

Business Economics

MSc



Location: London City campus, Moorgate

Starts September	Yes
Starts February	Yes
Full-time	Yes
Part-time evening	Yes

Aims of the course

The course aims to equip you with an up-to-date advanced analysis of business economics. It provides a balanced exposition of theoretical and operational issues in business economics, including analytical techniques and quantitative research methods appropriate for analysing complex problems and issues in the field. An emphasis on case study will focus on key sectors as a means of developing your analytical skills and knowledge base. The course will also develop your ability to undertake business research.

The course is taught by academics who are actively involved in internationally recognised research and consultancy work for major institutions and agencies. The Economics Subject Group's teaching is rated as 'Excellent' by the UK Government's Quality Assurance Agency, which is the highest possible rating available for a UK university department. In research we are rated 3A in the UK Government's Research Assessment Exercise, which puts the Department in the top 30% of UK universities and in a category alongside other major universities also highly regarded in research. The international student and staff body at London Metropolitan Business School facilitates a cultural diversity that adds to the international aspects of the course.

Duration and attendance

Full-time: 1 year

Part-time: 2 – 4 years

Dates/timetable

Autumn semester: September – January

Spring semester: February – June

Course structure

The course consists of four compulsory modules, two optional modules and the dissertation (which is triple weighted).

Core modules

Business Economics – You will examine the advanced theoretical and applied business economics literature as a basis for understanding the economics of modern firms. This module seeks to provide you with a theoretical, empirical and practical understanding of the economics of business behaviour.

International Business – Develops your knowledge and awareness of the issues faced by companies engaged in identifying and developing their overseas operations. The subject is approached from a number of perspectives, mainly economical but also political, and covers the functional disciplines of strategic planning, finance, marketing, human resources management and operations management. Most importantly, this module seeks to show how the international environment influences company policies and strategies.

Competition and Regulation Policy – This module provides you with a theoretical and empirical analysis of the influence of competition and regulation policy on industrial economic behaviour.

Quantitative Research Methods – Develops your critical understanding of the fundamental mathematical and econometric methodology employed in theoretical research and empirical analysis in the area of banking, business and finance. This module also provides you with the tools necessary to undertake empirical analysis in the area of economics, banking and finance using regression analysis.

Dissertation

This is normally the last part of your course and enables you to engage in a research project on an approved topic reflecting the material covered in a subject specific core module. Your research and report must reflect the analytical and technical (mathematical, statistical, IT) depth of the taught core modules. It may be based on work related to your employment, a particular academic journal article(s) or an original idea. It will frequently include a review of the existing literature and the collection and analysis of data using statistical methods.

The dissertation is the largest piece of assessed work undertaken on the MSc and is seen as the clearest expression of your ability to study at Masters level. You will be allocated a supervisor for your dissertation who will support you throughout the process of research that will culminate in a 12,000 – 15,000 word thesis.

Optional modules

Emerging Markets in a Global Economy – Examines actual experience of emerging markets in the light of new economic theories, including new growth and trade theories, technology diffusion, institutions and growth acceleration theories. You will investigate the performance of these economies in a global context as well as the interaction between these economies and multilateral financial trading organisations including WTO, IMF and the World Bank.

International Business Strategy – Focuses on the strategic decision making process related to multinational, global and transnational companies. This module develops your understanding of the different schools of strategic thought and relates these to ideas of globalisation and its advantages and disadvantages. You will develop an understanding of the mind of the strategist and gain a global perspective of current issues in business strategy. This module also evaluates the nature of ethnocentrism in decision making, broadens your awareness of conducting business internationally and develops appropriate analytical and presentation skills to support your critical ability.

International Business of China, Japan and South Asia – Over the past few decades South Asia has become the world's leading manufacturing region, with China as its central hub. This development has huge implications for other regions in the world economy, offering opportunities and presenting problems in equal measure. You will address these issues by examining the post-war Asian economic and business paradigm first developed by Japan, subsequently modified by South Korea and the other Asian 'tiger' economies, and finally incorporated into China's 'one country, two systems' growth strategy.

International Finance – You will examine key aspects of the international monetary system, the new international financial architecture, the European Monetary Union and the Euro, the functioning of exchange rate and world capital markets, the causes of currency crises, and the recent financial crisis. You will analyse the theoretical and empirical aspects of international finance and explore contemporary policy and institutional issues in the world financial system and global capital markets.

Economics of Human Resource Management – You will examine the use of economic analysis in relation to human resource management issues, including the establishment of efficient and effective recruitment strategies, compensation systems and skills enhancement policy.

Economics of European Integration – Provides you with a thorough understanding of the economic theory underpinning the process of European Integration and introduces the principal developments and issues which confront the contemporary European economy.

Corporate Treasury Management – You will examine some popular instruments used by corporate treasurers to manage the asset/liability structure of the enterprise for which they are working. The valuation of these instruments, such as floating rate notes, special swaps, convertible, exchangeable, callable and puttable bonds, will be examined in detail. Any risks faced by the treasurer's enterprise when using these instruments will be identified and suitable hedges are explored. You will take part in computer workshops in order to gain a full understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the valuation and hedging methods introduced.

Advanced Macroeconomics – Develops your understanding of the fundamentals of modern macroeconomic theory at a standard that goes well beyond undergraduate level. Major theories concerning the central questions of macroeconomics and substantive questions about the world will be explored. Empirical work will be used to illustrate some of the ways that macroeconomic theories can be applied and tested. Policy implications will be addressed where possible.

Research

Our postgraduate courses draw significantly on the research carried out by staff in the Business School. This MSc is located within the Economics Subject Group, which has a long and distinguished record in undertaking research and consultancy in the broad area of economics. Our main research strengths are in the areas of finance, macroeconomics and policy, business economics, international banking and economic history. For example, a member of staff recently presented a paper on national monetary economic policy to the highly influential National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), which is the US's leading economic research organisation.

Teaching and learning

Teaching and learning is undertaken through a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, projects, tutorials, guided learning and self-directed learning. A variety of assessment is utilised including essays, reports, presentations, case studies and exams.

Career opportunities

The course prepares students for careers as analysts at a senior management level in multinational corporations and small and medium size firms, as well as the public, NGO and government sectors. The course gives you a deep technical understanding of business whilst developing your ability to apply analytical techniques and research skills. The course also serves as a platform for those wanting to develop research careers.

Fees 08/09*

Full-time (EU)	£5,400
Full-time (non-EU)	£9,000
Part-time (EU) per 20 credit module	£600
Part-time (non-EU) per 20 credit module	£1,000

*Tuition fees are subject to change, please contact the Admissions Office.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirement is a minimum lower second-class degree (or equivalent) in a related subject such as Economics, Finance, Business, Accounting, Management Science or other degrees with major components in Economics, Mathematics and Statistics. Credit transfer may be possible if there is evidence that the material covered in any module has been satisfactorily assessed to Masters level. Those without the standard requirements can enrol on the Graduate Diploma Course in Economics or Finance prior to enrolling on this course.

Students for whom English is not their first language must demonstrate sufficient fluency in both written and spoken English. The minimum requirement is one of the following:

- IELTS 6 minimum with a minimum of 6 in speaking and writing and 5.5 in listening and reading
- TOEFL (old examination) 600 minimum
- TOEFL (new examination) 250 minimum.

How to apply

Apply directly to the University. Please contact Admissions for an application form or you may download one at www.londonmet.ac.uk/how-to-apply

Further information

Admissions Office
London Metropolitan University
166-220 Holloway Road
London N7 8DB

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7133 4202
Email: admissions@londonmet.ac.uk
Web: www.londonmet.ac.uk/lmbs

For further academic questions contact:
Course Leader
John Lipczynski
Email: j.lipczynski@londonmet.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)20 7320 1604

Open days/evenings

You can also come to one of our open days or evenings, held throughout the year. See our website www.londonmet.ac.uk/lmbs or call the Admissions Office for up-to-date details.

We do everything we can to ensure that information in this leaflet is correct, however details may change and we cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions.