



International Finance and Accounting

(Official name: Finance and Control)

4-year Bachelor programme | Enschede



Financially talented thinkers and doers

are in high demand all over the world, in a wide diversity of sectors and organisations: within retail, manufacturing and health care as well as banks and accountancy firms. The Saxion International Finance and Accounting programme is an internationally recognised bachelor degree programme which prepares you for a career in the dynamic financial industry.

Dutch education is focused on fostering a student's independence, team spirit and presentation skills. On top of that, Saxion's programmes are known for interweaving theory with practical experience. International Finance and Accounting forms an excellent basis for a career in business or public services, whether in your home country or anywhere else in the world.

general

First and second years

In the foundation year of the four-year degree programme, we primarily work on basic knowledge. From the second year onwards, we explore aspects of finance in more depth. You will learn about investment, risk management and financial marketing – all from a global perspective as well as learning how to analyse and operate economic relationships, financial markets, currency markets and international legislation & standards related to economics, finance and accounting. Meanwhile, subjects such as economics, financial management, management accounting & control and management information systems give you a solid grounding in economics and finance.

Third year

In the third year you gain a more thorough understanding of the subjects of accounting, auditing and financial management. Besides this, you work on your research and business communication skills. Furthermore, a five-month internship enables you to apply your theoretical knowledge in practice and gain first-hand experience of working in finance.

Fourth year

You start your fourth and final year with a minor. You can choose to specialise by studying a subject in greater depth or to broaden your knowledge of, for example, human resource accounting, project management or finance. Saxion offers many possibilities, but you can also opt to do your minor at another university of applied sciences, either in The Netherlands or abroad.

Soft skills

As an internationally operating financial specialist you are expected to share your expertise with others, by informing, presenting to and advising board members and other colleagues. Therefore, we help you to develop your 'soft' skills such as communication, negotiation, leadership, ethics, project-based working and working in international teams by attending subjects such as sociology, cultural anthropology and human resource management.

Coaching

During your studies, you are not expected to do it completely by yourself. A study career counsellor is

Upon graduation you receive the title of Bachelor of Science. This will give you an excellent springboard to the international labour market: as a financial professional for a multinational company or as a policy advisor with the European Union, at a bank in Hamburg, London or Paris – all this and more could be printed on your business card later on! This degree also opens up great job opportunities in your own country as well. If you prefer to continue studying, you will be welcome to do a master in business administration or finance and accounting at almost any university, both within and outside Europe.

After graduation

around to help you settle in, both in The Netherlands and at Saxion. The study career counsellor also supervises the progress of your studies to maximise your success and provides guidance on your future career prospects.

Practically-oriented

Saxion takes a competence-oriented and problem-guided approach to teaching, meaning that theory and practical experience are interwoven whenever possible. Students are continually challenged to apply their theoretical knowledge in practical situations, both individually and as part of an international project team. You may often find yourself putting things you have learnt in the morning into practice in the afternoon!

‘This programme
is fully taught in the
English language.’

Practical cases mirror the theory taught throughout the semesters to enable you to learn about the broad spectrum of working in finance. For example, you may have to put yourself in the shoes of a consultant in the first semester. Several months later you may be asked to imagine you are an accountant at a large firm or a financial specialist for a multinational. For a large franchiser, you may be required to research the differences between various countries. For a medium-sized company in a border town, you may explore the feasibility of cross-border activities – what would be the financial, fiscal and legal consequences?

Together with your fellow students, you will analyse, advise and prepare reports to demonstrate your capability as an internationally operating business economist of the future. Can you draw on the right knowledge and apply it to present your recommendations professionally? We support you with lectures, practical classes, seminars, management games and excursions, and test your knowledge extensively at the end of every semester/quartile.

International programme

This programme is fully taught in the English language. You will work on international cases from the perspective of the global economy and gain insights into many different cultures – not only from books but also from your classmates, who come from all four corners of the world. Furthermore, you will complete your internship in a country other than your home country.



After completing my secondary-level vocational education I decided to study for a degree at Saxion University of Applied Sciences because I wanted to explore my potential and develop my talents. Studying at Saxion means studying in an international environment; my degree includes an internship abroad and a period of study abroad. In my experience, employers value a high level of proficiency in the English language and the ability to apply theoretical knowledge in a practical working environment. An international degree programme at Saxion covers both of those aspects. I can thoroughly recommend doing a degree such as International Finance and Accounting in English; it has given me a solid professional foundation and a strong command of the English language.

Mirko



Subject descriptions

1. Micro/Macroeconomics (4 credits in year 1)

In addition to more general micro- and macro-economic themes (such as elasticities, market forms, Porter's theory on competition, gross national product, economic trends and innovation), in this course unit, we will address international economic relationships and the various economic systems (the market mechanism, central planning and various intermediate forms). We will also address environmentalism. This course unit has common ground with the International Financial Management and Sociology and Cultural Anthropology courses.

2. Sociology and Cultural Anthropology (3 credits in year 1)

This course is focused on social behaviour and the economic structure of various peoples and cultures. We will not only look at the differences between cultures, but also the interaction (communication) between cultures and the social and economic problems that may result. What are the consequences for doing business abroad? By doing assignments, we will be able to take a close look at various cultures. This course has common ground with the General Economics and Communication courses.

3. International Financial Management (8 credits in year 2)

Knowledge of the international financial markets is very important for many businesses that operate internationally. We will discuss, among other things, the functioning of exchange markets (exchange rate risk), international banking, the role of inflation and interest, purchasing power parity, international investments and ways to limit international risks. This course builds on the course General Economics and has things in common with Financial Management. There will be an international project together with a group from a partner university abroad Internationalisation at home (COIL).

4. Financial Management (17 credits in year 1, 2 and 3)

Emphasis in this course is on issues of Investment and Financing. We will discuss: investment selection methods, the functioning of the stock exchange, valuation of shares and bonds, risk measures, the financing theory of MM, mergers/take-overs and the functioning of derivatives (options, futures). What risks are associated with investing abroad and mergers with (take-overs by) foreign companies? In addition, there is room in this course for a training in financial math. This course has ground in common with International Financial Management.

5. Financial Accounting (21 credits in year 1, 2 and 3)

The Financial Accounting course is divisible into three areas: Annual Accounting/Reporting, International Financial Accounting (about IFRS, US-GAAP and the different accounting traditions) and Business administration. We will also look at the consequences for relevance, reliability and comparability of information in the Annual Report.

6. Management Accounting (16 credits in year 1, 2 and 3)

This course addresses planning and management activities of business. Topics that will be discussed are: costpricing, expenses and net costprice, performance assessment, budgeting and control, as well as quality management. The management and reward style strongly depend on the cultural background of the company.

General learning goals:

1. Setting up and specifying a cost plan
2. Analysing the differences between a cost evaluation and cost realisation
3. Assessing whether certain activities need to take place within or outside the business
4. Assessing whether certain orders need to be accepted
5. Advising with regard to an assortment of choices

7. Supply Chain Management

(6 credits in year 2)

SCM is the principle that the functionality of business processes will improve through improvement of the cooperation with suppliers and customers. This is supported by the use of IT-software, amongst which is ERP. This course therefore has topics in common with MIS/AIS. In addition, we will discuss JIT and Lean Manufacturing.

8. Accounting Information Systems

(6 credits in year 2)

This course is chiefly focused on the quality of management, administrative and logistic

information. This mainly includes the quality aspects of: effectiveness, efficiency, reliability, availability and controllability. This implies that the management of organisations needs purposeful and reliable information to control business processes. This information needs to be available at the desired times and needs to be subsequently verifiable.

This means that requirements need to be determined with regard to the design, construction, implementation and management of data systems, from which the management information emanates. This course therefore has a lot in common with MIS/ICT. You will also learn the basics of an ERP system.

Curriculum courses bachelor International Finance and Accounting

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	Semester 1		Semester 2	
Year 1	Business Communication 1.1 & 1.2 4 ec's		Business Communication 1.3 & 1.4 3 ec's	
	Micro-/Macroeconomics 1.1 4 ec's	Management Accounting 1.2 4 ec's	Sociology & Cultural Antropology 1.3 3 ec's	Project year 1 1.4 3 ec's
	Financial Accounting 1.1 3 ec's	Financial Accounting 1.2 3 ec's	Financial Accounting 1.3 3 ec's	Financial Management 1.4 3 ec's
	Financial Management 1.1 3 ec's	Financial Management 1.2 3 ec's	International Law 1.3 3 ec's	International Taxation 1.4 3 ec's
	Computer Skills 1.1 3 ec's	Marketing & Management 1.2 3 ec's	MIS/ICT 1.3 3 ec's	Research Skills 1.4 3 ec's
	Study Career Counselling Year 1 3 ec's			
	Semester 3		Semester 4	
Year 2	Management Accounting 2.1 4 ec's	Management Accounting 2.2 4 ec's	International Financial Management 2.3 4 ec's	International Financial Management 2.4 4 ec's
	Research Skills 2.1 3 ec's	Business English 2.2 3 ec's	Supply Chain Management 2.3 3 ec's	Supply Chain Management 2.4 3 ec's
	Ethics 2.1 3 ec's	Human Resource Management 2.2 3 ec's	Accounting Information Systems 2.3 3 ec's	Accounting Information Systems 2.4 3 ec's
	Corporate Governance 2.1 3 ec's	Financial Management 2.2 4 ec's	Business Communication 2.3 3 ec's	Financial Accounting 2.4 4 ec's
	Marketing & Management 2.1 3 ec's		International project 2.3 & 2.4 3 ec's	
	Semester 5		Semester 6	
Year 3	Auditing 3.1 4 ec's	Auditing 3.2 4 ec's	Internship IFA 30 ec's	
	Financial Accounting 3.1 4 ec's	Financial Accounting 3.2 4 ec's		
	Business Communication 3.1 3 ec's	Management Accounting 3.2 4 ec's		
	Financial Management 3.1 4 ec's	Research Skills 3.2 3 ec's		
	Semester 7		Semester 8	
Year 4	Minor 30 ec's		Research & advisory report IFA 30 ec's	

9. Corporate Governance (3 credits in year 2)

Good business management is the responsibility of various corporate bodies. This course will address the corporate governance and the related system of checks and balances. In that context the various bodies involved will be discussed and how these work together, identify and monitor risks and report in financial and non-financial publications. The various codes of conduct in this area will also be discussed.

10. MIS/ICT (3 credits in year 1)

As indicated by its name, this course unit is broken up into two parts: Management Information Systems (MIS) and ICT implementation. MIS are about the functioning of the various systems (TPS, DSS, MIS, EIS) as management support tools. ICT implementation consists of working with Access. There is a clear connection with this course and Supply Chain Management, Accounting Information Systems and Auditing.

11. Auditing (8 credits in year 3)

Theory of auditing and corresponding risk management. We will discuss, amongst other things: task acceptance, organization of an audit, material interest, inherent risks, process-oriented audits, statistical analyses, year-end audit and various types of audit certifications. This course unit connects with the course on MIS/ICT.

12. Marketing & Management (6 credits in year 1 and 2)

This course addresses the fields of Marketing and Organisational Strategy & structuring & processes of (international) businesses and organisations. If an enterprise aspires continuity then it should at least be viable but preferably be distinct from its competitors (in a sustainable manner). How does a business economist determine if and when these (marketing) activities are efficient and effective at all? And should a business economist be competent enough to be able to, if not constructing them, at least judge and monitor marketing plans (and budgets)? Secondly, decisions on strategy, structure and systems are also of paramount importance: which strategy leads us to a healthy future?



13. International Taxation (3 credits in year 1)

In this course, the student acquires a thorough knowledge of the background, the system and the contents of the rules of the international tax laws. Emphasis lies on the fiscal aspects of international activities of natural persons and legal bodies. The subject is about the rules and treaties with regard to prevention of double taxation, and the main features of the tax systems in the Netherlands and other countries. Everyone who has successfully taken this course can oversee the fiscal consequences of international activities of citizens and companies, and understands the attitude of governments in various countries with regard to taxation.

14. International Law (3 credits in year 1)

In this course, the student is given a thorough understanding of the background, the system and the content of the rules of international law. Emphasis lies on the legal aspects of international activities of natural persons and legal persons. We will address, amongst other things, competitive trading law and freedom of movement of goods.

15. Human Resource Management (3 credits in year 2)

An organisation can distinguish itself by its people. The quality of the employees, their enthusiasm and engagement largely influence the productivity and the continued existence of the organisation. International differences will also play an important role (think about management styles).

16. Research Skills (9 credits in year 1, 2 and 3)

In this course, emphasis lies on various research skills, amongst which are research methodology, computer skills and statistics. This competency will return (and be assessed indirectly as well) in other courses.

17. Business Communication

(10 credits in year 1, 2 and 3)

In this course, we focus on business communication. That contains oral communication in meetings, interviews and presentations, as well as written communication in report.

Communication within the company, as well as communication outside the company and in the society will be addressed. For example, during year 2 we will focus on negotiating and during year 3 we will focus more on the written and oral communication regarding a job application.

18. Ethics

(3 credits in year 2)

In this course, we focus on personal performance within ethical boundaries. Who am I (as an individual and as a professional) and what are my most important values? Are these values translated into a code of professional standards? What are the consequences of these values on my performance? How do these values relate to the corresponding attitude in the level of groups, organisations and the society? The students need to be able to perform a (self) reflection and give/receive feedback, in a practical way. This course has topics in common with Sociology and Cultural Anthropology.

19. Business English

(6 credits in year 1 and 2)

In this course unit, emphasis lies on speaking and writing the English language. We will work on grammar, syntax, pronunciation, presentation skills and a business vocabulary. This course has a close connection to Business Communication.

20. International project 2.3 & 2.4

(3 credits in year 2)

In this course, students will perform a market and financial analysis on a listed company and advice investors to buy/hold or sell stocks.

21. Study Career Counselling

(3 credits in year 1)

In this course, students reflect on personal development, study and the professional field. They map out which competencies are needed for which future professional roles.

22. Project year 1

(3 ects) Simulating a multinational

Project management simulation for a multinational in the second year of this degree. You will work together with Dutch students or students from a university abroad.

23. Internship

(30 credits in year 3 or 4)

During the internship the student works independently on professional tasks in a business organization. The student applies the knowledge and skills he/she acquired at the University. In this practical situation, the student experiences the coherence between the various disciplines within the organisation. Under pressure of time, the student delivers the requested products. In this study-unit, the need for proper behaviour and keeping track of time is self-evident.

24. Minor

(30 credits in year 3 or 4)

A cohesive and useful combination of course units that give added value to the future professional situation or follow-up study of the student. A minor can be focused on broadening the student's knowledge base, in-depth study or on moving up to a scientific master's degree.

25. Research & Advisory Report IFA

(30 credits in year 4)

The graduation assignment is a test of competency. The student largely independently solves a problem in the professional field. The student presents and defends his/ her Research and Advisory Report in front of a committee, including the company coach and school coaches. The student proves to have the competencies of a starting professional on the HBO-level (bachelor degree).

Saxion and the financial industry

Saxion has long-standing collaborative partnerships with various financial organisations such as major banks, insurance companies and accountancy offices. Since no one knows better what is expected from you as a graduate than your future employer, these businesses provide us with essential input to ensure that our teaching remains relevant and up to date and our cases are realistic. Moreover, many of our lecturers have gained broad practical experience and maintain close contact with the industry.



Characteristics:

- Compulsory semester abroad in Malaysia, UK and many more
- Small classes
- Intercultural classroom; the programme has more than 15 different nationalities
- Project management simulation for a multinational in your 2nd year
- Dutch and international field trips
- In the second year you will work on a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) project.

ACCA-accelerate programme partnership

The partnership between ACCA and Saxion University will mean that graduates of the Bachelor of International Finance & Accounting Programme will be able to add 'ACCA Student' onto their CV to enhance their employability skills internationally; whilst showing their commitment to a future in accounting, finance and business management. The programme gives students/graduates of accredited accounting and finance programmes an early start to a successful career by awarding the IFA Programme with ACCA exemptions.



More information:



Get Ready for a Smart World

Technological innovations have an impact not only on your social life but on your future professional life, too.

At Saxion University of Applied Sciences, we teach you how these innovations impact your future professional field and how you can apply technology to perform your work even better, so no matter which programme you choose, you will be prepared for a world that is getting smarter.

Studying at Saxion also means growing as a person. Who are you as a person? Where do your talents lie and what do you want to excel at? We will help you develop a moral compass, build your self-confidence and broaden your horizon. You will learn a lot by doing a work placement or by taking a minor in another programme here, elsewhere in the Netherlands or abroad.

This way, you will learn to take responsibility and prepare yourself for a business endeavour or a challenging job. You are in control!

More information

To enrol in International Finance and Accounting, first of all you need to meet our general entry requirements. Please check saxion.edu/entry-requirements for more information. If you have any questions about the requirements or the programme itself, feel free to contact the School of Finance & Accounting:
Tel. +31-88 0193845 or
E-mail: international.fem@saxion.nl

Would you like to apply? Start your application procedure at saxion.edu/application-form.

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Saxion partners



information

