

Applied Project Overview

MODULE INFORMATION

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* NB: For common project queries, please consult all guidance documentation, or attend one of the spring term Connections sessions.

PROJECT TOPIC

The topic covered by your Applied Project report must broadly fit into one of the following categories:

1. **Corporate Investment Project**
2. **Applied econometric or other type of quantitative analysis**
3. **Writing and documenting new software for a financial application**
4. **Accounting based topic**
5. **Financial Technology Report**

The report should demonstrate a familiarity with relevant finance theories and demonstrate relevant competences. Although not a piece of academic research, the report should carefully reference all sources.

You will be asked to submit your chosen topic and category to the Hub by 16:00 on Wednesday 24 April. We recommend that students choose whichever topic they feel best fits their project as this will be used as a guide when allocating markers.

Examples of reports from previous years can be found in the *Project Examples* folder on the Hub.

ASSESSMENT

Presentation (10%) – 5 minute presentation per student

Final project (90%) – 3,000 words

MODULE SYLLABUS

You will work on the Applied Project over the Spring and Summer terms and the final project report must be submitted by **14 August 2024**.

The Applied Project may involve an outside partner, such as a work placement sponsor or a prospective employer. Students who gain approval to undertake a work-based AP must submit their final reports by **28 August 2024**. The report is no different to those without a work placement, however it must be linked in some way to your work.

In scope it is equivalent to one elective and the work will be presented via a 5 minute presentation and in a 3,000 word report. Further details are available in the Applied Project Guidelines, which will be available on the Hub in due course.

The applied project grade is part of the summer term and is used when calculating your summer term average which can impact your degree classification.

WORK-BASED APPLIED PROJECT

If you are a student intending to start a work placement (internship) or a permanent position in July or August, you will first be required to submit details of your work placement to the programme team. This is to gain formal approval for your work placement from your Programme Director, as you will be starting work before the official end of your MSc programme. This approval is especially important for students on a Student or TIER 4 visa or those from EU/EEA who arrived to the UK after 1st January 2021.

Once approved, the work placement can be recognised as an integral part of the MSc programme by way of the Applied Project, and Student/TIER 4 visa students would be permitted to work full-time during June, July and August 2024. The work placement must start on or before Thursday 1st August 2024.

Students will then automatically be transferred to the AP (Work Placement) module by the programmes team. This has a later final submission deadline than the standard Applied Project but the report itself remains the same.

Further details on the above, together with a work-placement survey for students to submit their documentation, can be found in the Work Placement Approval Process document in the materials section of the Applied Project area on the Hub.

TRAINING AND SUPPORT

An extensive series of training sessions, on topics such as finance databases, RefWorks, Business Information for Projects, etc. will be provided by Library staff during the spring and summer terms to support students in researching and producing their Applied Project. There will be Applied Project presentation practice sessions provided by the Global Study Skills team in April/May 2024, with an opportunity to gain feedback on presenting style and effective communication.

The above training and workshops will be on a sign-up basis and details released to the Hub in Spring Term.

English Language support sessions will also be available for students whose first language is not English.

Unlike the research project, the applied project is unsupervised, and students should not be approaching faculty for advice on their project. However, an AP Teaching Assistant will be appointed at the start of the summer term to provide support for students. The TA will hold a weekly office hour, during the summer term until mid-August.