

**SYLLABUS FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE
[BECON&FIN]**

This syllabus applies to candidates admitted to the first year of study of the 4-year curriculum in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.

1. Candidates must enroll and attempt examination in not fewer than 240 credits of courses in accordance with the regulations and the syllabuses. In addition, the 240 credits of courses should be completed in the following manner:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| UG 5 requirements [54 credits] | |
| - Languages* | 18 credits |
| - HKU Common Core Curriculum* | 36 credits |
| - Non-credit bearing courses as required by the University* | 0 credits |
| Major in Economics and Finance [96 credits] | |
| - Core courses | 72 credits |
| - Economics disciplinary electives | 12 credits |
| - Finance disciplinary electives | 12 credits |
| Free Electives [90 credits] | 90 credits |
| Total credits for degree programme | 240 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 (12 credits), Chinese language enhancement (6 credits) and Common Core courses (36 credits), and successful completion of a capstone experience and any other non-credit bearing courses as required by the University.
3. The Common Core courses are categorized under four Areas of Inquiry (AoI): “Science, Technology, and Big Data”, “Arts and Humanities”, “Global Issues”, and “China: Culture, State and Society”. Candidates must complete a total of 36 credits, comprising at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits of courses being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits.
4. The following courses are designated as Faculty Core courses: ACCT1101, ECON1210, FINA1310 and a statistics course, as prescribed in the syllabus. Candidates are not required to re-take Faculty Core courses where any of these courses form part of the requirements of a second major offered by the Faculty of Business of Economics, however, candidates must complete an equivalent number of credits of free electives in lieu of the Faculty Core Courses.
5. The courses listed in the syllabus will not necessarily be offered every year.
6. For courses offered by the Faculty of Business and Economics, the final examination is typically 2 hours in length. Final grading is normally determined by performance in the final examination (30-50%) and coursework assessment (50-70%), except for courses with a final project/final paper which are assessed by 100% coursework.
7. Candidates majoring in Economics and Finance are required to take not fewer than 60 credits of advanced level courses from those listed in the BEcon&Fin syllabus. 36 of the 60 credits are core courses inclusive of ECON2210, ECON2220, ECON2280, ECON4200 (capstone course), FINA2320 and FINA2322. The advanced level disciplinary electives in the BEcon&Fin curriculum are grouped into List A (economics disciplinary electives) and List B (finance disciplinary electives). Students must select 12 credits from List A and 12 credits from List B for the Economics and Finance major.
8. Candidates must take courses in the year of study indicated in the syllabus.

9. Candidates may select up to four courses offered under the syllabus for the Master of Economics (MEcon) degree as third or fourth year economics disciplinary electives in List A, subject to availability and the approval of the BEcon/BEcon&Fin Programme Director and the MEcon Programme Director. Each of these MEcon courses carries 6 credits, unless otherwise specified. Candidates should satisfy the requirements prescribed by the Faculty of Business and Economics.
10. Candidates should take note of any impermissible combinations of majors/minors listed in the document “Major/Minor Programmes offered by FBE” for the year concerned.
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.

1. UG 5 requirements [54 credits]

(a) Languages* [18 credits]

| <i>Course code</i> | <i>Course title</i> | <i>Year of Study</i> | <i>Credits</i> |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|
| CAES1000 [#] | Core University English* | 1 | 6 |
| CAES9920 | Academic communication for business and economics* | 2 | 6 |
| CBBA9003 [^] <i>or</i> | Practical Chinese for BEcon/BEcon&Fin/BFin(AMPB)/BSc(QFin) students* <i>or</i> | 3 | 6 |
| CUNDxxxx [^] | Chinese Language Enhancement Programme course for non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking students | 1 or 2 or 3 | |

[#] Candidates who have achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, are exempted from this requirement, and Core University English is optional. Those who do not take this course should take an elective course in lieu, see *Regulation UG 6*.

[^] Candidates are required to successfully complete the 6-credit “CBBA9003 Practical Chinese for BEcon/BEcon&Fin/BFin(AMPB)/BSc(QFin) students”, except for

- (a) non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking candidates who should take a 6-credit Chinese Language Enhancement Programme course for non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking students (i.e. CUNDxxxx course); and
- (b) candidates who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CBBA9003 should write to the Board of the Faculty to apply for exemption from the Chinese language requirement, and
 - (i) take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language course offered by the School of Chinese especially for international and exchange students; or
 - (ii) take an elective course in lieu.

(b) HKU Common Core Curriculum* [36 credits]

| <i>Course code</i> | <i>Course title</i> | <i>Year of Study</i> | <i>Credits</i> |
|--------------------|---|----------------------|----------------|
| CCXXxxxx | 3 CC courses in any three Areas of Inquiry* | 1 | 18 |
| CCXXxxxx | 2 CC courses in any two Areas of Inquiry* | 2 | 12 |
| CCXXxxxx | 1 CC course in any Area of Inquiry* | 3 | 6 |

(c) Non-credit bearing courses as required by the University* [0 credits]

| <i>Course code</i> | <i>Course title</i> | <i>Year of Study</i> | <i>Credits</i> |
|--------------------|---|----------------------|----------------|
| XXXXxxxx | Non-credit bearing courses as required by the University* | 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 | 0 |

2. Major in Economics and Finance [96 credits]

| Course code | Course title | Year of study | Credits |
|---|---|---------------|---------|
| Faculty Core Courses – complete all of the following courses: | | | |
| ACCT1101 | Introduction to financial accounting ¹ | 1 | 6 |
| ECON1210 | Introductory microeconomics | 1 | 6 |
| FINA1310 | Corporate finance ² | 1 | 6 |
| Statistics requirement – choose one of the following: | | | |
| ECON1280 <i>or</i> | Analysis of economic data <i>or</i> | 1 or 2 | 6 |
| IIMT1640 <i>or</i> | Probability and statistics for business <i>or</i> | | |
| STAT1603 | Introductory statistics | | |
| Disciplinary Core Courses – complete all of the following courses: | | | |
| ECON1220 | Introductory macroeconomics | 1 | 6 |
| Mathematics requirement³ – choose one of the following: | | | |
| MATH1009 <i>or</i> | Basic mathematics for business and economics <i>or</i> | 1 | 6 |
| MATH1013 | University mathematics II | | |
| ECON2210 | Intermediate microeconomics | 2 or 3 | 6 |
| ECON2220 | Intermediate macroeconomics | 2 or 3 | 6 |
| ECON2280 | Introductory econometrics | 2 or 3 | 6 |
| FINA2320 | Investments and portfolio analysis | 2 or 3 | 6 |
| FINA2322 | Derivatives | 2 or 3 | 6 |
| ECON4200 | Senior seminar in economics and finance* (Capstone course) | 4 | 6 |
| Disciplinary Electives | | | |
| ECONxxxx | Economics disciplinary electives | 2 or 3 or 4 | 12 |
| FINAxxxx | Finance disciplinary electives | 2 or 3 or 4 | 12 |

3. Free Electives [90 credits] – any courses except Common Core courses

Notes:

1. The course shall be taken in the first semester of the first year.
2. The course shall be taken in the second semester of the first year.
3. Candidates are strongly advised to take MATH1009. Candidates who intend to take advanced mathematics courses should consider taking MATH1013. The sequence of taking MATH1009 first and then MATH1013 is allowed but not *vice versa*. Candidates who have taken the course MATH1013 or equivalent shall be granted exemption from the mathematics requirement and must take a free elective of the same credit value in lieu of the mathematics requirement.

REFERENCE TABLE

| Year | Lang. | Common Core | Major in Economics and Finance | Free Electives | Total |
|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| I | 6 credits | 18 credits | 30 credits | 6 credits | 60 credits |
| II | 6 credits | 12 credits | 24 credits | 18 credits | 60 credits |
| III | 6 credits | 6 credits | 24 credits | 24 credits | 60 credits |
| IV | - | - | 18 credits | 42 credits | 60 credits |
| Total | 18 credits | 36 credits | 96 credits | 90 credits | 240 credits |

ECONOMICS DISCIPLINARY ELECTIVES (LIST A)

| <i>Course code</i> | <i>Course title</i> | <i>Credits</i> |
|--------------------|---|----------------|
| ECON2214 | Games and decisions | 6 |
| ECON2216 | Industrial organization | 6 |
| ECON2217 | Economics of networks | 6 |
| ECON2223 | Public finance | 6 |
| ECON2225 | Economics of population changes | 6 |
| ECON2226 | Chinese economy | 6 |
| ECON2232 | Economics of human resources | 6 |
| ECON2233 | The economics of law | 6 |
| ECON2234 | Transportation economics | 6 |
| ECON2249 | Foreign trade and investment in China | 6 |
| ECON2252 | Theory of international trade | 6 |
| ECON2253 | International macroeconomics | 6 |
| ECON2255 | The economic system of Hong Kong | 6 |
| ECON2257 | Trade, investment and development in APEC economies | 6 |
| ECON2262 | Economic development | 6 |
| ECON2264 | Political economy of development in China | 6 |
| ECON2266 | Urban economics | 6 |
| ECON2271 | Finance in history and society | 6 |
| ECON2272 | History of economic thought | 6 |
| ECON2273 | Economic history of China | 6 |
| ECON2275 | The political economy of law and public policy | 6 |
| ECON2276 | State, law and the economy | 6 |
| ECON2284 | Mathematical methods in economics | 6 |
| ECON2285 | Mathematical economics | 6 |
| ECON2292 | Current economic affairs | 6 |
| ECON3215 | Uncertainty and information | 6 |
| ECON3219 | Selected topics in price theory | 6 |
| ECON3220 | Research on Chinese economy | 6 |
| ECON3221 | Macroeconomic analysis for emerging markets economies | 6 |
| ECON3222 | Monetary economics | 6 |
| ECON3223 | Credit, bubbles and the macroeconomy | 6 |
| ECON3224 | Health economics | 6 |
| ECON3225 | Big data economics | 6 |
| ECON3229 | Topics in macroeconomics | 6 |
| ECON3232 | Economics of sustainability | 6 |
| ECON3233 | Data analytics in digital economy | 6 |
| ECON3234 | Behavioural economics | 6 |
| ECON3235 | Economics of education and human capital | 6 |
| ECON3243 | Capital theory | 6 |
| ECON3262 | Inequality and growth | 6 |
| ECON3272 | The political economy of globalization | 6 |
| ECON3283 | Economic forecasting | 6 |
| ECON3284 | Causal inference | 6 |
| ECON3293 | Reading course | 6 |
| ECON4211 | Advanced microeconomics | 6 |
| ECON4214 | Advanced game theory | 6 |
| ECON4221 | Advanced macroeconomics | 6 |
| ECON4294 | Dissertation | 12 |

FINANCE DISCIPLINARY ELECTIVES (LIST B)

| <i>Course code</i> | <i>Course title</i> | <i>Credits</i> |
|--------------------|---|----------------|
| ACCT3114 | Valuation using financial statements | 6 |
| FINA2311 | Case studies in corporate finance | 6 |
| FINA2312 | Advanced corporate finance | 6 |
| FINA2330 | Financial markets and institutions | 6 |
| FINA2331 | Management of commercial banks | 6 |
| FINA2332 | International banking | 6 |
| FINA2334 | Banking – strategies, operations and controls | 6 |
| FINA2342 | Insurance: theory and practice | 6 |
| FINA2343 | Lending and credit in private banking and corporate banking (1) | 6 |
| FINA2344 | Lending and credit in private banking and corporate banking (2) | 6 |
| FINA2382 | Real estate finance | 6 |
| FINA2383 | International financial management | 6 |
| FINA2385 | ESG in business and finance | 6 |
| FINA2386 | Social network analysis in finance | 6 |
| FINA2390 | Financial programming and databases | 6 |
| FINA3316 | Investment banking: valuation, LBOs, and M&A | 6 |
| FINA3317 | Entrepreneurial finance | 6 |
| FINA3318 | China's financial system and markets | 6 |
| FINA3319 | Green finance and impact investing | 6 |
| FINA3322 | Credit risk | 6 |
| FINA3323 | Fixed income securities | 6 |
| FINA3324 | Interest rate models | 6 |
| FINA3325 | Alternative investments | 6 |
| FINA3326 | Equity valuation and investment management | 6 |
| FINA3327 | Hedge funds: strategies, business management, and institutions | 6 |
| FINA3334 | Private banking and wealth management | 6 |
| FINA3335 | Current issues in asset management and private banking industry | 6 |
| FINA3336 | Institutional investment consulting and family office | 6 |
| FINA3337 | Venture capital and private equity | 6 |
| FINA3338 | Multi-asset investing | 6 |
| FINA3340 | Risk management | 6 |
| FINA3350 | Mathematical finance | 6 |
| FINA3351 | Spreadsheet financial modeling | 6 |
| FINA3353 | Regulatory, operational and valuation issues in finance institutions | 6 |
| FINA3360 | Financial practicum | 6 |
| FINA3381 | Behavioural finance | 6 |
| FINA3382 | Structured finance and securitization | 6 |
| FINA3383 | Financial regulations and compliance | 6 |
| FINA3384 | Behavioural and sociological finance | 6 |
| FINA3385 | Global sustainable investing and ESG integration | 6 |
| FINA3386 | Digital assets | 6 |
| FINA3391 | Reading course | 6 |
| FINA4341 | Quantitative risk management | 6 |
| FINA4350 | Text analytics and natural language processing in finance and fintech | 6 |
| FINA4354 | Financial engineering | 6 |
| FINA4359 | Data analytics, quantitative finance, and blockchain finance | 6 |
| FINA4392 | Dissertation | 12 |
