



London Academy
of Trading

Level 5 Diploma in Applied Financial Trading

DIVERSIFY YOUR CAREER

This course is ideal for individuals wishing to develop trading skills in order to enhance current income with scope to transition into full time trading at home or within the financial service sector. In addition, you can obtain the skills required to take ownership for your own investment decisions and hopefully supersede current revenue obtained from alternative investment avenues.

ABOUT LAT

The London Academy of Trading is a privately-owned educator based in the City of London providing accredited, vocational programmes in financial markets trading.

We pride ourselves on being the most trusted providers of trading skills education, putting your needs first in everything we do. We offer courses for individuals looking to develop their understanding and experience of financial markets trading with a view to earning additional income through trading, or enhancing their career opportunities. Our courses combine theoretical teaching with practical trading experience under the watchful eyes of our team of professional traders and mentors. Our courses can be studied in-house, online, or via a blended combination of each. Working in partnership with a number of financial partners enables us to provide cutting-edge technology and up-to-the-minute news and data to support the learning process.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To provide the knowledge and skills to trade profitably in financial markets
- To provide a comprehensive understanding of how fundamental and technical analysis are used in real life situations by financial market professionals
- To teach students how to apply academic knowledge to manage risk and build reliable strategies for trading real-time financial markets
- To introduce students to market-leading software, data and applications from our technology partners
- To demonstrate the importance of trading psychology and strong mental control when trading
- To educate students to the standard required to pass the Level 5 Diploma in Applied Financial Trading

Mode of Attendance: Online, blended, on-campus – All students are given full-time access to our online course (see details below) and each student can select the number of weeks they wish to attend the academy trading floor in person

Duration: 12 weeks



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COURSE OUTLINE

Our Professional Financial Trading Programme is our most popular course, leading to an accredited and regulated qualification in Applied Financial Trading.

The course has been designed around the four core concepts of trading – fundamental analysis, technical analysis, trading psychology and risk management. The course requires little or no previous knowledge of trading, although candidates with some experience should find this course particularly beneficial.

The course is comprised of academic and practical elements, beginning with an introduction to financial markets and an outline of the basics of trading across Forex, stocks and commodities. Fundamental news and political events are the cause of most significant market moves, therefore macroeconomic events and their impact upon financial markets are discussed on an unfolding and real-time basis. Technical analysis is also a major driver of financial markets, the course provides detailed explanations of technical analysis tools and explains how these trading techniques can be combined to build robust and profitable trading strategies. There is also strong emphasis given to trading psychology and risk management and how the natural human emotions of hope, fear, greed and over-confidence can adversely affect your trading decisions.

Daily webinars and on-campus lectures will commonly include discussions of current news events and their effect on the market as well as covering live trade examples, looking for “what happened next?” scenarios. In addition to the academic content, this is a practical course in which candidates will be given access to real-time financial market information, macroeconomic news releases and real-time trading systems in order to execute trades and practise the application of trading strategies. Candidates may also choose to spend some or all of their course on our City trading floor, being guided by our team of mentors and professional traders, as they trade foreign exchange, precious metals, commodities, stock indices and other financial assets on a £10,000 demo account.

As the lecturers and mentors are active traders themselves, live trading opportunities can be observed and analysed during the daily webinars, via the online chat system or face to face during your time on our City trading floor. Students will be directed towards additional reading as well as other online information sources and other content from the LAT teaching staff.



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COURSE BENEFITS

- **Fit around your lifestyle:** You can take our flexible course at your own pace, from home, part-attendance or on campus. Whichever learning format you choose, you'll receive an accredited education from our experienced academics and traders.
- **Learn alongside experienced experts:** Our mentoring team includes senior traders and lecturers with more than 20 years' trading experience from investment banks and renowned trading firms, including Credit Suisse and HSBC.
- **Take control of your investments:** You'll gain the insight to help you develop "wealth creation strategies", understand how to take advantage of short-term opportunities and create additional income streams.
- **Build your networks:** You'll be learning with like-minded individuals with whom you can share trading ideas, develop teamwork skills and enhance your trading ability in a practical, professional way, using the most up to date platforms.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Successful trading requires a deep understanding of:

- Fundamental analysis and macroeconomic news
- Technical analysis
- Trading psychology
- Risk management

The course has been structured to provide you with the information tools and skills required to create a structured and disciplined trade plan.

1. **Online/blended courses: Three months unlimited access to our Interactive platform:**
 - a. Online HD recorded video lectures – you can replay each lecture unlimited times throughout the duration of your course
 - b. Course reference manuals and lecture slides – to help you revise and recap the content of the video lectures
 - c. Detailed answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) – answers are given in text format with more complex questions also having video explanations
 - d. Online chat and discussion forums:
 - i. Chat online with the LAT Academic team, Monday to Friday from 07.00 to 17.00 London time
 - ii. Interact with LAT staff and/or other students
 - iii. Receive one-on-one advice and feedback on your trading strategy to help the development of your trade plan.
2. **On-site access to the LAT trading floor (you choose how many weeks)**
 - a. Your own dedicated dual-screen trading desk from 07.00 to 17.00 each day
 - b. Access to one-on-one help and advice from LAT's professional traders and mentors
 - c. Access to real-time Squawk news commentary.



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3. **Full-time access to the FxPro real-time trading platform:**
 - a. Trade FX, precious metals, commodities, stock indices and other assets
 - b. Apply theoretical concepts to real-time markets
 - c. Practice your trading techniques on a £10,000 demo account as markets react to real live events with no risk of real-money losses while studying.
4. **Twelve weeks access to our daily webinars (07.15, 12.00 and 16.15 London time)**
 - a. Listen to the mentors and professionals and ask any questions to our live traders in these daily open Q&A sessions
 - b. Watch the LAT mentors check overnight market activity and analyse today's significant macro news events to prepare for the day ahead
 - c. Identify potential trading opportunities both intraday and longer term
 - d. Review the webinar recording after the event.

LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The course comprises both academic and practical modules which are merged seamlessly together. Practical Financial Trading Techniques and Concepts of Financial Trading each contain specific Learning Outcomes and associated Assessment Criteria.

The Learning Outcomes describe the abilities that students should possess after they have completed the course and the Assessment Criteria identify the list of achievements required to demonstrate that a student has met each Learning Outcome.

Sample exams and assessments will be provided during the course to help students prepare for their official assessments.



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LEARNING OUTCOMES (LOS) AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Practical Financial Trading Techniques (15 credits)

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

LO1. Evaluate the price and performance of financial asset classes

Assessment Criteria

- 1.1 Explain the process of utilising trading techniques to identify under-valued and over-valued asset prices
- 1.2 Assess how support and resistance levels are created by investor supply and demand
- 1.3 Demonstrate the use of momentum oscillators for identifying overbought and oversold situations to forecast potential trend reversals.

LO2. Use information technology to analyse and trade on real time financial markets

Assessment Criteria

- 1.1 Develop a structured trading process
- 1.2 Explain the importance of managing exposure to risk when trading
- 1.3 Apply technical analysis and trading techniques in real-time financial markets considering:
 - A structured trading plan
 - Management of risk
 - Emotional and physical behaviour in line with professional standards
- 1.4 Assess profit and loss calculations over a trading period.

Concepts of Financial Trading (25 credits)

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

LO1. Understand the importance of market analysis of a wide variety of sources.

Assessment Criteria

- 1.1 Explain how macroeconomic data releases affect market prices
- 1.2 Investigate how political events impact financial markets
- 1.3 Analyse the impact of medium and long term global economic cycles on asset prices
- 1.4 Investigate how international trade imbalances cause financial markets to move
- 1.5 Describe how investor sentiment can provide indications of future market performance.



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LO2. Understand the utilisation of appropriate technical vocabulary and terminology

Assessment Criteria

- 1.5 Explain the different vocabulary used by dealers to add clarity and efficiency to conversations
- 1.6 Investigate terminology used by traders specific to FX and futures markets.

LO3. Understand how asset prices are affected by human behaviour in financial markets

Assessment Criteria

- 3.1 Explain why traders sometimes fail to realise losses and others take profits too early
- 3.2 Investigate different behaviours demonstrated by traders at various points along the profit loss spectrum
- 3.3 Analyse the cause and resulting impact of overconfidence by traders
- 3.4 Investigate why increased information may not increase knowledge or control
- 3.5 Describe the processes used to avoid the effects of natural psychological biases.

LO4. Understand the trading mechanics of different asset classes

Assessment Criteria

- 4.1 Examine the history and participants of FX markets, considering the how and why these groups trade the FX markets
- 4.2 Investigate the structure of the futures market
- 4.3 Explain futures pricing, fair value and basis
- 4.4 Investigate how, why and where stocks, commodities and bonds are traded.

LO5. Understand the importance of technical analysis of price charts

Assessment Criteria

- 5.1 Examine the relevance of Dow Theory tenets in relation to financial market trading
- 5.2 Explain the process of development of robust trading strategies
- 5.3 Investigate how price targets can be identified from recognisable price patterns
- 5.4 Examine how moving averages are utilised to identify trends and trade signals
- 5.5 Explain how changes in market volume can help predict future market moves.



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ASSESSMENT

- **Written Examinations (30%)**
 - Students can sit formal exams either online or on campus.
- **Coursework (30%)**
 - There are three individual coursework assignments, covering fundamental analysis, behavioural analysis and financial market structure
 - Students receive Formative Assessment (i.e. feedback before handing in their coursework) to make sure they are on the right track.
- **Trading Performance (40%)**
 - Trading performance is assessed in the final four weeks of the course:
 - Technical and statistical assessment:
 - Trading strategy details and profitability
 - Recording of hit rate, average profit/loss ratio, maximum drawdown
 - Behavioural assessment:
 - Ability to maintain discipline under pressure
 - Money management skills and ability to follow trading rules
 - Trading Strategy Presentation:
 - Each student will create a presentation of their trading strategy and performance statistics
 - Detailed guidelines are provided and assessment will be made on content, structure and presentation of the strategy, as well as their ability to follow their own trading rules with precision and discipline.

GRADES

- 50% – Pass
- 65% – Merit
- 80% – Distinction

ALUMNI SERVICES

Once you've completed the course, you become part of the LAT Alumni.

Our aim is to ensure that all of your personal goals are met, so if you have any questions or issues after you finish your course, then you are welcome to contact us for help and advice, whether via phone or email or even with a visit to the academy.

We want you to succeed in your career and we will do everything in our power to help.

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