

Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

Basic Course Information		
1.	Awarding Institution:	Nottingham Trent University;(NTU) Brno University of Technology; (BUT) University of Economics in Katowice; (UEK) State University of National and World Economy in Sofia (UNWE)
2.	School/Campus:	Nottingham Business School/City
3.	Final Award, Course Title and Modes of Study:	Joint MSc in European Business and Finance (JMSCEBF) Full Time
4.	Normal Duration:	Two Years
5.	UCAS Code:	n/a

6.	Overview and general educational aims of the course
	<p>This course is a response to the fast changing European academic environment. It reflects the Bologna process that is strongly supported by the British Higher Education Authorities.</p> <p>This is a joint master course recognised by all partner universities and their respective national academic authorities. This course has been jointly designed by all participant universities and is regulated by a specific negotiated agreement. It features multicultural, multilingual and European academic dimensions including students and staff travelling between the relevant countries.</p> <p>The overall aim is to develop managers originating predominantly from Central and Eastern Europe, capable of working in a pan-European cross-cultural business environment.</p> <p>The Joint MSc Degree in European Business and Finance aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide students with an opportunity to develop multicultural and multilingual communication skills which enables participants to communicate effectively with both the academic and the managerial and business communities b) Promote a critical and analytical approach to the use of information in multilingual and multicultural business situations c) develop students' ability to design and implement a research project based on up to date knowledge and practical experience of the changing European and global business environment d) Improve career development and promotion prospects for future Polish and Czech managers in the field of European Business and Finance e) Enhance awareness and understanding of the changing international context for the practice of European business and finance f) Develop student's comprehensive knowledge and understanding of an European finance specialised area <p>The JMSCEBF offers a focus on contemporary International/European business and financial issues, in combination with work in cross-cultural teams in a multilingual environment for the students. In addition, the course features a placement period (minimum 3 months) that will provide you with the opportunity to develop a range of work based skills.</p>

7.	<p>Course outcomes Course outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of your course if you take advantage of the opportunities for learning that we provide.</p>
Knowledge and understanding	
By the end of the course you should be able to:	
1	Expand a critical understanding of the role of the Finance discipline in the European and global context.
2	Demonstrate a critical knowledge and understanding of the primary processes of change relevant to the European business environment and EU integration.
3	Articulate a critical understanding of the major trends that have occurred over recent years in the globalization and regionalization of industries and markets in the context of European integration.
4	Demonstrate contemporary knowledge of the major business and management theories and the conceptual frameworks in the context of globalisation and European integration.
5	Apply knowledge, tools and techniques to resolve issues in new and diverse situations within the business and finance discipline.
6	Evaluate the rigour and validity of published research and assess its relevance to the practice of business and finance.
7	Demonstrate the ability to make recommendations for organisational practice based on theoretical insights through a process of experiential or applied learning.
8	Demonstrate an aptitude for independent critical thought and rational inquiry.
9	Demonstrate creativity and intellectual curiosity in both the application and synthesis of knowledge.
10	Demonstrate proficiency in the use of techniques of research and enquiry to draw conclusions from a critical evaluation of relevant issues.
11	Demonstrate an appreciation of the wider social, environmental and economic sustainability issues and their interrelationships which may be impacted by or have an impact on organisational activities.
12	Understand the environmental, social, governance and ethical problems that may occur in the business and finance discipline and apply appropriate frameworks or professional codes to resolve such problems.
13	Critically self-reflect, and demonstrate an international awareness and openness to the world, based on an appreciation of social and cultural diversity.
14	Develop a critical understanding of the role of the business and finance discipline in the global context.
15	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the role of the business and finance discipline in a wider organisational context.
16	Make decisions and exercise judgement in organisational settings when faced with a range of alternative courses of action.
Skills, qualities and attributes	
By the end of the course you should be able to:	
1	Analyse a variety of relevant data used in diverse contexts to support effective decision making in the international/European business and finance discipline.
2	Communicate key issues and arguments in written and oral format to a professional standard.
3	Effectively use information and communication technologies relevant to the international/European business and finance discipline.
4	Work collaboratively in internationally diverse teams.
8.	Teaching and learning methods
The teaching and learning methods for this course have been informed by	

the various academic traditions in the participating countries. One of the classical teaching methods – lectures will be the obvious choice for some teaching in many modules. However the majority of the teaching process will typically adopt a workshop-type approach in order to involve and engage you through a sharing of the learning process. Tutors will facilitate exercises and activities, which suit the philosophy of postgraduate learning. The role of the teacher will be to design and present learning opportunities that will actively engage participants and to provide time for plenary discussions and reflective learning.

Teamwork is a fundamental part of being an effective communicator and learner and is therefore an important feature of this course. Many of the modules contain group work elements, including role-play and presentations.

In aggregate the modules taught on the JMSCEBF utilize a range of teaching and learning methods appropriate to the subject matters and integrated with module assessment strategies. The following are the most common:

- 1 Key notes lectures
- 2 Workshops
- 3 Group/Plenary discussions
- 4 Case studies
- 5 Videos/Films
- 6 Tutor and peer feedback
- 7 Task simulations/Role play exercises
- 8 Tutorials

Methods 1,2,4,5,6,8 are used to develop knowledge and understanding and the other methods are applied for development of skills and qualities.

9. **Assessment methods**

The course uses various assessment methods to ensure you can demonstrate the range of high level learning outcomes. The modules are assessed through a variety of coursework, exams, presentations and projects.

These assessment methods are derived from the course’s core philosophy and they underpin vision, aims, objectives and course learning outcomes. Coursework assignments are in many cases submitted as project reports or presentations to the class. In addition, the students may be required to undertake a management skills activity, such as organised debate about the particular European business issue or being part of a consultancy group proposing a form of international collaborative business activity. Feedback is provided on all assessed work in order to support your reflective learning.

10. **Course structure and curriculum. Please note that the modules in shaded areas are taught at the students’ home institution and all other modules are taught at the NBS in Nottingham.**

The first academic year will be studied in Poland/Bulgaria/Estonia/Czech Republic at one of the partners’ universities. The second year of the course structure comprises a half year at NBS and a half year on industrial placement in any of the participating (and exceptionally, another) countries with a focus on the dissertation.

The course is designed to introduce students to the international business issues facing organisations. The international enterprising and cross-cultural

aspects are important elements of this course.

As part of this course, students will experience study in various academic cultural and language environments. Such an experience will boost their confidence to operate in international multi-cultural settings.

This experience will also foster the development of the knowledge and skills necessary for being successful in the international business and finance arena. The periods of study in various universities and countries offers many benefits to students, such as: opportunities for networking, contexts for discussion, exchanges and learning on themes of common interest, and insights on cross-cultural practices.

The course requires students to carry out a dissertation project which is common to all courses of the Czech, Bulgarian and Polish postgraduate framework.

First Year	Module Name	NTU Credit Points	No
Period/ semester			
1	Induction	0	n/a
1	Cross Cultural Issues in the European Human Resource Management	8	1
1	International Marketing	8	2
1	ELECTIVE MODULES. Please choose one of the 6 credit modules and one of the 8 credits modules:		
	International Finance	6	4a
	International and Comparative Accounting Studies	6	4b
	Understanding Global and European Business Environment	8	3a
	Global strategic management	8	3b
1&2	Business English	0	5
2	International Business Research Methods and Team Consultancy Project	8	6
2	ELECTIVE MODULES. Please choose one of the 6 credits modules, one of the No 7a/7b pair modules and one of the No 8a/8b pair modules:		

2	Financial Risk Management	8	7a
2	Financial Management	8	7b
2	Contemporary Issues in European Management Accounting	8	8a
2	Advanced management accounting	8	8b
2	International and European Business Law		
2	International Trade Law	6	9a
		6	9b
2	Strategic Management	6	9c

Second Year/ Period	Module Name	NTU Credit Points	No
3	Corporate Policy and Investment Strategy	20	10
3	Finance and Accounting for Business Strategy	20	11
3	International Human Resources and Information Management	20	12
3-4	Contemporary Issues in International Strategic Management	30	13
1-4	Dissertation	30	14
	Total NBS Masters level Credits Points	180	

11. Admission to the course

Applicants to this course will be expected to have completed their Bachelor degree in Business, Finance and Management disciplines at their home institutions.

The admission criteria require normally a completed UG (Hons) Degree in Business and Management/Finance, or equivalent. Another important criterion for the applicants is that their English language ability, must be at a level comparable with the requirements of the NBS Full Time Masters Degree (IELTS 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in reading and writing). Applicants who need visas for studying in the UK must produce a valid IELTS certificate or its equivalent.

There will be no standard advanced entry route for holders of a particular qualification. All the delegates have to study for full two years in order to be awarded this Joint Master Degree.

12. Support for learning

There will be an induction course at the beginning of the course at your home university and also at the beginning of the second year of study at the

NBS.

The induction will introduce the key details on the teaching methods and assessment structure of the course. Such information will be underpinned by the course and module handbooks.

For each taught module, you will be provided with a pack of learning resources at least one week prior to the module workshop.

In addition, as a registered student of Nottingham Trent University you will also have access to the University's excellent E-Library.

For academic guidance and advice you will have on-going access to module tutors and project supervisors by e-mail and telephone.

The course team at your home university and NBS will provide any general or personal support or advice you may require. You will also have access, to Nottingham Trent University's student support services.

Full details of the course, to include modules, workshop schedules, assessments, support services, contact details and a copy of relevant University regulations and procedures, will be set out in a Course Handbook. This will be provided to every student on enrolment onto the course at the NBS.

The academic support will be provided by the relevant course leader/director in each country. In the event of non-academic issues arising, the Course Administrators are there to help and provide you with information or direction to others who may be of assistance.

A range of additional support services are provided by all the Universities including specific support for international students and students with disabilities.

13. Graduate destinations / employability

The approximation process of the business and financial policies and systems between the individual EU countries drives high demand for the graduates in European business and finance in many EU countries and particularly in the new EU member states that have entered the EU in 2004 and 2007. The JMSCEBF graduates will find employment as middle managers in international companies that develop European/international strategies and as independent consultants and/or advisers.

14. Course standards and quality

To be fully compatible with the NTU Quality Assurance System, the partner Universities have introduced new academic practices/tools and established new policies and committees as follows:

- nomination of external examiners
- establishment of a JMSCEBF course committee
- establishment of a JMSCEBF Executive Committee
- establishment of a Board of Examiners
- appointment of the JMSCEBF Course Administrator

Students can therefore be assured that the quality assurance standards applied to this course are exactly the same as those applied throughout Nottingham Trent University and that the Joint MSc European Business and Finance award will have international recognition.

All partners have to respect their national scheme of quality assurance

	implementation and control of the study courses based on an accreditation system of the National Accreditation Commission in each country.	
15.	Assessment regulations This course is subject to the Nottingham Trent University's Common Assessment Regulations (located in Section 16C of the Quality Handbook). Any course specific assessment features are described below:	
	The Nottingham Trent University's Common Assessment Regulations for post-graduate taught courses and awards will apply to this course. There is only one dispensation and this concerns the regulation 38 (NTU CAR, Section 16C) re the maximum permitted number of attempts allowed for a student to pass a module. Please refer to the course handbook or to the contextual document for more information.	
16.	Additional Information	
	Collaborative partner(s):	Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic University of Economics in Katowice, Poland University of National and World Economy in Sofia, Bulgaria
	Course referenced to national QAA Benchmark Statements:	Yes
	Course recognised by:	NTU, BUT, UEK and UNWE
	Date implemented:	1 September 2016
	Any additional information:	