

Validated Programme Element Specification for BPC University Foundation in Economics and Finance

Applicable for all undergraduate students commencing the programme element on or after 1st September 2023

Version No.	Date	Notes – QUALITY ASSURANCE USE ONLY	QA
v1	July 2023	Validated Programme Element Specification (VPES) for 2023-24 created.	BGS
v2	Sept 2023	Module code added for new module Critical Thinking and Expression	BGS

Validated programme element	
1. Awarding and validating institution	Brunel University London
2. Providing institution(s)	Brunel University London Pathway College
3. Associated Brunel University College / Department / Division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences Department of Economics and Finance
4. Associated Contributing Brunel University college / department / division	N/A
5. Validated for inclusion in Brunel University programmes at level	Foundation
6. Validated for inclusion in Brunel University programmes (list):	BSc Economics BSc Economics and Business Finance BSc Finance and Accounting
7. Type of programme element	Foundation Level
8. Most recent approval	Periodic Programme Review 2023
9. Normal length of element for each mode of study	26 weeks
10. Maximum length of element for each mode of study	See Programme Specification for Brunel programme of which this element forms part
11. Programme Intakes	January, May, and September September, January for Gulf-sponsored students
12. Modes of study	Full-time
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. HECoS code	In line with Brunel University London programme
15. BPC-related Route Code(s)	L100UNVECON: BSc Economics L100UNVECNBF: BSc Economics and Business Finance N300UNVFINAC: BSc Finance and Accounting

	<p>For Gulf-sponsored students: L100UNVECONG: BSc Economics L100UNVECNBG: BSc Economics and Business Finance N300UNVFINAG: BSc Finance and Accounting</p>
16. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design	<p>UK Quality Code for Higher Education Most recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement- Economics Mathematics, Statistics and Operational Research Brunel 2030</p>
17. Admission Requirements/pre-requisites for the programme element	<p>See https://pathway.brunel.ac.uk/academic-requirements for standard entry requirements.</p> <p>English Language entry requirements: minimum of IELTS 5.5 (with 5.5 minimum in each component part) or equivalent</p> <p>For Gulf-sponsored students: English Language entry requirements: minimum of IELTS 6.0 (with 5.5 minimum in each component part) or equivalent Academic Entry Requirements for Economics and Finance UK: 5 GCSE Passes, grades A-C (with Mathematics at A-Level Grade C or above)</p>
18. Other relevant information	<p>The programme element is compliant with both the generic assessment regulations of Navitas UK and those more specifically of the College and Brunel University, see Senate Regulations 2 and 4.</p>
19. Any departure from relevant regulations specified in Senate Regulation 2 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	<p>None</p>
20. Further information about study with BPC can be found on the BPC website.	<p>https://pathway.brunel.ac.uk/</p>

21. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME ELEMENT

The aim of this programme is to provide a theoretical and applied knowledge and skills required at foundation level. In completing the programme, students will be able to demonstrate understanding of research methods and methodologies, critical and creative thinking, management, decision-making, ICT and analytical skills in the production of written and oral assignments, to develop the prescribed level of inter-disciplinary language competence. Students will examine a range of research approaches, techniques, and methodologies, and manage their personal development enhancing their intellectual and practical skills, which build a set of transferable skills as appropriate for continuing at the undergraduate level

22. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme element provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K); cognitive (thinking) skills (C); and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)	Learning Outcome	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
Foundation	K1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how computer systems, internet, enterprise applications and sustainability in IT projects impact the broad range of businesses and daily life.			NV0605/ NV0695
Foundation	K2	Construct arguments using research methods and demonstrate critical thinking to develop varied perspectives on their subject.			NV0600 NV0618/ NV0698
Foundation	K3	To articulate appropriate strategies for responding to changes in the environment and develop a conceptual understanding of the role of relevant principles, while also understanding the values of global social responsibility.			NV0606/ NV0616
Foundation	K4	Demonstrate the ability to understand basic accounting concepts, analyse and record business transactions and economic events with reasonable accuracy, and prepare financial statements that comply with relevant regulatory requirements.			NV0601/ NV0691

Foundation	K5	Demonstrate knowledge and application of basic mathematics and statistics in well-defined contexts as well as in justifying the use of relevant tools and techniques.			NE0608 NV0604/ NV0614
Foundation	K6	Demonstrate knowledge in specialised areas of Economics such as Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, as well as embed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion through understanding major economic shifts that have taken place within contemporary economics including the knowledge of market structures and policy.			NV0602/ NV0612
Foundation	C1	Critically analyse and demonstrate originality and creativity in the application of knowledge and literature, with a practical understanding of how research techniques are used to answer research questions.			NV0600 NV0618/ NV0698
Foundation	C2	Demonstrate the ability to work in an effective manner as a member of a team and appropriately communicate to plan projects effectively by using Microsoft Project, and to analyse data using Microsoft Excel and appropriate ICT tools under guidance.			NV0605/ NV0695
Foundation	C3	Analyse the operations of a business, perform straightforward financial analyses and projections, and demonstrate a reasonable awareness of the contexts in which accounting data and information is processed and provided within a variety of organizational environments.			NV0601/ NV0691
Foundation	C4	Develop and apply their own perspectives to			NE0608

		studies, critical evaluation skills to integrate theory and practice to solve problems.			NV0606/ NV0616 NV0604/ NV0614
Foundation	C5	Demonstrate an understanding of the sources and content of economic data and apply various models and techniques to analyse economic situations, taking into consideration the principles of sustainability and equality, diversity and inclusion.			NV0602/ NV0612
Foundation	S1	Utilise a critical perspective informed by diversity, equity, and inclusion to employ relevant analytical skills, methodologies, and appropriate referencing techniques to present findings from a wide range of appropriate learning sources.			NV0600
Foundation	S2	Develop an understanding of mathematical concepts and principles within the well-defined contexts in the fields of economics, finance and accounting as well as application of tools and techniques, demonstrating justification of the methods used.			NV0601/ NV0691 NE0608/ NE0698
Foundation	S3	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of relevant knowledge and utilize this to effectively communicate using quantitative or qualitative information in an organisational context.			NV0605/ NV0695 NV0606/ NV0616 NV0618/ NV0698
Foundation	S4	Develop a systematic understanding of the sources and content of economic data using appropriate numerical and graphical techniques, and of those methods			NV0602/ NV0612 NV0604/ NV0614

		that might be applied to the analysis of such data.			
Foundation	S5	Demonstrate the ability to use appropriate practices and perform work within a professional, legal and ethical framework – including data management and use, security, equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI).			NV0605/ NV0695 NV0606/ NV0616 NV0600

Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

The Programme Element will be delivered using a combination of Lectures/Labs/Tutorials/Self-directed study:

Lecture

- Purpose: - To deliver basic module material.
- Structure: Each module has 4/6 hours contact time per week which is normally delivered in 2-hours blocks. No period of contact should exceed fifty (50) minutes at one time without a minimum of a ten (10) minute break.

Lab

- Purpose: Lab sessions provide a forum in which students can practice their practical skills.
- Structure: Each lab is normally of two hours in duration whilst breaks are to be provided at the discretion of the lecturer. No period of contact should exceed fifty (50) minutes at one time without a minimum of a ten (10) minute break.

Tutorial

- Structure: Sessions are normally conducted according to preparation for specific topics and provide a collegiate atmosphere to encourage students to interact with class members building their class, or 'team', knowledge and skills. For each module, there is one hour a week tutorial session.

Self-directed study

Each student is expected to undertake a minimum number of hours in individual study per week in order to support and build the skills, knowledge and understanding presented in each lecture and small group tutorial session per week. It is expected that students will increase the number of individual study hours as they approach formal assessment events. The ability for students to expand their learning by creating effective self-directed study patterns is a transferable skill deemed fundamental to further academic success as well as a key time-management tool.

Formative assessment is a key aspect of the programme and is varied to ensure that a student has a variety of learning opportunities. This will include individual and group formative assessment methods, presentations, individual and group work; and peer review.

All students are provided with access to a range of online resources through the student portal. Electronic journals and electronic books are available through the Brunel University e-resources gateway.

There will be a focus of using freely available tools and benefiting from the resources available on the internet to support learning.

Guest speakers from relevant industries will provide additional perspectives for students.

Summative assessment strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.

Summative assessment methods are varied to ensure appropriate assessment of learning outcomes. These methods include individual and group projects; open-book examinations; oral presentations; case studies and portfolios and closed-book final examinations.

23. Programme element structure and progression requirements (if applicable)

Programme Element Structure

Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit	Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits
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Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume	Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume
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Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits	Optional modular block codes, titles and credits
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Code	Title	Credit Points
NV0600	Interactive Learning Skills and Communication 1	15
NV0601/NV0691	Principles of Accounting	15
NV0602/NV0612	Economics	15
NV0604/NV0614	Statistics	15
NV0605/NV0695	Principles of ICT	15
NV0606/NV0696	Management	15
NV0618/NV0699	Critical Thinking and Expression	15
NE0608	Foundation Mathematics for Economics and Finance	15

Assessment and Progression Requirements

For inclusion in Programmes:	BSc Economics BSc Finance and Accounting BSc Economics and Business Finance
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<p>The following assessment or modular blocks are core</p> <p>NV0600 Interactive Learning Skills and Communication 1</p> <p>NV0601/NV0691 Principles of Accounting</p> <p>NV0602/NV0612 Economics</p> <p>NV0604/NV0614 Statistics</p> <p>NV0605/NV0695 Principles of ICT</p> <p>NV0606/NV0616 Management</p> <p>NE0608/NE0698 Foundation Mathematics for Economics and Finance</p> <p>NV0618/NV0698 Critical Thinking and Expression</p>	<p>Progression requirements as per Brunel University London <u>Senate Regulation 2</u></p> <p>All modules pass at grade C-/50% except NV0600 pass at grade D-/40%</p> <p>For Gulf-sponsored students pass grades:</p> <p>NV0600 pass at grade D-/40%</p> <p>NV0691 pass at grade B-/60%</p> <p>NV0612 pass at grade B-/60%</p> <p>NV0614 pass at grade B-/60%</p> <p>NV0695 pass at grade C-/50%</p> <p>NV0696 pass at grade C-/50%</p> <p>NE0698 pass at grade C-/50%</p> <p>NV0698 Critical Thinking and Expression pass at grade C-/50%</p>
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<p>Progression of Gulf-sponsored students</p> <p>Gulf-sponsored students that successfully complete a Foundation level programme at Brunel University London Pathway College will progress directly to level 4 at Brunel University London. Only students that are sponsored by Gulf States are permitted to completed the Gulf-sponsored routes.</p> <p>Reassessment</p> <p>Students will be entitled to be re-assessed in any modules for which they have failed, at the first attempt, to achieve the pass mark(s) as defined above under 'Progression requirements'; any such reassessment of a module may be attempted on two occasions only and shall be capped at the pass mark for the module as defined above under 'Progression Requirements'. Students who fail to achieve the pass mark in a module in the first reassessment will be required to retake the module before attempting the final reassessment in the module.</p> <p>From January 2016 – Students enrolling from 2016 will be entitled to be re-assessed in any modules for which they have failed, at the first attempt, to achieve the pass mark(s) as defined above under 'Progression requirements'; any such reassessment of a module may only be attempted on one occasion and shall be capped at the pass mark for the module as defined above under 'Progression requirements'.</p>
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Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme element and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and

whenever a major modification occurs, and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.