



**UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**

**INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMMES**



Worldwide Access | Opportunity | International Reputation

MSc in Professional Accountancy

About the programme

Study pathways

ACCA Professional Level Students

Students will study two modules in: Strategic Financial Management and Strategic Performance Management (each 30 credits), which will be recognised by ACCA as 'options' at the professional level, plus a Strategic Financial Project (30 credits).

ACCA Members and Affiliates

Students will study a module on Global Issues in Finance (30 credits) and the Strategic Financial Project (30 credits).

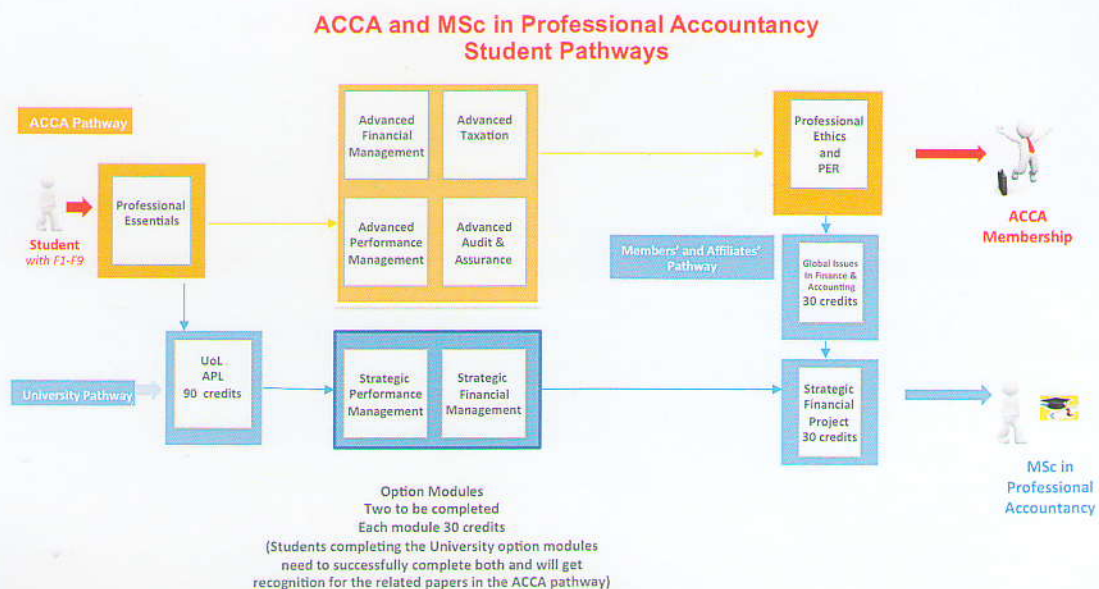
Student paced learning

Students can choose the pace of their study based on the time they can give to it. It is assumed that, on average, students will register for between one and two modules each session. This would enable them to complete the necessary 90 credits in one year.

Students must also complete the relevant ACCA papers to be eligible for the Accredited Prior Learning (APL) which is necessary for the MSc.

Each module is studied over a 22 week session, requiring an average of around 12 hours of study per week (per module).

The diagram below shows the different routes to achieve the MSc and its relationship with the ACCA professional papers.



Optional modules

Strategic Financial Management

This module looks at four main areas:

1) Corporate Finance; 2) Mergers and IPOs; 3) Investment Management; and 4) International Capital Markets. It blends core principles of financial management with business strategy.

It covers major strategic financial issues of importance to company financial officers (FDs and CFOs) and other financially-oriented corporate senior managers, including managers and analysts involved or interacting with finance-related activities and decisions.

The Strategic Financial Project

This capstone project involves the development of business research skills and their application to simulated real world accounting/finance related problems.

Students will have an opportunity to develop knowledge of research methodologies, and apply these skills to the collection and analysis of data within a simulated accounting/finance related scenario. This will involve identifying and analysing data and information in relation to business challenges, researching alternative solutions, and applying a judgement based assessment of the evidence.

Strategic Performance Management

This module provides an understanding of key issues and applied methodologies relating to strategic management accounting, including performance management, information management and evaluating financial risk. It provides the essentials a manager should have when faced with making hard-edged financial decisions in the context of a complex and ever-changing business environment.

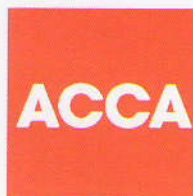
The framework for strategic management accounting is analysed in the context of providing managers with the information they need to plan for and control performance. The emphasis is on gaining insights into the blend of financial analysis and managerial judgment required to enable managers to make appropriate decisions.

Global Issues for the Finance Professional

This module provides a theoretical and practical understanding of the evolutionary nature and applications of the conceptual frameworks of finance and accounting that have arisen from changes in the external global environment. The emphasis is on the practical problems to which analysis of existing, proposed and potential principles, and the evaluation of the options available, may make a positive contribution. The module provides an opportunity for reflection in the context of their own workplace, for those who are in work.



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Who will benefit from this programme?

The opportunity to gain a prestigious Master's level qualification is open to ACCA Students, Affiliates and Members no matter what stage they are at in their professional qualification journey.

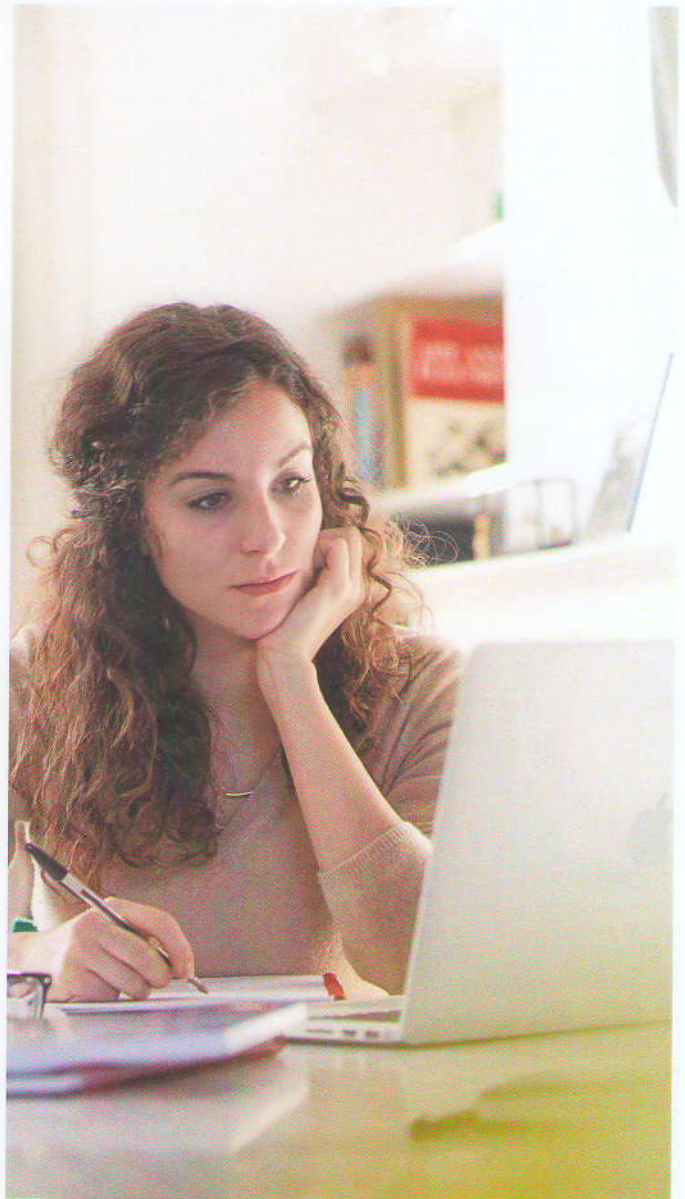
For ACCA Members who are qualified and Affiliates who have completed all the ACCA assessments, there will be a route to 'top-up' on their professional qualification with this Master's.

ACCA Students who have passed the fundamental level of the ACCA qualification will have the choice to complete the ACCA qualification by using the Master's route as an equivalent to their final two papers.

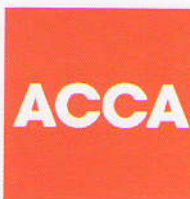
For some ACCA students, this will save time and money compared with the choice of studying for an accountancy qualification and a Master's separately.

Some ACCA students will find this route helps them meet their personal career goals in a time effective way.

Students of the Master's programme will need regular access to the internet to study the programme, to access their study materials and to submit any items of course work.



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Summary

The University of London is working with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), a leading global accountancy body, to enable students across the globe to complete an MSc in Professional Accountancy and a professional accountancy qualification at the same time.

Modules on the Master's programme are the first to be recognised by ACCA as counting towards the professional Level of the ACCA Qualification. Students enrolling on the programme, having successfully completed the three ACCA essentials papers, will receive credits towards the MSc award.

Next steps

Institutions interested in teaching this programmes should contact:

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University of London International Programmes

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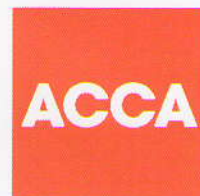
tangjie.ward@london.ac.uk

Key features

Key features of this new programme can be found overleaf.



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Key features of the programme

- The modules on the new MSc in Professional Accountancy are being developed with academic direction provided by UCL, one of the Colleges in the University of London federation.
 - Students will study using online tools and interactive learning activities. They will also have the option to attend classes and receive study support from teaching institutions and online tutors.
 - There will initially be two entry points to the programme each year, connected to the January and July study sessions.
 - Guidance and online training materials will be available to institutional and online tutors.
 - Students may be eligible to be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma or a Postgraduate Certificate if they do not complete the full master's.
- There are two routes to the MSc. The first is through completion of the three ACCA professional essentials papers and three further master's modules from the University of London (one of which is a strategic financial project). The second route is for ACCA Members and Affiliates which involves the project module and a further module covering global financial issues.
 - Registration will be open from September 2015 and the first study session will start in January 2016. Registration will close two weeks before the start of the study session.
 - Students will be able to study at a pace convenient to them.
 - The indicative cost to students will be an average of £1,300 per module, plus the additional fee charged by a teaching institution.

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About the partners in this project

About the University of London

The University of London is a federal University and is one of the largest and most diverse universities in the UK. Established by Royal Charter in 1836, the University is recognised globally as a world leader in Higher Education. It consists of 17 self-governing Colleges and 10 specialised Institutes of outstanding reputation.

Across the Federation there are approximately 175,000 students: around 120,000 in the London based Colleges and about 54,000 worldwide studying with the University of London International Programmes.

The role of the University of London International Programmes is to provide the administrative systems, processes and infrastructure to support students in gaining qualifications; to provide leadership on all quality assurance issues; and to manage and support local teaching institutions.



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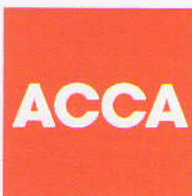
About ACCA

ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) is the global body for professional accountants. It offers business-relevant, qualifications to people of application, ability and ambition around the world who seek a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management.

ACCA supports its 170,000 members and 436,000 students in 180 countries, helping them to develop successful careers in accounting and business, with the skills required by employers. ACCA works through a network of 91 offices and centres and more than 8,500 Approved Employers worldwide, who provide high standards of employee learning and development.

Through its public interest remit, ACCA promotes appropriate regulation of accounting and conducts relevant research to ensure accountancy continues to grow in reputation and influence.

Founded in 1904, ACCA has consistently held unique core values: opportunity, diversity, innovation, integrity and accountability. It believes that accountants bring value to economies in all stages of development and seeks to develop capacity in the profession and encourage the adoption of global standards. More information is here: www.accaglobal.com.



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About UCL

UCL, a College of the University of London, was established in 1826 to open up education in England to students of any race, class or religion. It is consistently ranked in the top 20 Universities in the world and attracts students from 150 countries. World-leading research feeds directly into its degree programmes.

The Department of Management Science

and Innovation at UCL is responsible for the academic management and delivery of the programme. Its focus is on innovation, technology management and commercialisation, (<https://www.msi.ucl.ac.uk>).

A Programme Director appointed by UCL will ensure that the programme is delivered as scheduled and that all aspects of delivery have been completed to the requisite standards.



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The role of teaching institutions

Teaching institutions will play an important role in providing optional study support to those students who value structured support and opportunities to work with other students.

Institutions who support the programme are likely to either be:

- Those who are already working with the University of London International Programmes as recognised or candidate centres and have the capacity and desire to work at postgraduate level in this academic subject. In some cases they may also have a relationship with ACCA and be supporting the fundamentals and/or professional level papers.
- Existing ACCA Approved Learning Partners (ALP) who have the capacity to support students at the professional level and postgraduate level and have the potential to be teaching institutions for the university and enter the approval process. As these organisations have already attained the requirements for ACCA approval, there

will be evidence of their record and suitability.

- New institutions who have expressed a desire to work with the university at postgraduate level and/or in the area of professional courses.

Recognition of institutions

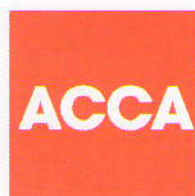
Institutions who wish to support students on this programme will be recognised through the University of London Teaching Institutions Recognition Framework (TIRF – see http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/sites/default/files/teaching_institutions_recognition_framework_a1.pdf).

As part of this process tutors will be recognised and provided with online training and guidance.

Institutions who are not already recognised as an 'Approved Learning Partner' will be encouraged to secure approval within the gold and platinum levels of recognition.



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What support will institutions offer?

The style of support that institutions offer should aim to facilitate learning rather than focus on delivering lectures and seminars to teach the content. Classes might, for example, go through case studies or lead a discussion on how concepts can be applied or help with study skills.

Regular classes could be full time or evening/weekends or in blocks, depending on student needs.

What support will University of London offer institutions?

The University of London will provide on-line guidance for Institutional Tutors as part of the initial induction to delivering the programme. They will also provide an online induction programme for all tutors plus module based discussion forums to connect all tutors involved in supporting each module.



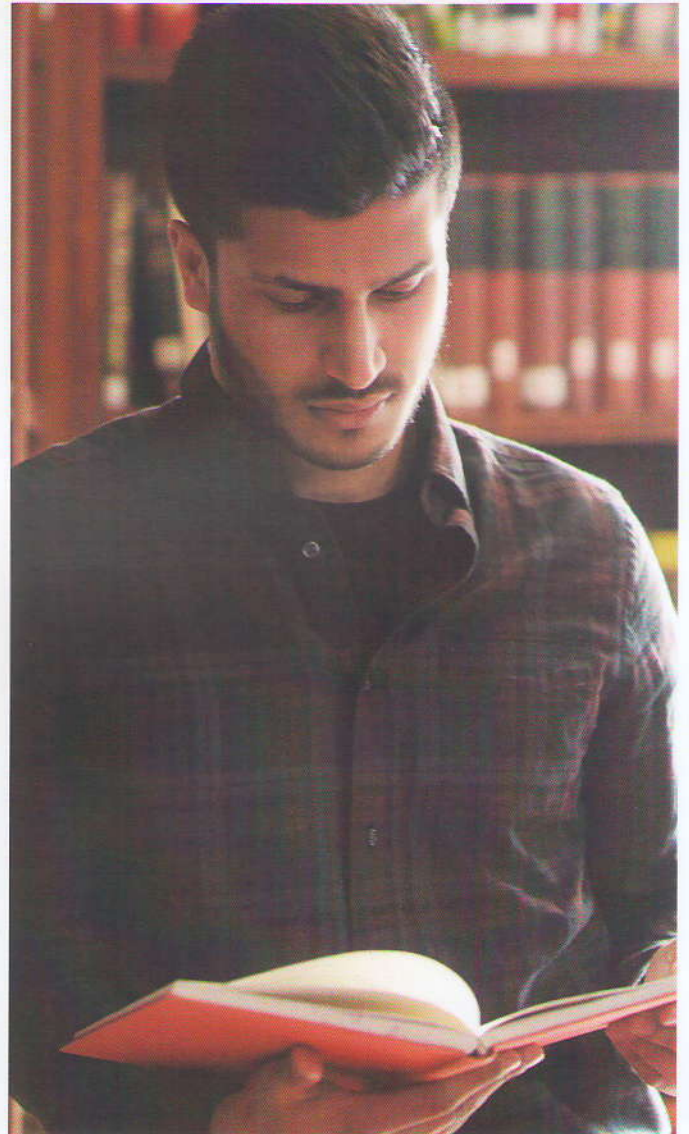
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Pricing to students and commercial arrangements with institutions

ACCA will run a marketing campaign aimed at its students, affiliates and members. During the application process it will provide evidence relating to ACCA qualifications to corroborate student applications to the programme.

Students enrolling as Institution Supported Learners will pay a Module Fee to the University of London, which incorporates access to all learning materials and online connectivity to discussion forums and online tools and resources. The Module Fee will also incorporate the first examination fee attempt. The indicative cost to students will be an average of £1,300 per module.

In addition to the Module Fee students will pay the Institution for local support at a rate decided by the Institution.



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Interactive and Supported Study

Students will study using online resources and texts with formative assessments, learning activities and facilities for student and tutor interaction.

The learning materials will be available through a range of different formats and devices, including: e-readers; tablets and notebook computers.

Students can choose to be 'Web Supported' or 'Institutional Supported'. Web Supported learners will have access to an Online Tutor rather than a personal tutor based at a teaching institution.

Online Tutors will generally provide support to an allocated group of students and undertake such activities as:

- Providing an introduction to the module at the start of the session;
- Providing guidance on assessment;
- Providing interventions at key points in the session;
- Monitoring online forums and responding to any queries.

Online tutors are appointed by the University of London, in collaboration with UCL and will be supported by student advisors based in the University of London.

Assessment

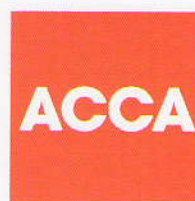
Assessment for the modules will normally be a mix of coursework and final examinations (typically a three hour unseen written paper). Continuous assessment will account for around 30% of the module marks. Assessment will enable the development of a range of skills, including critical thinking, presentation, research and report writing.

The project will incorporate two items of coursework.

Exams can be taken locally in our worldwide network of study centres.



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