ACCOUNTING & FINANCE AT KENT

Accountants are best known for validating company accounts – or auditing – but they also devise and operate financial systems, conduct investment analysis, advise on business matters, and handle individuals’ and corporations’ tax affairs. This programme responds to the needs and expectations of the modern accountancy profession.
WHY STUDY ACCOUNTING & FINANCE AT KENT?

Professional accreditation
Our Accounting & Finance programmes are accredited by the UK professional accountancy bodies, leading to exemption from specific examinations depending on your choice of modules.

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 expose you to the latest ideas.

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.

Lively campus
Kent is a campus university, so everything you need is within walking distance. You can watch a play or film at the Gulbenkian arts centre, dance at The Venue nightclub, keep fit at our sports centre and meet friends at one of many campus cafés and restaurants.

Inspirational teaching
Great teachers inspire enthusiasm and provoke debate. Whether they’re lecturing on leadership or sparking a debate about business ethics, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life and drawing you into the conversation.

Excellent resources
Access more than 1 million books, ebooks, databases and journals at the University’s Templeman Library. Our expert subject librarians are on hand to help you find your way around and get the most from our specialist collections.

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

At Kent Business School, we pride ourselves on the strength of our global connections. These have developed as a result of many strategies including a policy of regional, European and global recruitment, training and consultancy links. We also have excellent links with business schools in Hong Kong, China, France, Germany, Spain, Finland and Italy. We believe that an international perspective on business benefits all our students.

Independent rankings

The Complete University Guide 2020

- 26th out of 102 universities in the UK for Accounting & Finance

The Guardian University Guide 2020

- Accounting and Finance at Kent scored 88% 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*

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
Fathima Rialdeen is in the final year of her BA Accounting & Finance degree.

Why did you choose Kent?
I looked at both city and campus-based universities and prefered the campus-based ones. I love Kent, the campus, the facilities and it's a bit of peace and quiet away from London.

How is your course going? What have you really enjoyed?
Stressful but amazing! The modules feel integrated, they flow from the second year into the third year so you build your knowledge and experience. The range of optional modules is really good and the module that I have most enjoyed doing is, surprisingly, taxation. It's really different from what we have been doing, a bit different from straight financial accounting, and I think I may look into a career in taxation.

What do you think of the support available from your lecturers?
They are really approachable, quite wonderful. They are very helpful, they always answer your questions and if they can't do it during their office hours, they will give you an appointment to see them afterwards. They are very passionate about their subjects and have a lot of experience, both academic and practical.

You became a Student Rep. What made you do that?
It was to get more involved with the University. I thought, 'I'm here for three years so let's get the maximum benefit of coming to uni and be part of the community.’ Being a student rep meant I got to know a lot of different people, both students and academics, and could help to improve our course and the student experience.

You also do some volunteering? I am an academic peer mentor, so I support students who are on my course in years one and two. It gives me a chance to help them with things that I have already been through. I am also part of the ‘buddy scheme’, where I help and support new international students [I am originally from Sri Lanka] so they can settle in and make the most of their time here. I belong to the Islamic Society, making food for the homeless and I volunteer at Oxfam when I'm at home. I have taken the Kent Student Certificate for Volunteering – I collected 102 hours for that, so have been awarded the gold certificate.

How would you describe your fellow students?
We have a good mixture of international and UK students, which makes for an interesting dynamic. I see people from my course and hang out with them but a lot of my friends are from outside my course. Joining societies is a good way to interact with people from different disciplines. It was good to get out of the business world and mindset, and socialise with people from different courses.

Have you used the Career and Employability Service?
Yes I have because I'm making a Master’s application. They've been really helpful. I had no idea how to write my CV and they really helped me. I came out with a really good CV and I applied to really good universities, so fingers crossed.

What kind of career are you hoping to have?
I'm going to get a Master's degree and I want to qualify either as a tax accountant, or as a financial accountant using chartered accountancy. I'm still deciding between the two qualifications, either CPA or ACCA. I get exemptions from my degree, which means I don't have to do all of the papers for a professional qualification, which is a really good thing as well.

Any advice for future students?
Make the most of your time here because three years goes by so quickly. You are here to get a degree but also have some fun.
CHOOSING YOUR DEGREE PROGRAMME

Kent Business School offers a range of degree programmes that are tailored to specific aspects of industry as well as your individual interests and requirements. Here’s a guide to what’s available.

**Single honours**

**Accounting & Finance (N400)**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/235  
The programme begins with an introduction to accounting and you then go on to focus in greater depth on a variety of subjects. You can choose from a wide range of accounting and finance options in your final year of study, allowing you to develop specialist knowledge.

**Accounting & Finance with a Year Abroad (N405)**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3723  
The Accounting & Finance degree may also be taken over four years full-time with either a year in industry or a year overseas.

**Accounting & Finance with a Year in Industry (N404)**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/237  
The Accounting & Finance single honours qualification is accredited for exemption from some of the major professional accountancy examinations.

**Other degree programmes**

The following programmes can be studied at our Canterbury campus over three years full-time, or four years full-time with an optional year abroad/in industry. You may also study some programmes part-time.

**Business (top-up)**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/12  
This programme allows you to attain a full honours degree in one year provided you have gained an HND or foundation degree with a compatible syllabus in Business or a related discipline.

**International Business**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/865  
**International Business with a Year Abroad**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/866  
**International Business with a Year in Industry**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/867  
The International Business degree gives you a thorough grounding in the core topics that are key for a successful business career, as well as covering the contemporary issues within the global business environment.

**Management**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/1399  
**Management with a Year Abroad**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3722  
**Management with a Year in Industry**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/1398  
You are introduced to key functional areas of management while also being able to develop other specialist areas by choosing from the options offered in your final year.

**Marketing**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/868  
**Marketing with a Year Abroad**  
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/3721  
Our Marketing degree focuses on developing marketing skills in a globally competitive environment. You take a range of modules to facilitate the development of your marketing skills and capabilities.

**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 Accounting & Finance degree programme. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

**Joint honours**

Joint honours are available with the following subjects:
- Economics (LN14) 3 years
- Law (NM41) 4 years
- Mathematics (GN14) 3 years.

Joint honours graduates may gain exemption from some of the major professional accountancy examinations, subject to module choice.

**Need more information?**

If you would like advice on which is the right programme for you, you may email the Business School and request a one-to-one talk with the Head of Recruitment, Steve Robinson, at kbsinfo@kent.ac.uk
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

Your studies are divided into three stages: Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3. If you are spending a year in industry, you do this between Stages 2 and 3.

At Stage 1, you receive an introduction to accounting – including computer-aided systems, economics, management and business law.

In Stages 2 and 3, you focus in greater depth on subjects including strategic management, investments and the role of the accountant in international markets. 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 microcomputer labs. You also spend considerable periods on individual study using the library resources.

Most modules have an end-of-year examination, which usually counts for 70% of the final module mark; the other 30% is based on your coursework. Your second- and final-year marks combine to determine your final degree class (together with your marks from your year in industry, if applicable).

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.

Stage 1

Compulsory modules:
• Business Law (CB333)
• Financial Accounting 1 (AC300)
• Introduction to Economics (EC302)
• Introduction to Management (CB312)
• Mathematics and Statistics for Accounting and Finance (CB372).

Joint honours students take a combination of the modules listed above and those required for their other subject.

Stage 2

The following four modules are compulsory for single honours students and those joint honours students needing professional exemptions:
• Employability for Stage 2 Business Programmes (CB790)
• Financial Accounting 2 (AC524)
• Management Accounting 1 (AC521)
• Principles of Finance (AC523)
• Strategic Management (CB759).

Stage 3

Compulsory module: Employability for Stage 3 Business Programmes (CB792).

Optional modules may include:
• Advanced Financial Accounting (AC522)
• Auditing (AC504)
• Business Finance (AC502)
• Finance with Excel (CB6002)
• Fixed Income Markets and Instruments (CB6001)
• Futures and Options Markets (CB611)
• Management Accounting 2 (AC507)
• Taxation (CB513).

Joint honours students must also take a number of modules in their other subject.

“I’m taking a year in industry as it will really help me gain experience that will help when applying for jobs. Most employers look for those who have gained relevant experience, so the year in industry gives you a step up into your future career.”

Regina Baffour
Accounting & Finance
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 that have recently participated in the scheme include Danone, 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. It may also be possible to spend your year abroad on an approved work placement. See www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad for details.
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

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 ask 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 to 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.

The team is committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:

- 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

DID YOU KNOW?

Kent has won the *Times Higher Education (THE) Outstanding Support for Students Award* two years running (2017 and 2018).
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
Taking the year in industry programme gives you a wonderful opportunity to impress employers and make contacts in the business world. It also gives you a better understanding of what employers are looking for, and helps you discover what type of work most appeals to you.

The companies involved also see these placements as a good way to find potential full-time employees, so the scheme gives you a definite advantage when it comes to job prospects. See p10 for more details.

Find a great job
Accounting & Finance graduates from Kent have taken up positions with a wide range of employers, including ABN AMRO, Accenture, Baker Tilly, Deutsche Bank, Ernst & Young, HSBC, KPMG and RBS.

Kent Business School’s qualified careers practitioners provide support to all Accounting & Finance undergraduate students both during their studies and 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).
Luke Smith graduated from Kent in 2018 with a first-class honours in Accounting & Finance with a Year in Industry. He is currently working in the Financial Services Tax Department at Ernst & Young (EY).

What attracted you to Kent and to this particular programme?
I liked Business and Maths at A level so it seemed like an appropriate fit. My sister studied Accounting & Finance at Kent too, and she was already working in an investment bank by the time I was applying. She has always said how much she loved the campus and I visited a few times. It felt like one community, as opposed to separate buildings with other things in between.

How were your studies?
I really enjoyed my studies; a good thing about the programme is that you study a variety of subjects. There are obviously compulsory modules, but by the time you get to your final year you get to choose all of the modules you study. By that point, you are aware of what you enjoy more and where you perform better. That being said, it’s good that the first- and second-year modules are compulsory as it gives you a great base to build upon.

What did you think of the teaching at Kent?
The teaching at Kent is great; what really helps is that the lecturers are mostly qualified accountants. Especially when quite difficult topics are being discussed, it is so helpful to have someone who can actually explain something in a business context and give you a real life example. You realise how important this is if you complete a year in industry, when you actually have to put your learning to practice! Additionally, the lecturers are more than happy to put time aside to help; this is something you shouldn’t take for granted and you should take up their offer.

How would you describe your fellow students?
Your fellow students will always be your first point of call with any problem you are having. Kent puts an emphasis on group work, which is really useful and helps you prepare for team-based working when you are in practice. The University hosts a collaborative environment.

The students at Kent seem really driven; they are there because they want to be rather than because they have to be. I think that’s something that really shows, and it’s important to be surrounded by people who have aspirations and goals.

In what way has your degree helped you find work?
With the placement teams assistance, through their lectures and workshops, I was able to obtain a graduate job at my dream workplace! My only aspiration in my final year was to receive an offer from an organisation that would fund my studies for my chartered qualification. Not only did I do this, but I was able to earn myself a job at a prestigious ‘Big 4’ firm.

I opted to take an industrial placement up as part of my degree programme, and was lucky enough to earn a place at EY. Especially within the Big 4, passing the examinations as part of your chartered qualification is crucial for your success at the organisation. Kent aligns their course so closely with the exams for your chartered studies that you go in with a big advantage.

Could you describe your career path since leaving Kent?
Having completed a year already at EY, I returned as a second-year within the Financial Services Tax Department, specialising in Wealth and Asset Management Clients. Since my return, I have made a conscious effort to try and get exposure across service lines, where I have been involved in transaction work, corporate tax compliance, real estate tax, private equity, operational taxes and auditing.

What are your plans for the future?
I plan to stay at EY until I qualify as a chartered accountant (June 2020), and then potentially study for the CTA (Chartered Tax Adviser) qualification. It depends on how I feel by 2020!
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 different types of accommodation, chat to current students and enjoy the stunning views over the city of Canterbury.

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.

A self-guided audio tour is available too, which allows you to learn about Kent without even leaving home. See www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html

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 department and 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 Kent's courses, facilities or services, please contact us on:
T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Location
Canterbury

Award
BSc (Hons)

Degree programmes
Single honours
• Accounting & Finance (N400)
• Accounting & Finance with a Year Abroad (N405)
• Accounting & Finance with a Year in Industry (N404)

Joint honours
Accounting & Finance and...
• Economics (LN14)
• Law (NM41)
• Mathematics (GN14)

Offer levels
BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points overall or 16 points at HL inc Mathematics 4 at HL or SL (Mathematics Studies 5 at SL).
NM41: BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points overall or 17 points at HL inc Mathematics 4 at HL (Mathematics Studies 5 at SL).
GN14: ABB at A level inc Mathematics at grade A, IB Diploma 34 points overall or 16 points at HL inc Mathematics 6 at HL

Year abroad/in industry
See p10.

Professional recognition
Full or partial exemption from the preliminary stage of professional accountancy examinations provided you choose the appropriate modules. Single honours degrees offer further exemptions from the examinations of some accountancy bodies.

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

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/termsandconditions

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, which 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