

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF FINANCE (BFin)<sup>1</sup>**

*These regulations apply to students admitted in the academic year 2006-2007 and thereafter.*

*(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)*

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### **Admission to the degree**

- BF 1** To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Finance, candidates shall
- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
  - (c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with the regulations that follow and the syllabuses of the degree.
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### **Length of study**

- BF 2** The curriculum shall normally require six semesters of full-time study, spreading over three academic years. Candidates shall in any case be required to complete the curriculum within five academic years, unless otherwise permitted by the Dean of the Faculty or his designate.
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### **Completion of the curriculum**

- BF 3** To complete the curriculum, candidates
- (a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG 3 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
  - (b) shall enrol and attempt examination in not less than 180 credits of courses, in the manner specified in the syllabuses;
  - (c) shall normally be required to satisfactorily complete at least 60 credits of courses in an academic year, in a manner as prescribed in the syllabuses;
  - (d) shall normally select not less than 24 and not more than 39 credits of courses in each regular semester; and not more than 78 credits in an academic year<sup>1</sup>, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Dean of the Faculty or his designate;
  - (e) may select not more than 12 credits of courses in each summer semester<sup>2</sup>, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Dean of the Faculty or his designate;
  - (f) may be required by the Dean of the Faculty or his designate to take a reduced study load if their academic progression is unsatisfactory.
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### **Advanced standing**

- BF 4** Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully in an approved institution of higher education elsewhere in accordance with UG 2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Advanced credits granted shall not be included in the calculation of the Semester GPA, Cumulative GPA or taken into consideration for the honours classification of the degree to be awarded.

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<sup>1</sup> Not offered in 2010-2011.

**Selection of courses**

**BF 5** Candidates shall select courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines specified in the syllabuses before the beginning of each semester. Changes to the selection of courses may be made during add-drop period designated for each semester, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript of the candidates. Requests for changes after the designated add-drop period of a semester shall not be considered, and candidates withdrawing from any course without permission after the designated add-drop period of a semester shall be given an F grade.

**BF 6** Candidates shall not be permitted to select a second- or third-year course for which the failed course forms a prerequisite unless permission is given by the department concerned to sit a qualifying examination in the failed course and satisfy the examiners in this.

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**Assessment**

**BF 7** Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses which they have registered for, and assessment may be conducted in any one or any combination of the following manners: written examinations or tests, continuous assessment of performance, laboratory work, field work, research or project reports, or in any other manner as specified in the syllabuses.

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**Grades**

**BF 8** Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

**BF 9** Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat courses for which they have received a pass grade for upgrading purposes.

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**Absence from examination**

**BF 10** Failure to take the examination as scheduled will automatically result in course failure under normal circumstances. Candidates who are unable, because of illness or other acceptable reason, to be present at any examinations of a course, may apply for permission to present themselves for a supplementary at some other time. Failure to sit for the supplementary examination as arranged shall automatically result in course failure.

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**Failure in examination**

**BF 11** Candidates who have failed a course will be required to retake the course again or to take another course as substitution in the case of failure in an elective course.

**BF 12** The maximum number of attempts for a particular course or requirement, including retakes and re-examinations, is three.

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**Unsatisfactory performance**

**BF 13** Candidates shall be put on probation, in accordance with the arrangements of the Faculty, if their semester GPA is lower than 1.5 in any regular semester; and shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provisions of General Regulations G 12 if their semester GPA is lower than 1.5 for two consecutive regular semesters disregarding any summer semester or period of absence in between.

**Award of degree**

**BF 14** To be eligible for the award of the degree of BFin, candidates shall have

- (a) achieved a cumulative GPA of 1.5 or above;
  - (b) accumulated a minimum of 180 credits and passed all the compulsory courses required in the syllabuses; and
  - (c) satisfied the requirements in UG 3 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.
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**Degree classification**

**BF 15** The degree of Bachelor of Finance shall be awarded in five divisions:

First Class Honours  
Second Class Honours Division One  
Second Class Honours Division Two  
Third Class Honours  
Pass

**BF 16** The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners at its full discretion by taking into account the overall performance of the candidates and other relevant factors as appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> An 'academic year' comprises two regular semesters, with dates as prescribed by the Senate each year. A 'summer semester' may be organised in addition to the two regular semesters.

<sup>2</sup> Students are normally not allowed to take summer course(s) in their final-year of study.

## SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF FINANCE

*These syllabuses apply to students admitted in the academic year 2007-2008 and thereafter.*

1. Candidates must enrol and attempt examination in not less than 180 credits of courses in accordance with the regulations and the syllabuses. In addition, the 180 credits of courses should be completed in the following manner:
 

Language/Information Technology/Broadening courses (Note a)	24 credits
Core courses - first year	36 credits
- second/third year (Note b)	30 credits
Second/third year Economics/Finance electives	30 credits
Intra-faculty electives/Inter-faculty electives	60 credits
2. To fulfil the graduation requirement of this degree as specified by the Board of the Faculty of Business and Economics in accordance with UG 3 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula, candidates must satisfactorily complete the credits of courses with an asterisk(\*) beside. Those courses are in one of the following areas of study: English language studies, Chinese language studies, science and technology, culture and value studies, and information technology.
3. The courses listed will not necessarily be offered every year; from time to time, depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered. The School of Economics and Finance will only offer electives for which sufficient student demand has been expressed in any one year.
4. For courses offered by the School of Economics and Finance, the final examination is normally 2 hours in length, unless otherwise specified by individual teacher at the start of the semester. Final grading will be determined by performance in the examination and an assessment of coursework in a ratio that is to be announced by the teacher at the beginning of each semester.
5. Candidates may take a maximum of 78 credits of Year I level courses, unless otherwise specified in the syllabuses. "ECEN2905 English for professional communication for economics and finance students" is counted as a Year I level course for this purpose.
6. Candidates are required to take not less than 60 but not more than 96 credits of second/third year courses from those listed in the BFin curriculum. 30 of the 60 credits are core: ECON2101, ECON2102, ECON0701, FINA0301 and FINA2802. Courses ECON2101, ECON2102, ECON0701, and FINA2802 must be taken in the second year of study.
7. Candidates must select 60 credits of intra-faculty/inter-faculty electives by taking at least 36 credits of intra-faculty electives (courses offered by the School of Economics and Finance or the School of Business) and at least 12 credits of inter-faculty electives (courses offered by other departments).
8. Minor (optional)  
Candidates admitted in the academic year 2004-05 and thereafter are given an option to pursue minor(s) according to the criteria listed in the section of "Minor Programs Available to FBE students".
9. Final year candidates may select up to four courses offered under the syllabuses for the Master of Economics (MEcon) as third year economics electives, subject to availability and the approval of the Director of the School of Economics and Finance. Each of these MEcon courses carries 6 credits, unless otherwise specified.
10. Candidates are required to take at least one 6-credit HKU course as prescribed in the syllabuses, with international or global content, and excluding courses for the fulfillment of Science and technology, Culture and value requirement, or any language courses. See the list of "International/ Global Content Course for FBE Students" on page 92.
11. Candidates are not permitted to enrol in courses where significant portions of the course contents overlap with each other, or where the courses are mutually exclusive. See the list of "Mutually Exclusive Course for FBE Students" on page 93.

## Notes

- (a) Courses marked with \* and # in Year one and Year two syllabuses. Candidates who cannot complete Science and Technology, Cultural and Value or broadening requirements by the end of the academic year 2009-10 shall be required to fulfill the outstanding requirement by taking a Common Core course in lieu of from the academic year 2010-11 onwards.
- (b) If a candidate is exempted from the mathematics requirement (see note 4 for Year one syllabus), the elective taken in lieu of will be counted towards the 36 credits of first year core courses.

## YEAR ONE

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Credits</i>
<b>BUSI1002.</b>	<b>Introduction to accounting<sup>1</sup></b>	6
<b>FINA1003.</b>	<b>Corporate finance<sup>2</sup></b>	6
<b>CBBA0001.</b>	<b>Practical Chinese language course for business, economics and finance students*</b>	3
<b>ECEN1904.</b>	<b>English for academic communication for economics and finance students*</b>	3
<b>ECON1001.</b>	<b>Introduction to economics I</b>	6
<b>ECON1002.</b>	<b>Introduction to economics II</b>	6
	<b>Statistics requirement:</b>	
<b>ECON1003.</b>	<b>Analysis of economic data <i>or</i></b>	6
<b>STAT0301.</b>	<b>Elementary Statistical Methods <i>or</i></b>	
<b>STAT1306.</b>	<b>Introductory statistics</b>	
	<b>Mathematics requirement<sup>3</sup>:</b>	
<b>MATH0201.</b>	<b>Basic Calculus <i>or</i></b>	6
<b>MATH1804.</b>	<b>University Mathematics A</b>	
<b>YITC1001.</b>	<b>Foundation to information technology<sup>4*</sup></b>	3
<b>xxxxx.</b>	<b>Culture and value studies* <i>or</i></b>	3
<b>xxxxx.</b>	<b>Inter-faculty elective*</b>	
<b>xxxxx.</b>	<b>Science and technology studies*</b>	3
<b>xxxxx.</b>	<b>Broadening courses/inter-faculty electives<sup>#</sup></b>	6
<b>xxxxx.</b>	<b>Elective</b>	3

<sup>1</sup> The course shall be taken in first year first semester.

<sup>2</sup> The course shall be taken in first year second semester.

<sup>3</sup> Candidates with a pass in A-level Mathematics or equivalent are exempted but must take another elective in lieu of.

<sup>4</sup> Candidates are exempted from the course if they obtain a pass in YITC1002 Information Technology Proficiency Test but must take another broadening course in lieu of.

## YEAR TWO

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Credits</i>
<b>ECEN2905.</b>	<b>English for professional communication for economics and finance students*</b>	3
<b>ECON0701.</b>	<b>Introductory econometrics</b>	6
<b>ECON2101.</b>	<b>Microeconomic theory</b>	6
<b>ECON2102.</b>	<b>Macroeconomic theory</b>	6
<b>FINA0301.</b>	<b>Derivatives</b>	6
<b>FINA2802.</b>	<b>Investments and portfolio analysis</b>	6
<b>xxxxx.</b>	<b>Economics/Finance/intra-faculty/inter-faculty electives</b>	27

**YEAR THREE**

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Credits</i>
xxxxx.	<b>Economic/Finance/intra-faculty/inter-faculty electives</b>	60

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**YEAR TWO OR YEAR THREE ELECTIVES**

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Credits</i>
<b>ECON0204.</b>	<b>The economics of finance</b>	6
<b>ECON0205.</b>	<b>Theories of investment</b>	6
<b>ECON0206.</b>	<b>Capital theory</b>	6
<b>ECON0207.</b>	<b>Monetary economics</b>	6
<b>ECON0208.</b>	<b>Economics of banking</b>	6
<b>ECON0209.</b>	<b>Finance and development</b>	6
<b>ECON0210.</b>	<b>Investment, technology and economic growth</b>	6
<b>ECON0302.</b>	<b>International finance</b>	6
<b>ECON0602.</b>	<b>Foreign trade and investment in China</b>	6
<b>ECON0707.</b>	<b>Economic forecasting</b>	6
<b>ECON3505.</b>	<b>Project evaluation</b>	6
<b>FINA0102.</b>	<b>Financial markets and institutions</b>	6
<b>FINA0103.</b>	<b>International banking</b>	6
<b>FINA0104.</b>	<b>Management of commercial banks</b>	6
<b>FINA0105.</b>	<b>International financial management</b>	6
<b>FINA0106.</b>	<b>Insurance: theory and practice</b>	6
<b>FINA0303.</b>	<b>Case studies in corporate finance</b>	6
<b>FINA0304.</b>	<b>Advanced corporate finance</b>	6
<b>FINA0401.</b>	<b>Empirical finance</b>	6
<b>FINA0402.</b>	<b>Mathematical finance</b>	6
<b>FINA0403.</b>	<b>Financial engineering</b>	6
<b>FINA0404.</b>	<b>Spreadsheet financial modeling</b>	6
<b>FINA0405.</b>	<b>Interest rate models</b>	6
<b>FINA0501.</b>	<b>Asian financial institutions</b>	6
<b>FINA0601.</b>	<b>Quantitative risk management</b>	6
<b>FINA0602.</b>	<b>Operational issues and cases in quantitative finance</b>	6
<b>FINA0603.</b>	<b>Behavioral finance</b>	6
<b>FINA0604.</b>	<b>Financial practicum</b>	6
<b>FINA0804.</b>	<b>Fixed income securities</b>	6
<b>FINA0805.</b>	<b>Real estate finance</b>	6
<b>FINA1001.</b>	<b>Financial statement analysis</b>	6
<b>FINA3806.</b>	<b>Risk management</b>	6
<b>FINA3807.</b>	<b>Special topics in finance</b>	6

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**YEAR THREE ELECTIVES**

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Credits</i>
<b>FINA3601.</b>	<b>Reading course</b>	6
<b>FINA3602.</b>	<b>Dissertation</b>	12

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Note: Year two and Year three syllabuses and course structure are subject to changes.

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*Candidates admitted to this programme could refer to Elective Courses Section offered by other Faculties and Centres.*