The UK's European university

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

Medway
FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

Studying finance and investment prepares you for a successful career in a variety of financial institutions, enabling you to apply economic and financial principles to business situations within a global environment. The year in industry gives you the opportunity to gain first-hand experience within leading financial and investment institutions.
WHY STUDY FINANCE AND INVESTMENT AT KENT?

Year in industry/abroad
As part of your degree you can spend a year working in industry in either the UK or abroad, or a year studying abroad. This gives you the chance to put theory into practice as well as make a valuable contribution to an organisation.

Academic support
University is different from school. You need to be self-motivated and well organised to succeed. We help by assigning you an academic adviser and organising peer mentoring. You can also get help with academic skills, such as essay writing and referencing.

Support for start-ups
Take the Business Start-up Journey and develop the skills you need to become a successful entrepreneur. You get advice from business experts to develop your own business plan, pitch your ideas and potentially win a cash prize to help fund your start-up.

World-leading research
You learn from leading experts. Our staff undertake research of international quality; write and contribute to journal articles and books; and provide expert comment to the media. They put you in touch with the latest ideas.

CFA Affiliation Program
Our BSc Finance and Investment with a Year in Industry is closely tied to the industry practice of investment management and embeds a significant portion of the CFA Program Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK).

Friendly campus
Our Medway campus reinvents a former naval base as a 21st-century study space, with exceptional facilities and support. Close to the towns of Rochester and Chatham with their fascinating histories, there is plenty to do both on and off campus.

Inspirational teaching
Great teachers inspire enthusiasm and provoke debate. Whether they’re lecturing on data analysis or sparking a discussion on corporate social responsibility, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life and drawing you into the conversation.

Excellent resources
Access the School’s dedicated Bloomberg Lab. The virtual trading platform allows you to engage with market data through practical case studies and online databases while having access to more than 1 million books, ebooks, databases and journals.

Career success
Employability is a priority at Kent. By studying, you sharpen skills that are useful in working life, such as time management and teamwork. You have opportunities to gain work experience and access to careers advice, boosting your CV and your confidence.
Global outlook

We are a leading business school, ranked in the top 30 in the UK and accredited by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AASCB) which places Kent Business School within the top institutions globally for business degrees. Only 5% of the world’s business schools attain this accreditation. We believe that an international perspective on business benefits all our students. This is reinforced by our excellent links with business schools in Hong Kong, China, France, Germany, Spain, Finland and Italy.

Independent rankings

The Complete University Guide 2020
• Accounting and Finance at Kent was ranked 26th out of 102 institutions

The Guardian University Guide 2019
• Accounting and Finance at Kent scored 91% for graduate prospects

Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
• Over 95% of accounting and finance graduates who responded to the most recent national survey of graduate destinations were in work or further study within six months (DLHE, 2017).

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*

This TEF award was issued in June 2017. It lasts up to three years and may be subject to change.
*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
STUDENT VIEW

Nizar Ali is in the first year of his degree in Finance and Investment.

Why did you choose Kent?
Kent has always had a good reputation. Even though I am from Bahrain, so a few thousand miles away, when I told people I was going to study here, they knew it was good. Also, when looking online at the courses, there were a lot of people talking about the support from the academics which I feel is vital for my success.

How is your course going?
It's going well so far but it's only the first year, I know the second year will be more intense. I am already thinking about my year in industry [between years two and three]. I'll be looking at companies and positions over the summer so I can apply during September and hopefully, be ahead of the curve.

What do you think of your lecturers and other staff?
We have a close relationship with our lecturers, probably because we are a small cohort. They are more than willing to help and give you all the support you need, whether that's explaining lectures more fully or simply responding to a query you may have. They are also happy to share jokes and have a laugh between lectures – or even during!

The support staff have also been amazing, especially the Placement Team in terms of helping to make your CV look professional.

Which modules have you enjoyed most and why?
I would say, the Fundamentals of Finance and Investments; the Financial Markets and Instruments; and the Quantitative Methods for Finance because they are all quite mathematical. The focus on abstract ideas and the presentation of those ideas has been really spot on. They try to give us the axioms underlying the investment world, it's hard not to be interested in that or to find you think about it when you get home!

How would you describe your fellow students?
We have a good mixture of international and UK students, which makes for an interesting dynamic. We are a small cohort so you have the chance to get to know everyone.

What do you think of the facilities on campus?
I think the most interesting facility would be the Bloomberg Terminals. Full-on access to these terminals to all the information that the professional banks would be utilising gives us a real insight with news coming in every second.

Also, the Drill Hall Library – my second home! It has everything we need and is steeped in history as it's where they used to drill the sailors. It's also the longest library in Europe.

What about your social life?
When I first started, there was a lot to cope with, so I restricted my social life a bit. But now, I make more time to socialise with people, not only from the Business School but across the campus, plus it's also easy to take the [free] shuttle bus to Canterbury and see friends there.

What kind of career are you hoping to have?
An analyst at one of the investment banks or any bank is definitely an attractive field. Lucrative as well. However, I know that I have a creative side that needs to be satisfied and I think sometimes that perhaps that won't be satisfied in a bank. So, maybe working in sales or another creative endeavour that I've not discovered yet.

Any advice for future students?
Definitely keep an open mind because you are going to be challenged by the new ideas. And it's a good challenge. The lecturers are more than willing to help you through it. This is a demanding programme but it is fun and extremely rewarding.
CHOOSING YOUR PROGRAMME

Not sure which programme to choose? Here’s a guide.

Finance and Investment
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3732
This programme prepares you for a future career in the financial sector. You are introduced to basic core principles of finance and investment, while being able to develop other specialist areas by choosing from the options offered at Stage 3.

Elements of practical work on the BSc Finance and Investment are carried out in the finance lab with the aid of the virtual trading platform, Bloomberg. With the opportunity to apply the theories learnt in the classroom, Bloomberg allows you to access and engage with market data via case studies and the use of online databases. The Bloomberg platform also provides an opportunity for virtual trading practice and competitions.

Finance and Investment with a Year Abroad
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3745
Finance and Investment with a Year in Industry
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/2495
The Finance and Investment degree may also be taken over four years full-time with either a year in industry or a year overseas. These four-year programmes have the same content as the three-year programme, see p9.

Additional programmes
The following programme is also available at our Medway campus over three years full-time, or four years full-time with an optional year abroad/in industry. You may also study these part-time.

Business and Management
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3731
Business and Management with a Year Abroad
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3746
Business and Management with a Year in Industry
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/238
This programme teaches you the theories and methods that are relevant to today’s business world. You develop key transferable skills and learn how to analyse a wide range of business problems so you can provide solutions and make meaningful recommendations.

International students
If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme (IFP). Achieving a good pass from the Kent IFP with an overall average of 60%, including passing all components, guarantees you entry to the first year of the Finance and Investment degree programme. For more details of entry requirements, please see p15.

For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp
Your studies are divided into three stages: Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3.

At Stage 1, you gain a solid foundation in key financial concepts, theories and skills. At Stage 2, you deepen your knowledge and begin to focus on more specialised topics. At Stage 3, you further develop your choice of subject specialisms.

You also take an employability module in both Stages 2 and 3 to help you acquire and develop the transferable skills necessary to apply for work experience and graduate opportunities.

Teaching and assessment

In a typical week, you spend eight hours in lectures and four hours in seminars. Some modules have workshops or sessions in the micro-computer labs. You also spend considerable periods on individual study using the library resources.

Some modules are 100% coursework. Where examinations are part of the assessment, they usually count for 70% of the marks for that module. Your second and final-year marks combine to determine your final degree class, together with your marks from your year in industry.

Module information

Please note: the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. The details below are correct at the time of publication (June 2019). Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

To read a full description of any of the modules listed, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and search for the module code shown below.

Stage 1

You take the following compulsory modules:

- Economics for Business 1 (CB365)
- Fundamentals of Finance and Investments (CB375)
- Fundamentals of Financial Accounting (CB330)
- The International Business Environment (CB384)
- Introduction to Data Analysis and Statistics for Business (CB367)
- Introduction to Financial Markets and Instruments (CB376)
- Modern Business and Employability Skills (CB401)
- Quantitative Methods for Finance (CB374).

Stage 2

You take the following compulsory modules:

- Corporate Finance (CB765)
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CB796)
- Derivatives (CB766)
- Economics for Business 2 (CB795)
- Financial Reporting and Analysis (CB773)
- Financial Econometrics (CB767)
- International Banking (CB774)
- Investment Analysis (CB775).

Stage 3

You take the following compulsory modules:

- Alternative Investments (CB776)
- Fixed Income Securities (CB777)
- Portfolio Management (CB772)
- Risk Management (CB769).

You can choose from the following optional modules:

- Asset/Liability Management (CB764)
- Behavioural Finance (CB768)
- Business Law and Employment Rights (CB760)
- Business/Management Project (CB542)
- Contract Law and Consumer Rights (CB5009)
- Financial Modelling (CB770)
- International Financial Management (CB771).
YEAR IN INDUSTRY/ABROAD

As part of your degree programme, it is possible to go on a year’s business placement or spend a year studying or working abroad. This is taken between Stages 2 and 3.

Year in industry
Students at Kent Business School have had placements with many major companies both in the UK and overseas. Opportunities for managerial level jobs are available in a wide range of sectors. Organisations who have recently participated in the scheme include Deloitte, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Ernst & Young, Eurosport, Fujitsu, IBM, Lloyds Banking Group, Morgan Stanley, National Grid, The Walt Disney Company, UBS AG Bank and Vauxhall Motors.

Study and career benefits
Employers are very keen to employ graduates who already have work experience, so this year can greatly enhance your job prospects by providing you with real managerial challenges. The placement also allows you to evaluate a particular career path and gain knowledge of the working environment. Following a successful placement, you may even be offered a full-time position with the organisation after you graduate.

The skills and knowledge acquired will also help you in your final year at university, by allowing you to put your academic learning into practice in a real-world context.

Finding a placement
Kent Business School provides information and support in finding placements, through a range of preparatory employability workshops. You are visited during your placement, and provided with online support at other times. On your return to the University, you provide a reflective report on your placement.

Salary and benefits
Salary and holiday entitlements vary according to the employer you work for. However, many students find that they earn enough to be able to save some of their income, and this often helps them in their final year of studying at Kent.

Keeping in touch with Kent
The University maintains close contact with you during your year away. The year in industry is assessed by a combination of employer feedback and academic evaluation.

Year abroad
For your year abroad, you spend your time studying at one of our partner institutions globally. It may also be possible to spend your year abroad on an approved work placement. See www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad for details.
We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet with you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They will assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support
The best advice often comes from people who’ve been in your situation. On our Academic Peer Mentoring scheme, first-year students can request to be matched with second- or third-year students on a similar degree programme.

Peer mentors will help you settle in to university life and find your feet. They can help you to discuss ideas and improve your study skills as you progress through your first year.

Study skills advice
Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics, from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing
You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

They are committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:
• talking to your lecturers about any help you need in lectures or seminars
• arranging note-takers, signers and other support workers for you
• discussing exam access arrangements
• helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
• applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“Peer mentoring is open to absolutely everyone. We’ve signed up to be peer mentors and we really do want to help, so take advantage of it.”

Evangeline Agyeman
Peer mentor
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t yet thought much beyond university, we can help you to plan for success in the future.

Build your CV
Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems and working both independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are valued by employers and will also be vital if you go on to further study.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:
- join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
- volunteer in the community
- work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
- represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
- learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards: we work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.

Valuable contacts
Kent Business School has an international reputation and good links with local businesses large and small. The School has a very active Business Society that runs regular events with guest speakers, to enhance your knowledge and give you the chance to interact with the business community. The year in industry also gives you a fantastic opportunity to impress employers and build business contacts.

This wider networking, coupled with a better understanding of what employers are looking for, gives you a definite advantage when it comes to your job prospects.

Recent graduates have taken up positions in companies including ABN Amro; Accenture; Baker Tilly; Burgess Hodgson; Deutsche Bank; Ernst & Young; Fidelity Worldwide Investment; HSBC; KPMG; Mazars; PwC and Royal Bank of Scotland.

Find a great job
Kent Business School’s qualified careers practitioners provide support to Finance and Investment undergraduate students for up to three years after graduation.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: over 95% of Kent graduates who responded to the most recent national survey of graduate destinations were in work or further study within six months (DLHE, 2017).
COME AND FIND OUT MORE

Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:
- learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
- ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
- experience our teaching at a taster lecture*
- find out about student finance, opportunities to study abroad and extra-curricular activities such as Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You will be able to visit our student accommodation at Liberty Quays, chat to current students and discover the fascinating history of our Medway campus.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

*Programme of events varies according to subject.

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the autumn and spring terms and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

Informal visits
If you can’t make it to an Open Day or Applicant Day, you can still visit us. We run tours of the campus throughout the year.
If you live outside Europe, we appreciate that you might find it difficult to attend our scheduled events, so we can arrange a personal campus tour for you and your family.

Let us know you’re coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent. We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information on studying at Kent. Find out more at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/international

Self-guided tours
If you prefer to explore on your own, you can download a self-guided walking tour at www.kent.ac.uk/informal or pick up a copy from us.

Explore online
If you can’t come and see us, you can find out more about the academic team, the course and events in the School online at www.kent.ac.uk/kbs

Keep in touch with us
• www.facebook.com/KentBusinessSchool
• www.twitter.com/kbs_kent
• www.youtube.com/KentBusinessSchool
• www.instagram.com/KentBusinessSchool

Contact us
If you would like more information on the University of Kent’s courses, facilities or services, please contact us on:
T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Location
Medway

Award
BSc (Hons)

Degree programme
Single honours
• Finance and Investment (N301:K)
• Finance and Investment with a Year Abroad (N302:K)
• Finance and Investment with a Year in Industry (N300:K)

Offer levels
BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or IB Diploma with 16 points at Higher.

Required subjects
GCSE Mathematics grade B (or grade 6).

Year abroad/in industry
See p11.

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2019. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsondconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit