EMFSS)

Mathematics  
Graduate Diploma

**Important document – please read**

## Table of Contents

Important information regarding the Programme Specification .....	2
Programme title and qualifications .....	4
Entrance requirements .....	6
Educational aims and learning outcomes of the programmes .....	8
Learning, teaching and assessment strategies .....	10
Assessment methods .....	10
Student support and guidance .....	11
Quality evaluation and enhancement.....	12
After graduation .....	13

## Important information regarding the Programme Specification

### About this document

Last revised 5 August 2025

The Programme Specification gives a broad outline of the structure and content of the programme, the entry level qualifications, as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress. Some of the information referred to in a programme specification is included in more detail on the University of London website. Where this is the case, links to the relevant webpage are included.

Where links to external organisations are provided, the University of London is not responsible for their content and does not recommend nor necessarily agree with opinions expressed and services provided at those sites.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided, whether here or on the website, registered students should use the *ask a question* button in the [student portal](#) otherwise the *Contact Us* button on each webpage should be used.

### Key revisions made

Programme specifications are revised annually. The relevant committee of LSE, as part of its annual review of standards, confirms the programme structure and the educational aims and learning outcomes, and advises on any development in student support.

Where changes have been made which may impact on continuing students, these are listed below. For all new students, the programme and general information provided in this document is correct and accurate and will be applicable for the current year.

### Significant changes made to the programme specification 2025–2026:

1. While the Programme Regulations now cover students who are Locally Taught (LT), Independent Learner Route (ILR) and Online Taught (OT), this Programme Specification covers students who are LT. A separate Programme Specification is available for students who are OT. Study via the ILR is not available for this Graduate Diploma.
2. Terminology has been updated as follows:
  - a. Definition of complete course has been added and terminology changed to 'studied'.
  - b. Definition of pre-requisite course amended to a course that you must *register for* and *study* instead of *attempt* and *complete*.
  - c. Definition of co-requisite course amended to *register for* before or at the same time instead of *attempt* before or at the same time.
  - d. Definitions of Locally Taught student, Independent Learner Route student and Online Taught student have been added.
3. The computer requirements have been updated regarding requirements for Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA).

**Update 5 August 2025:** This Programme Specification has been updated to clarify that study via the ILR is not available for this Graduate Diploma.



## Terminology

The following language is specific to the EMFSS Graduate Diplomas:

<b>Course</b>	Individual units of the programme are called courses. Each course is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria.
<b>New course or new credit</b>	A course which you have never previously registered for.
<b>Compulsory course</b>	A course that is named on your programme structure.
<b>Optional course</b>	A course that is not named on your programme structure.
<b>Core course</b>	A course that needs to be passed in order to graduate. Currently there are no core courses.
<b>Studied course</b>	A 30-credit course is deemed studied if you have been registered on the course for at least five months. A 15-credit course is deemed studied if you have been registered on the course for at least two months.
<b>Attempt</b>	You will be considered to have attempted a course if you register for a course, make an assessment entry, and submit assessment elements worth at least 70% of the overall course.
<b>Pre-requisite course</b>	A course that you must register for and study before you are permitted to register for another specific course.
<b>Co-requisite course</b>	A course that you must register for either before or at the same time as another specific course.
<b>Exclusion or Excluded course</b>	A course which does not award credit if taken with other courses specified in the regulations. See Appendix B of the regulations for details.
<b>Discarded course</b>	A course that you have been registered for or attempted but is not available on your programme structure, which remains on your student record.
<b>Finalist</b>	A student who can complete their programme in that academic year as set out in the regulations.
<b>MCQ</b>	Abbreviation of multiple-choice question. A format of assessment.
<b>Locally Taught (LT) student</b>	A student who is registered at a Recognised Teaching Centre (RTC).
<b>Online Taught (OT) student</b>	A student who is registered on 2U-EMFSS programmes. Separate Programme Specification applies.
<b>Independent Learner Route (ILR) student</b>	A student who is neither LT nor OT.

## Programme title and qualifications

### Programme title

Mathematics

### Qualification

Graduate Diploma in Mathematics

### Level of the programmes

The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (FHEQ) forms part of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education of the [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education](#) (QAA).

The qualifications are placed at the following Levels of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ):

- |                                            |                |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| • Bachelor of Science degree (BSc)         | Level 6        |
| • <b>Graduate Diploma</b>                  | <b>Level 6</b> |
| • Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)      | Level 5        |
| • Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) | Level 4        |

### Relevant QAA subject benchmarks group(s)

See the [QAA website](#) for information

[Mathematics, Statistics and Operational Research](#)

### Awarding body

[University of London](#)

### Registering body

[University of London](#)

### Academic direction

[The London School of Economics and Political Science \(LSE\)](#)

### Accreditation by professional or statutory body

Not applicable

### Language of study and assessment

English

### Mode of study

Locally-supported (LT) learning.

LT students are required to attend a full- or part-time course of instruction at a teaching centre that is recognised by the University to teach the programme.

If they have not complied with their RTC's Attendance and/or Engagement Policy, they may not be permitted to sit assessment or their assessment entry may be withdrawn.

The [website](#) provides further information about the University's Recognised Teaching Centres.

## Programme structures

The Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences programmes are comprised of courses. Each course is referred to as a '100 course', '200 course' or '300 course', corresponding to the following levels of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ):

- 100 courses are placed at FHEQ Level 4
- 200 courses are placed at FHEQ Level 5
- 300 courses are placed at FHEQ Level 6

Where half courses are indicated, two half courses (15 credits) are equivalent to one full course (30 credits) in terms of structure. For each programme, some courses are compulsory, whilst others can be selected from either the relevant optional course list or from all courses, listed in Appendix B of the Programme Regulations, depending on the criteria given in the programme structure.

Each Graduate Diploma consists of 120 credits. Where the structure permits, students may take a maximum of 60 credits of 100 courses. Students must take at least 60 credits of 200 or 300 courses.

The current structure can be found on the programme's [Structure](#) page on the University of London website.

Where a student satisfies certain conditions, transfer may be permitted between different Graduate Diplomas. A student registered on a Graduate Diploma cannot transfer to a degree or the Certificate of Higher Education in Social Sciences. Instead, they would need to cancel their registration and submit a request for new registration on their chosen programme.

To be considered for the qualification of a Graduate Diploma, a student must have attempted and passed 120 credits, each course at a mark of 40 or above.

Full details of the Scheme of Award are included in the [Programme Regulations](#).

## Maximum and minimum periods of registration

The maximum and minimum period of registration, from a student's effective date of registration, are:

	Minimum	Maximum
Graduate Diploma	One year	Five years

Study materials are made available after registration and on payment of the applicable fee.

## Credit value of courses

Further information about the credit systems used by universities in the UK and Europe is provided by the [Quality Assurance Agency](#) and the [European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System](#).

Where credits are assigned to each course of a programme, credit indicates the amount of learning carried out in terms of the notional number of study hours needed, and the specified Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-awarding Bodies (FHEQ) credit level indicates the depth, complexity and intellectual demand of learning involved. The details below indicate the UK credits and the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) values.

For the Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences suite of programmes, credits are assigned to the courses as follows:

- 30 UK credits or 15 ECTS credits for a full course at level 4, or 15 UK credits or 7.5 ECTS credits for a half course at level 4
- 30 UK credits or 15 ECTS credits for a full course at level 5, or 15 UK credits or 7.5 ECTS credits for a half course at level 5
- 30 UK credits or 15 ECTS credits for a full course at level 6, or 15 UK credits or 7.5 ECTS credits for a half course at level 6

One UK credit equates to a notional ten hours of study.

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## Entrance requirements

We consider qualifications from around the world. Details are available [on the website](#).

The full list of EMFSS programmes can be found in our [Programme Regulations](#).

Applicants must submit an application in line with the procedures and deadlines set out on the [website](#).

All entrance requirements are set out in detail on the programme page under the Entrance Requirements tab.

### Entrance Requirements for the Graduate Diplomas

#### Age:

Applicants must normally be at least 17 years of age on or before 30 November in the year of initial registration.

#### Qualifications:

Applicants must have successfully completed one of the following:

- an acceptable bachelor degree
- an acceptable Master's degree (or any other acceptable/appropriately accredited Level 7 award) provided this is at least 1 year full time in duration

- an acceptable Level 5 or Level 6 award (such as an HND or Graduate Certificate) provided this is at least 1 year full time in duration. In addition applicants must submit evidence of at least 2 years relevant work experience.

In addition, applicants must meet the programme-specific requirements given on the [Requirements](#) tab on each programme's page on the website.

### English language requirements

Applicants must satisfy the English language requirements for the programme. These are set out in detail on the programme page under the Requirements tab for each programme. All teaching is in English, therefore students need to have the required level of written and spoken English to cope with their studies right from the start.

Additional information on English language proficiency tests are given on the [website](#).

Where an applicant does not meet the prescribed English language proficiency requirements but believes that they can demonstrate the requisite proficiency for admission the University may, at its discretion, consider the application.

### Internet access and computer specification

Students will require regular access to a portable computer with an internet connection to use the University of London's online resources and systems.

Students must be able to download and install software to their Windows or MacOS device to include secure examination browsers for online assessment purposes (if offered on their programme of study). Depending on the security settings for each assessment students may be required to have full administrator rights on their computer to install and run the software needed to take part in the assessment. Full administration rights are likely to apply to a computer that they own but not to one provided by their employer, for example.

### Computer requirements

The portable computer must have at least the following minimum specification:

- Windows: 10 and 11 on 64-bit platforms
- MacOS Big Sur (version 11) and higher
- CPUs newer than 2011 (Intel Sandy Bridge (Core i3, i5 and i7 or newer)
- OpenGL 2.0 graphics driver
- Local storage for the recording of proctored examinations (75MB per hour)
- Web camera and microphone (internal or external)
- A broadband internet connection capable of streaming live video.
- Minimum device requirements are subject to change and older operating systems may become obsolete over time.

It should also have the following applications installed:

- Word processor (for Microsoft Word documents)



- A PDF reader (e.g. Adobe)

Where applicable, you will be provided with any additional requirements for your assessment platform in advance of your assessment.

Certain services **will** require a mobile device for Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA). This is a key security feature that adds an extra layer of protection for your account and data, requiring two or more steps to verify your identity when logging in. This may include accepting a sign-in notification on your smartphone or entering a unique code sent via SMS or phone call to your mobile device. It is your responsibility to ensure that your mobile device meets the specified requirements for MFA.

**Please note:** full mobile access is not available for all programmes. Proctored assessments will not work on any smartphone, tablet, Chromebook, Linux Operating Systems or other mobile device of any kind.

### Students with access requirements

The University of London welcomes applications from disabled students and/or those who have access requirements. The University will make every effort to provide reasonable adjustments to enable those with a disability, learning difficulty or access requirements to have the same opportunity as all other students to successfully complete their studies.

The University is committed to managing the application procedure and the programme itself to ensure that services are accessible for all students and that an inclusive environment is created. Students with a disability, or others who may need access arrangements to assist in taking examinations, should complete the relevant section of the application form, or contact the [Inclusive Practice Manager](#). A separate room or other arrangements may be considered.

Requests are considered by a University panel, whose purpose is to ensure that students with disabilities and/or specific access requirements are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged by such arrangements when compared with other students. These considerations remain separate from the academic selection processes.

For further information, see [Inclusive Practice Policy](#)

### Sources of funding and scholarships

Information about potential sources of funding and scholarships is updated annually and where available is included in the prospectus web pages.

For further information see the [website](#)

## Educational aims and learning outcomes of the programmes

Each of the programmes within the fields of Economics, Management, Finance and Social Science aims to offer a challenging, flexible scheme of study invigorated by research, which advances a student's ability to develop academic and practical insights into the subjects studied. Students will be encouraged to develop a broad range of transferable and in some cases technical expertise.

Graduates of the programmes will have a sound basis for careers in a wide range of areas from major corporations to small businesses, government organisations, the voluntary sector, international organisation and the media.

Successful completion of a degree, with Honours, may allow a student to progress to postgraduate study in the degree field or a related area or to undertake further professional qualifications.

Within the programmes there is a natural progression between the levels. A student who passes the 100 courses (FHEQ Level 4) will have the essential introduction to that subject. The 200 and 300 courses (FHEQ Level 5 and 6) build on the 100 courses and provide opportunity to develop a more detailed understanding. Although the courses may not in themselves be more difficult, students will develop a greater understanding and a sophistication of thinking as they work through the courses.

The programmes aim to:

- promote independent critical and evaluative skills, and intellectual curiosity for life-long learning;
- expand knowledge and understanding of the chosen discipline;
- promote analytical, creative and imaginative engagement with theory, research and practice in the chosen discipline;
- encourage self-development into professionally organised and interactive individuals by practicing skills of selection, assimilation and communication.

### **Graduate Diploma in Mathematics**

This programme aims to:

- develop competence in students in the application of mathematical techniques at a high level;
- provide students with a sound knowledge of the principles underlying techniques and applications of mathematics;

The learning outcomes of the programmes are as follows:

#### **Knowledge and understanding;**

Depending on the courses studied a students may be able to:

- formulate and develop mathematical arguments in a logical manner.
- understand basic pure mathematics, and the role of logical argument in mathematics.
- show a good knowledge and understanding in advanced areas of mathematics chosen by the student from a range of topics, including some relevant to economics and finance.

#### **Intellectual, cognitive and transferable skills;**

A student will be able to:

- critically analyse logical arguments;
- communicate effectively in a written context;
- manage their own learning, including working effectively to deadlines;
- have a capacity to handle ideas and scrutinise information in critical, evaluative and analytical ways.

You can see how the Course Intended Learning Outcomes of compulsory courses map to the Programme Intended Learning Outcomes [here](#).

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## Learning, teaching and assessment strategies

LT students are required to attend a full- or part-time course of instruction at a recognised teaching centre. The study materials provided are supplemented by tuition offered by the teaching centre. The University of London does not provide tuition.

Online study materials are provided for each course studied. These include tools to assist a student in the development of the skills of information search, comprehension and analysis and the generation of original and thoughtful assignments.

The study materials offer advice on how to use the recommended textbooks which form the focus of the student's studies. Most Essential Readings are available in the University of London's Online Library but students may be required to buy certain textbooks themselves.

Advice and practical information such as study techniques, planning, preparation for assessment is available in the 'Study skills' section of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Written examinations form the greater part of the assessment of the programmes. For each course students will be assessed mainly by written examination. Questions are structured to allow students to demonstrate that they have acquired appropriate knowledge and understanding. The way that students manage data, solve problems, evaluate ideas and the organisational skills they use to structure their written answers allows the standard of intellectual and transferable skills to be assessed.

Assessment criteria for the programme take into account the level at which these skills have been achieved.

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## Assessment methods

All assessments are submitted online via a University of London platform. You must ensure that your device is kept up to date and complies with [University Computer Requirements](#).

Aside from a few exceptions, each full course is examined by one three-hour and fifteen minute unseen written assessment and each half course by one two-hour and fifteen minute unseen written assessment. The assessment for some courses also includes a Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) element, consisting of ten questions covering the first half of the course (as specified on the Course Information Sheet). The assessment of some courses also involves the submission of coursework or a project – in these cases, details are included as part of the course syllabus.

Examinations take place in May and October each year. All examinations take place on the same dates and at specific times in line with the published timetables.

For students who study at Recognised Teaching Centres, examinations are normally held at established examination centres worldwide. Otherwise, the online examinations will be proctored remotely.

Please refer to the fees schedule for information about fees payable to examination centres and for your examination entry and submission.

Full details of the dates of all assessments are available on the [website](#).

## Student support and guidance

- [The Virtual Learning Environment \(VLE\)](#): this gives access to materials for each course, including tutorial activities, study support resources and access to the programme of EMFSS webinars.
- University of London Careers Service – offers tailored careers and employability support to students whatever their course, wherever they are studying, and whether they are starting, developing, or changing their career. Support includes webinars led by careers consultants, employer and alumni panel events and a range of online careers resources.
- [Programme Handbook](#): this provides general information about the EMFSS programmes, including an overview of key policies and procedures.
- [Student Guide](#): This provides information which is common to all students and gives information about matters of importance from the start of a student's relationship with the University of London through to their graduation.
- [Student Portal](#): for accessing student induction, study skills support, careers and employability resources, student wellbeing advice.
- Online course materials for each course which introduce and develop the topics.
- Reading lists are provided online. Students may need to buy their own textbooks or use copies provided by their teaching institution, where applicable.
- Online discussion areas which allow students to communicate with each other.
- Past examination papers and examiners' commentaries. These provide an indication of the format of examinations and course-level feedback on completed assessments.
- Programme Regulations: these are a set of rules which apply to your programme – students are responsible for ensuring they are familiar with the regulations for their programme.
- [The Online Library](#) provides a range of e-books, along with full-text and multidisciplinary databases where journal articles, book reviews and reports can be found. The Online Library also has a dedicated homepage for EMFSS students.
- [University of London library](#): Registered students may use the resources located within the Senate House library (for a small additional fee).
- [The LSE library](#): Registered students may have reference access to the LSE library in London (although note there are restrictions during examination periods).
- A University of London email account and web area for personal information management.

LT students must make their own arrangements to study with teaching centres which may provide full-time or part-time classes.

## Quality evaluation and enhancement

The University of London delivers the majority of its online and distance learning programmes through a collaboration between the University of London Worldwide and University of London federation members. However, some of the flexible and distance learning programmes draw solely on academic input from the University of London and are delivered without academic lead by a federation member. The policies, partnerships (where applicable) and quality assurance mechanisms applicable for the programmes are defined in the following key documents: The [Quality Assurance Schedules, Guidelines for Examinations](#), [General Regulations](#) and, for each programme, programme specific regulations.

### Awards standards

All University of London qualifications must comply with the Office for Students' (OfS) [Conditions of Registration](#) relating to quality and standards, which includes condition B5 ([sector-recognised standards](#)). This is to ensure appropriate standards for each qualification. In addition, every online and distance learning programme that is developed by a federation member of the University of London (or a consortium with representation by more than one federation member) will be developed to the same standard as would be applied within the institution concerned. Proportionate and robust approval procedures, including external scrutiny and student engagement, are in place for all programmes. Learning materials are written and all assessments are set and marked by academic staff who are required to apply the University's academic standards.

### Review and evaluation mechanisms

Some of the key mechanisms in place to assure the standards of all University of London qualifications and the quality of the student experience, include:

- Annual programme reports: produced for all programmes in order to review and enhance the provision and to plan ahead;
- Independent external examiners: submit reports every year to confirm that a programme has been assessed properly and meets the appropriate academic standards;
- Annual student performance, progression and completion statistics
- Periodic programme reviews: carried out every 4-6 years to review how a programme has developed over time and to make sure that it remains current and continues to provide a good student experience.

Enhancements are made as necessary to ensure that systems remain effective and rigorous.

### Student feedback and engagement

The principal channel for collecting feedback from students is the Student Experience Survey. Carried out every year, this collects feedback from the student body on a range of topics relating to the student lifecycle. The results are analysed externally and then considered in a number of different ways, including by the programme team, principal committees and the senior leadership team. Details of any resulting actions taken are published on the Virtual Learning Environment and the Student Portal.

Additionally, on completion of their programme of study students will be invited to take a survey that seeks to measure what they have gained from their studies.



There are also opportunities for students to get involved in governance. An undergraduate and postgraduate student member is appointed by the University to the majority of committees through an annual appointment round. Some programmes also recruit student members at the programme level. Students are frequently invited to take part in quality review processes such as Periodic Programme Reviews, Programme approval, Thematic Reviews, MOOC review panels and ad hoc focus groups. Opportunities such as these are advertised through social media and on the website. More information can be found on the [website](#).

Students can also apply to join the Student Voice Group, which meets four times a year to consider initiatives for enhancing student experience. Notes from these meetings are published on the Student Portal.

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## After graduation

### Further study

Successful completion of an EMFSS programme may serve as preparation for students who wish to go on to take further study in the subject area – whether to be undertaken at LSE or elsewhere.

Successful completion of the Graduate Diploma may allow a student to progress onto a related postgraduate degree.

### Graduate employment routes

Graduates of the programmes will have a sound basis for careers in a wide range of areas from major corporations to small businesses, government organisations, the voluntary sector, international organisations and the media.

### The Alumni Community

Upon finishing a course of study, graduates automatically become part of the University of London alumni community, a diverse global network of more than one million graduates in over 180 countries, providing lifelong links to the University and to each other.

Alumni are encouraged to keep in touch after they graduate and to become active members of the alumni community; in return they receive a number of benefits and services, including an extensive programme of events and engagement opportunities.

More information is available on the alumni [webpage](#).

Follow the alumni community on social media: <a href="#">Facebook</a> , <a href="#">Instagram</a> , <a href="#">LinkedIn</a> .
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