



UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON

Think Ahead

ACCA

Postgraduate programmes in

# Professional Accountancy

## 2019–2020

The World Class: studied  
anywhere, valued everywhere.



Academic direction by



**UCL**

[london.ac.uk/msc-accountancy](https://london.ac.uk/msc-accountancy)

# Gain a University of London degree, wherever you are



**1** **Make the most of your professional qualifications**  
ACCA members and affiliates can use their professional qualification as credit towards completing this degree.

**2** **Study without relocating**  
You can study wherever you live and gain a prestigious qualification. In many countries, you can take classes at local teaching institutions.

**3** **Quality of learning**  
The programme has been designed by academics at UCL's School of Management. UCL ranked 10th in the world's top universities in the 2019 QS World University Rankings.

**4** **Employability**  
Our degrees are internationally recognised and open doors to lucrative careers in finance, accounting, law, business, politics, education and other industries.

**5** **Join the World Class**  
On graduation, you'll join a global community of influential alumni, from leaders of business and industry to Nobel Prize winners.



# Your prestigious University of London qualification

## About your qualification

When you graduate with a degree from the University of London, you will receive two important documents – your Final Diploma (the parchment you receive on graduation) and a Diploma Supplement.

## The Final Diploma

- Indicates that you were registered with the University of London and awarded a University of London degree.
- Gives the name of UCL as the member institution that developed the syllabus and provided assessment.
- Features the University of London crest and the Vice-Chancellor's signature.

## The Diploma Supplement

- Describes the nature, level and content of the programme you successfully completed.
- Includes the transcript of courses taken, marks achieved and overall classification.
- States the role of UCL and the method of study.

# Contents

## Key dates

Application deadlines  
10 June 2019  
2 December 2019

Registration deadlines  
17 June 2019  
9 December 2019

Please note: compulsory induction courses are provided after you are fully registered and must be completed before the programme starts.

Programme starts  
8 July 2019  
6 January 2020

Final assessments take place  
Week commencing  
2 December 2019 and  
1 June 2020

**A global reach  
with over 50,000  
students spanning  
180 countries  
worldwide**

Gain a University of London degree, wherever you are	2
Your prestigious University of London qualification	4
Two qualifications in one	6
Why study for a University of London degree?	7
Online-supported distance learning	8
Structure	11
Module outlines	12
Entrance requirements and how to apply	14

# Two qualifications in one

## Stand out from the crowd

By taking the University of London master's route to ACCA membership (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), you will be rewarded with two world-renowned qualifications. The University of London and ACCA, the global body for professional accountants, are enabling you to complete an MSc in Professional Accountancy and your ACCA professional accountancy qualification at the same time.

This route will be of value to accountants aspiring to senior roles and will enable you to stand out from the crowd in terms of your qualifications.

This qualification compares very favourably to the standalone cost of studying for a master's degree separately.

Boost your career with this master's programme by developing key research skills and exploring current issues within the profession. This complements the ACCA professional qualification, preparing you for a wealth of opportunities. Graduates are negotiating new contracts within their current organisations and exploring new career avenues overseas.

## Dual recognition

ACCA members and affiliates can complement their professional qualification with this MSc by completing one University of London module and a project only. The University of London recognises the learning that has taken place as part of the ACCA journey and applies this as credit towards the MSc.

You have flexibility in how you structure your studies and there are different pathways to the award depending on the stage you are at in your ACCA professional qualification

journey. ACCA students who have passed the Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills papers can continue towards their ACCA Qualification by using the MSc as an equivalent to the two ACCA Strategic Professional Options (AFM and APM).

With the creation of this MSc, ACCA will uniquely, and for the first time, recognise two MSc modules as counting towards the strategic professional level of the ACCA Qualification. The University of London will recognise ACCA exams as counting towards the MSc.



# Why study for a University of London degree?

## A trusted name in global education

Founded in 1836, the University of London is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the UK. The University of London has been delivering accessible higher education around the world since 1858. Many of our past students have shaped the world we live in, including seven Nobel Prize winners and leaders of business, industry and science.

## Programme direction

Academics within UCL's School of Management provide the programme direction for the MSc, designing the modules, developing the learning content, and setting and marking the assessments. Therefore, you benefit from UCL's academic expertise and cutting-edge research.

In the 2019 QS World University Rankings, UCL is ranked 10th in the world's top universities. Its prestigious School of Management has an excellent reputation for high-quality research and teaching. The School underpins that research and teaching with a focus on operations, data analytics, innovation and enterprise.

## About the UCL programme team



**Lysie Chew,  
Programme  
Director**

Lysie has a track record of delivering accounting and

finance in an innovative way and has won three awards for the quality of her teaching. She is co-editor/co-author of three Pearson custom textbooks and engages in scholarship research on an international basis. She is one of the School's e-learning champions and is undertaking a Doctorate in Education, focusing on learning technologies. Lysie is also the module leader for the 'Strategic financial project' module on the MSc Professional Accountancy.



**Dr Alan Parkinson  
(FCCA), Professorial  
Teaching Fellow  
and Deputy  
Director (Education)  
of the School of  
Management**

Alan is responsible for the curricula for all the degree programmes in the School of Management, and is also Teaching Lead for the School's Accounting Group. He has extensive international training and consultancy expertise, and is Visiting Professor in Managerial Accounting at Tongji University, Shanghai.

**“This MSc offers teaching informed by research and insights into real-world issues. It will offer practical solutions to the challenges of making organisations work as they should, not least in the financial context.”**

**Dr Alan Parkinson**

# Online-supported distance learning



## Fit studying around your schedule

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You can set your own pace and complete the MSc in under a year, or take longer if that is more convenient. It may also depend on where you are in your ACCA journey. You can study up to three modules at the same time.

Each module takes 22 weeks to complete and you will need to allow about 12–15 study hours per week, which includes time spent on coursework and revision. There are fixed deadlines for submitting

coursework. To help you meet these, you are provided with a clear structure for your learning and online tools to plan and manage your time. Modules run twice a year.

## Comprehensive and interactive study resources

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You study using materials developed for online learning, provided in a choice of formats for use with different types of computers, including mobile devices. Study materials include

videos, readings, computer software, case studies and more. Interactive exercises and quizzes with automated feedback are embedded throughout.

There are links within the modules to the University of London Online Library and study resources. You do not need to purchase any additional textbooks.

## Network with professionals worldwide

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The University's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) enables you to network with other professionals in your tutor group worldwide. You will be able to share perspectives, compare approaches and gain a truly global viewpoint.

## Web-supported learning

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You can choose the web-supported study option, which provides you with an Online Tutor and Student Relationship Manager to support you in your studies. They will introduce the key content at the start of each module, guide you on the assessment, participate in online forums and respond to your queries.



## Getting started

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As soon as you register, you can start on the orientation module. This will help you get up to speed with the programme concepts and help you hone your study skills.

## Local teaching support

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As an alternative to the web-supported learning option – depending on where you live – you may be able to take face-to-face classes at a local teaching centre for an additional fee. We are establishing a network of centres in the locations where students are planning to study. These centres have been recognised by the University of London for the quality and standards of their teaching. The list of centres is on our website: [bit.ly/recognised-centres](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/undergraduate/teaching-centres) Classes may be held on a part-time or block basis.

## Assessment

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The degree is assessed through a combination of methods, including coursework, projects and written paper examinations. The grade you achieve for each module is based on all the elements of assessment. If your module includes an exam, you can take it in any of our exam centres worldwide. You can submit coursework and projects online through the University's VLE.

## Build up your qualifications

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You may be able to start your studies with a Postgraduate Certificate if you have not passed the ACCA Strategic Professional Essentials (SBL and SBR). When you have successfully completed the Certificate and ACCA SBL and SBR papers, you can transfer to the MSc programme.

## Celebrate your graduation

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Mark your achievement with your friends and family at the annual graduation ceremony in London, which is usually presided over by the University of London's Vice-Chancellor or the Chancellor, HRH The Princess Royal.

## Join a global alumni network

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On graduation, you become a member of the University of London Alumni Association. You may participate in our global events and meet other graduates in your academic or professional field.



### Jesse Sylvester

British Virgin Islands

**'I think the difficulty, especially for people in the developing world, is that the opportunity to pursue higher education is a challenge financially. The option to pursue an education through distance and flexible learning, where you can remain at home with your family and continue with your employment, makes it worthwhile.'**

Jesse decided to study the MSc in Professional Accountancy after gaining an ACCA qualification.

“The programme was perfect for me because it allowed me to work on my studies at my own pace.

The online platform and the format of the course enabled me to schedule studying anywhere and anytime. I was able to squeeze free slots in my calendar to get the work done.”

**Rashika Fernando**  
Canada

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## Student Relationship Managers

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Student Relationship Managers (SRMs) are a key point of contact and support for you throughout your journey with the University of London, from registration through to graduation. Working collaboratively with colleagues from across the University, SRMs provide you with information on a wide variety of topics relating to the management of your student journey.

Some of these key areas include registration for modules, accessing and using the VLE, progressing through studies and understanding the regulations.

SRMs are on hand to assist you with the day-to-day management of your studies, preparing you for the practical steps needed to undertake tasks such as submitting coursework and entering for exams.

SRMs are there to ensure the best possible student experience for you. You will be able to contact and interact with your SRM through a variety of methods. These include VLE forums, our enquiry management system and by telephone. SRMs also participate in regular online Q&A sessions.

# Structure

Like the ACCA Qualification, the MSc in Professional Accountancy has been designed to support you in developing the high-level knowledge and intellectual skills needed for leadership of the finance function in a global

context. This programme will help you develop the commercial, strategic and creative skills to address the challenges presented by today's fast-paced, volatile and interconnected world.

## Key to ACCA Papers:

**SBL** Strategic Business Leader  
**SBR** Strategic Business Reporting  
**AFM** Advanced Financial Management  
**APM** Advanced Performance Management  
**ATX** Advanced Taxation  
**AAA** Advanced Audit and Assurance

	ACCA STUDENTS		ACCA MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES
	PATHWAY 1		PATHWAY 2
LEVEL OF AWARD	Postgraduate Certificate	MSc	MSc
YOU HAVE PASSED	ACCA Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills papers	ACCA Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills papers and ACCA Strategic Professional Essentials (SBL and SBR)	ACCA Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills papers and ACCA Strategic Professional Essentials (SBL and SBR) and two ACCA Strategic Professional Options from AFM, APM, ATX and AAA
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	–	–	Preparation course must be taken if your last exam was completed more than five years ago
STRUCTURE	Complete <b>TWO 30-credit modules</b>	Complete <b>THREE 30-credit modules</b> on the MSc programme	Complete <b>TWO 30-credit modules</b> on the MSc programme

# Module outlines



## MSc in Professional Accountancy – Pathway 1

The MSc comprises the relevant ACCA papers (or their equivalent) and

### Three modules

Strategic financial management

Strategic performance management

Strategic financial project

## Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Accountancy

### Two modules

Strategic financial management

Strategic performance management

## MSc in Professional Accountancy – Pathway 2

### Two modules

Global issues for the finance professional

Strategic financial project

## Strategic financial management

This module will equip you with the tools to evaluate business financing options, manage financial risks and make appropriate investment decisions. It takes a proactive and logical approach to decision-making in areas such as investment appraisal; financial risk management; capital structures; dividend policy; mergers and acquisitions; and the use of financial instruments to manage risks.

**Assessment:** This module is assessed by coursework and an examination.

## Strategic performance management

This module develops the skills to design, implement and evaluate an organisation's performance management system. The emphasis is on making well-informed decisions, gaining insights into the blend of financial analysis and managerial judgement required to enable managers to make sound decisions. It provides the essential toolkit that managers need when faced with making hard-edged decisions to improve performance in the context of a complex and ever-changing business environment.

**Assessment:** This module is assessed by coursework and an examination.

### Strategic financial project

This is a mandatory capstone module, which presents an opportunity to challenge yourself to demonstrate independent academic research skills and apply them in a professional context. You will present an analysis of, and recommend potential solutions to, an accounting/finance-related business issue. As a result of this process, you will develop a critical self-awareness, which will increase your personal effectiveness in a business context.

**Assessment:** This module is assessed by coursework and a project.

The strategic financial project includes an innovative and collaborative business simulation in which you manage a business project with other students in small international groups. You will develop your accountancy skills and broaden your horizons through international collaboration, preparing yourself for a range of global career options.

### Global issues for the finance professional (part of Pathway 2, only for ACCA members and affiliates)

This module provides insights into how finance and accounting is evolving in today's unpredictable global environment. It will give you the skills to think critically and creatively in selecting alternative solutions and solving complex problems. The module addresses topical issues such as the valuation of intangibles; the impact of the Basel Accords on financial risk management practices; global mergers and acquisitions; financial reporting and accounting standards; and selected topical issues in sustainability, including tax avoidance.

**Assessment:** This module is assessed by coursework and a project.



## Pichmolyka Nhek

Cambodia

**‘The most rewarding part of my studies was having access to an abundance of learning resources, which really provided a lot of knowledge. Also, the opportunity to connect with other students around the world is really good. It was not only a cultural exchange but also an exchange, of knowledge relating to our studies.’**

Pichmolyka is currently the Deputy Director of Finance and Planning at HKL in Cambodia.

# Entrance requirements and how to apply

## Entrance requirements

Only those registered with ACCA are eligible to study towards the MSc in Professional Accountancy.

### Qualifications required under MSc Pathway 1

Passed all the ACCA Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills papers, and passed the ACCA Strategic Professional Essentials (SBL and SBR).\*

### Qualifications required for the Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Accountancy

Passed all the ACCA Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills papers or their equivalent.\*

### Qualifications required under MSc Pathway 2

In addition to MSc Pathway 1 ACCA papers, you must also have passed two of the ACCA Strategic Professional Options from AFM, APM, ATX and AAA.\* If you passed the last of the ACCA Strategic Professional papers more than five years ago, you must be able to demonstrate that your continuing professional development (CPD) record is compliant with the ACCA policy on CPD since you became a member. This includes an up-to-date CPD declaration for the current year.

One hour of learning on your MSc will be equivalent to one unit.

You will also be required to pass the assessment for our online preparation test. This takes the form of a MOOC, 'Keeping up with change: issues for the finance professional', which is available on a regular basis.

\*or earlier forms (e.g. 'F' and 'P' papers).

Please refer to our website for the English language requirements for the programme:

[london.ac.uk/msc-accountancy](http://london.ac.uk/msc-accountancy)

## How to apply

You can apply online at:  
[london.ac.uk/msc-accountancy](http://london.ac.uk/msc-accountancy)

After you have completed the application process, you will receive feedback on your eligibility. If you are successful, you will be able to register and pay for the first modules you wish to take.

## How much will it cost?

The full list of annual fees for the programmes will be published on the Student Fees web page once confirmed. Please visit: [london.ac.uk/fees](http://london.ac.uk/fees)

Fees are subject to annual revision and typically may be increased by up to five per cent per year.

You will pay for each module as you take it. The module fee includes access to study materials and entry into the assessments associated with the module (written examination, coursework and project as applicable) but excludes the fee charged by the local exam centre, which you must pay directly.

You will also need to pay your ACCA subscription fees as normal to continue to be eligible to study towards and be awarded the MSc.

**Please note:** all student fees are net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.



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