

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE
(BECON&FIN)**

These regulations apply to students admitted in the academic year 2010-2011 and thereafter.

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

Admission to the degree

BEF 1 To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Economics and 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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Period of study

BEF 2 The curriculum for the degree of Bachelor of Economics and Finance shall normally require six semesters of full-time study, spreading over three academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/ or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall in any case be required to complete the curriculum within five academic years, unless otherwise required or permitted by the Board of the Faculty.

Curriculum requirements and progression in curriculum

BEF 3 To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
 - (b) shall enroll and attempt examination in not fewer than 180 credits of courses, in the manner specified in the syllabuses;
 - (c) shall normally be required to enroll in at least 60 credits of courses in an academic year¹, in a manner as prescribed in the syllabuses;
 - (d) shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester), or except in the last semester of study when candidates may be required to take fewer than 24 credits to satisfy the outstanding curriculum requirements;
 - (e) may, of their own volition, take further credits during the regular or summer semesters², accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year¹;
 - (f) may, with the approval of the Board of Faculty, exceed 72 credits in an academic year¹ provided that the total number of credits taken shall not exceed 216 credits; or where courses taken to make up for failed credits are inclusive, the total number of credits shall not exceed 360 credits;
 - (g) shall select courses accumulating 72 credits to declare a first major in Economics and 60 credits for a second major in Finance, as prescribed in the syllabuses, and to take electives to make up the balance of 180 credits;
 - (h) may be required by the Board of the Faculty to take a reduced study load if their academic progression is unsatisfactory.
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Advanced Standing

BEF 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 standing credits granted shall not be included in the calculation of the Semester, Year or Cumulative GPA, nor be taken into consideration for the honours classification of the degree to be awarded.

Selection of courses

BEF 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 an 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.

BEF 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.

Assessment

BEF 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.

Grades

BEF 8 Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG 8(a) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

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

Absence from examination

BEF 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 examination to be held not later than the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Failure to sit for the supplementary examination as arranged shall automatically result in course failure. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

Failure in examination

- BEF 11** Candidates are required to make up for a failed course in the following manner:
- (a) undergoing re-assessment/ re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
 - (b) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
 - (c) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
 - (d) for an elective course, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

BEF 12 The maximum number of attempts for a particular course or requirement is three.

Unsatisfactory performance

BEF 13 Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provisions of General Regulations G 12 and UG4(e) if they have:

- (a) failed to complete successfully 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters, or
 - (b) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters, or
 - (c) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in BEF 2.
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Award of degree

BEF 14 To be eligible for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Economics and Finance, candidates shall have:

- (a) achieved a cumulative GPA of 1.0 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 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.
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Degree classification

BEF 15 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.

A list of the successful candidates for the degree Bachelor of Economics and Finance shall be published in five divisions:

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

and a pass list shall be posted on Faculty notice boards.

¹ 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.

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

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

These syllabuses apply to students admitted in the academic year 2010-2011 and thereafter.

1. Candidates must enroll and attempt examination in not fewer 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:

UG 5 requirements [21 credits]	
Language*	9 credits
HKU Common Core Curriculum*	12 credits
First Major in Economics [72 credits]	
- First year Core courses	24 credits
- Second year Core courses	18 credits
- Second/third year disciplinary electives (List A/B)	30 credits
Second Major in Finance [60 credits]	
- First year Core courses	12 credits
- Second year Core courses	12 credits
- Second/third year disciplinary electives (List A/B)	36 credits
Free Electives [27 credits]	27 credits
Total credits for degree programme	180 credits

2. To fulfill the graduation requirement of this degree as specified by the Board of the Faculty of Business and Economics in accordance with UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula, candidates must satisfactorily complete the credits of courses identified by an asterisk(*). Those courses include the following areas of study: English language enhancement (6 credits), Chinese language enhancement (3 credits) and Common Core courses (12 credits).
3. The Common Core courses are categorized under four Areas of Inquiry (AoI): Scientific and Technological Literacy, Humanities, Global Issues, and China: Culture, State and Society. Candidates must complete a total of 12 credits, selecting no more than 6 credits from each Area of Inquiry.
4. The courses listed in the syllabus 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.
5. 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 (40-60%) and an assessment of coursework (40-60%) except for final project/ final papers which will be assessed by 100% coursework.
6. Candidates may take a maximum of 78 credits of junior level courses, unless otherwise specified in the syllabuses. "CAES2905 English for professional communication for economics and finance students" is counted as a junior level course for this purpose.
7. Candidates are required to take 96 credits of second/third year courses from those listed in the BEcon&Fin syllabus. 30 of the 96 credits are core courses inclusive of ECON2101, ECON2102, ECON0701, FINA0301 and FINA2802. Courses ECON2101, ECON2102, ECON0701, and FINA2802 must be taken in the second year of study. The disciplinary electives in the BEcon&Fin curriculum are grouped into List A (Economics courses) and List B (Finance courses). Students must select not fewer than 24 credits from List A and not fewer than 24 credits from List B for the Economics major and Finance major, respectively, and the remaining disciplinary credits for each major can be selected from either List A or B.

8. **Additional Minor**
Candidates are allowed to pursue additional FBE minors according to the criteria listed in the section of “Minor Programs Available to FBE students”. Candidates are also free to pursue an additional minor in disciplines outside of this Faculty. In pursuing a minor candidates are likely to take additional credits which will exceed 180 credits, up to a maximum of 216 credits for the entire degree programme.
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 in List A, 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. To gain international or global perspectives, candidates are strongly encouraged to enroll in a course with international or global content or by taking a Common Core course in Global Issues (AoI). A suggested list of “International/ Global Content Course for FBE Students” can be found on page 92.
11. Candidates are not permitted to enroll 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.

1. UG 5 requirements [21 credits]

(a) Language [9 credits]

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Year of study</i>	<i>Credits</i>
CBBA0001.^	Practical Chinese language course for business, economics and finance students*	1	3
CAES1904.	English for academic communication for economics and finance students*	1	3
CAES2905.	English for professional communication for economics and finance students*	2	3

^ Putonghua-speaking students must take CUND0002 or CUND0003. Students who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CBBA0001 can apply to the Faculty:

- (i) to take credit-bearing Cantonese or Putonghua language courses offered by the School of Chinese (especially for international and exchange students), or
- (ii) for exemption from Chinese language requirement and take an elective course in lieu.

(b) HKU Common Core Curriculum* [12 credits]

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2. First Major in Economics [72 credits]

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Year of study</i>	<i>Credits</i>
ECON1001.	Introduction to economics I	1	6
ECON1002.	Introduction to economics II	1	6
ECON0701.	Introductory econometrics	2	6
ECON2101.	Microeconomic theory	2	6
ECON2102.	Macroeconomic theory	2	6

<i>Statistics requirement – choose one of the following:</i>		1	6
ECON1003.	Analysis of economic data or		
STAT0301.	Elementary statistical methods or		
STAT1301.	Probability and statistics I or		
STAT1306.	Introductory statistics		
<i>Mathematics requirement³ - choose one of the following:</i>		1	6
MATH0201.	Basic calculus or		
MATH1804.	University mathematics A		
Disciplinary electives		2 or 3	30
Total credits for first major			72

3. Second Major in Finance [60 credits]

<i>Course code</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Year of study</i>	<i>Credits</i>
BUSI1002.	Introduction to accounting ¹	1	6
FINA1003.	Corporate finance ²	1	6
FINA0301.	Derivatives	2	6
FINA2802.	Investments and portfolio analysis	2	6
Disciplinary electives		2 or 3	36
Total credits for second major			60

4. Free Electives [27 credits] – any courses except Common Core courses.

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Notes:

1. The course shall be taken in first year first semester.
2. The course shall be taken in first year second semester.
3. Candidates with a pass in A-level Mathematics or equivalent are exempted but must take another elective in lieu of; the replacement elective shall be counted towards the 24 credits of first year core courses for the primary major.

REFERENCE TABLE

Year	Lang.	Common Core	First Major (Core)	Second Major (Core)	Second/third year ECON/ FINA electives	Free Electives	Total
I	6 credits	12 credits	24 credits	12 credits	-	6 credits	60 credits
II	3 credits	-	18 credits	12 credits	66 credits	21 credits	60 credits
III	-	-	-	-			60 credits
Total	9 credits	12 credits	42 credits	24 credits	66 credits	27 credits	180 credits

YEAR TWO or YEAR THREE ELECTIVES**List A (Economics courses)**

Course code	Course title	Credits
ECON0103.	Economics of human resources	6
ECON0104.	Public finance	6
ECON0106.	Games and decisions	6
ECON0107.	History of economic thought	6
ECON0109.	Topics in macroeconomics	6
ECON0204.	The economics of finance	6
ECON0205.	Theories of investment	6
ECON0206.	Capital theory	6
ECON0207.	Monetary economics	6
ECON0208.	Economics of banking	6
ECON0209.	Finance and development	6
ECON0210.	Investment, technology and economic growth	6
ECON0301.	Theory of international trade	6
ECON0302.	International finance	6
ECON0401.	Comparative economic systems	6
ECON0402.	Industrial organization	6
ECON0403.	The economics of property rights	6
ECON0405.	The economics of law	6
ECON0406.	State, law and the economy	6
ECON0407.	Political economy of the public policy	6
ECON0501.	Economic development	6
ECON0503.	Urban economics	6
ECON0504.	Transportation economics	6
ECON0601.	Economic development of China	6
ECON0602.	Foreign trade and investment in China	6
ECON0603.	The economic system of Hong Kong	6
ECON0605.	Economic history of China	6
ECON0606.	Current economic affairs	6
ECON0607.	Economics of population changes	6
ECON0608.	Great events in history: an economic analysis	6
ECON0702.	Mathematical methods in economics	6
ECON0703.	Mathematical economics	6
ECON0706.	Uncertainty and information	6
ECON0707.	Economic forecasting	6
ECON3108.	Selected topics in price theory	6
ECON3505.	Project evaluation	6

YEAR THREE ELECTIVES**List A (Economics courses)**

Course code	Course title	Credits
ECON3801.	Reading course	6
ECON3802.	Dissertation	12

YEAR TWO or YEAR THREE ELECTIVES**List B (Finance courses)**

Course code	Course title	Credits
FINA0102.	Financial markets and institutions	6
FINA0103.	International banking	6
FINA0104.	Management of commercial banks	6
FINA0105.	International financial management	6
FINA0106.	Insurance: theory and practice	6
FINA0303.	Case studies in corporate finance	6
FINA0304.	Advanced corporate finance	6
FINA0401.	Empirical finance	6
FINA0402.	Mathematical finance	6
FINA0403.	Financial engineering	6
FINA0404.	Spreadsheet financial modeling	6
FINA0405.	Interest rate models	6
FINA0501.	Asian financial institutions	6
FINA0601.	Quantitative risk management	6
FINA0602.	Operational issues and cases in quantitative finance	6
FINA0603.	Behavioral finance	6
FINA0604.	Financial practicum	6
FINA0605.	Alternative investments	6
FINA0804.	Fixed income securities	6
FINA0805.	Real estate finance	6
FINA1001.	Financial statement analysis	6
FINA3806.	Risk management	6
FINA3807.	Special topics in finance	6

YEAR THREE ELECTIVES**List B (Finance courses)**

Course code	Course title	Credits
FINA3601.	Reading course	6
FINA3602.	Dissertation	12

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