

CERTIFICATE IN FINANCIAL STUDIES

This subject will suit you if:

- You are interested in a career in the financial services industry.
- You want to know about managing money.
- You are concerned about becoming financially independent at university or when you start full time work.
- You are interested in current affairs.

What you will study

- How to manage your money, how it will impact on your life and the choices that you will have to make.
- Financial services products (such as credit cards, loans and mortgages) and how they can help you meet your individual lifestyle needs.
- The benefits that can be derived from financial services products, and how these can contribute to achieving your personal aspirations.
- How to develop an awareness of risk and reward, and the obligations associated with different financial solutions.
- The concept of 'money' in all its forms, and how the value is subject to time and circumstance.
- The scope of the financial services industry and how it impacts upon the individual.
- How different external factors impact upon the individual directly, and indirectly.
- A range of financial solutions and how to draw reasoned, informed and sound financial judgements in particular contexts.

What Can I Study With It?

Business Studies, Accounting, Economics and Business Studies are good choices if you are aiming for a career in the Financial Services sector but it can be combined with any other advanced level subject.

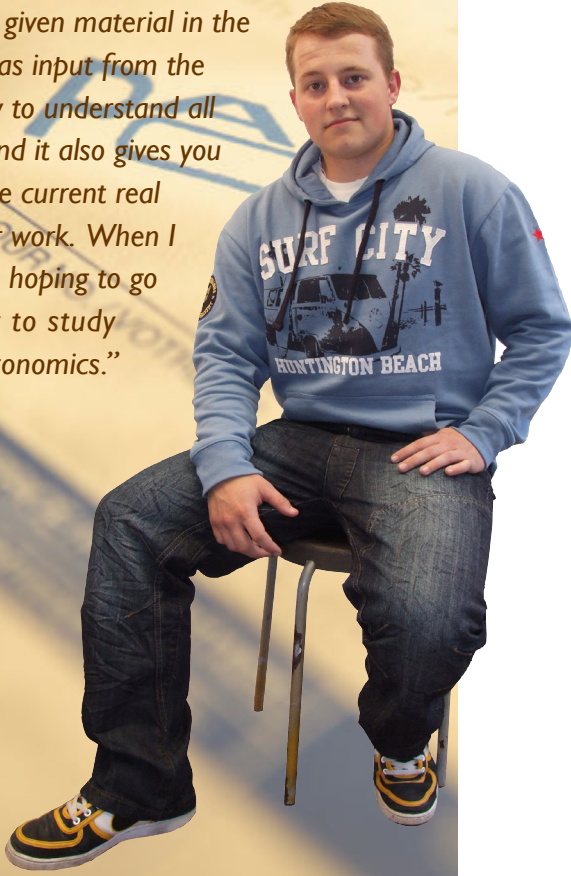
Additional Entry Requirements

A Grade C or above in GCSE Maths is desirable.



David Defty

"I decided to study for the Certificate because it went well with my other choices and it was a new subject so I thought I would give it a go. Because you are given material in the booklets as well as input from the teachers it's easy to understand all you're learning and it also gives you the chance to use current real life issues in your work. When I leave college, I'm hoping to go on to university to study Business with Economics."



Yasmin Walayat

"I was told about this subject when I came to College and was interested in learning more so decided to study it. It has taught me to manage and budget my expenditure which will benefit me in the future. I was also attracted to the different concepts used by professionals to determine outcomes in different situations. This subject has broadened my understanding and appreciation of why financial planning is essential throughout your life. I hope to go on to pursue this subject in higher education and eventually have a career in the financial services industry."



Students' Views

"Due to this course I clearly understand what products are around and I would like to continue enjoying the subject."

"I can relate it to my everyday life and can advise other people."

"The course I have already done has helped me at work so I would like to continue to extend my knowledge to help me further."

"I had very little intention of studying finance further, but since studying for this course, I feel that finance is something I would consider."

"Seeking a job in finance is more achievable after taking CeFS course."

"It has given me the confidence in knowing what to do."



Ideas for Progression

Successful completion of the CeFS (Certificate in Financial Studies) allows students to study the Dip FS (Diploma in Financial Studies). Both these qualifications provide a route to Higher Education and to a career in financial services. CeFS and Dip FS carry full UCAS tariff. The CeFS course was found to reinforce students' intention to consider pursuing a career in the financial sector. The CeFS qualification is accredited by the ifs School of Finance, formally known as the Institute of Bankers. They have over 125 years' experience as a leading provider of financial education to financial services professionals. Students can continue to study ifs School of Finance professional qualifications throughout their financial services career.

To find out more you can visit our website: www.ofsc.ac.uk

Further reading

www.ifslearning.ac.uk/financial_capability/14_-_19/cefs/index.cfm

www.ifslearning.ac.uk/financial_capability/14_-_19/dip_fs/index.cfm

www.ifslearning.ac.uk/financial_capability/14_-_19/cefs/pdf/uom_study.pdf