

**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE Programme Organiser Proforma**

<b>Title &amp; Code of Degree Programme</b>	TMSCOMSFIN01 MSc Financial Computing		
<b>Programme Organiser</b>	Dr Kevin Bryson		
<b>Number Enrolled on programme</b>	7		

**Programme Statistics**

<b>Marks</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>	
	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>
Distinction		3
Merit		
Pass		4
80-89 Average Mark		
70-79 Average Mark	29	2
60-69 Average Mark	57	4
50-59 Average Mark	14	1
40-49 Average Mark		
0-40 Average Mark		0

**A. Quality of student work, pace and content, appropriateness of teaching methods and action(s) taken or planned to resolve any problems . You are also asked to look particularly at issues of student progression.**

The students found the pace and content challenging but were all able to cope with half gaining distinctions and half passes. Some students commented that it was difficult to put in sufficient effort for Bank Internship applications given the substantial COMPGC01 / COMPGC02 labs and coursework in the 1<sup>st</sup> term – that some of this coursework should be moved into the 2<sup>nd</sup> term which was lighter in coursework. This should be considered in the refactoring of the MSc FC course which is currently under review.

**B. Any Learning Resources problems which have affected the provision of the programme (quality of lecture or tutorial rooms, laboratory or IT facilities and action taken or planned**

Overall the students were very strongly satisfied with computer and lecturing facilities. There was a minor issue of finding appropriate space for project group meetings during COMPGC22 Software Engineering – a UCL space utilization review is currently ongoing at a College level and hopefully this will lead to more efficient use of the limited space we have.

**C. Issues Identified by Students (from questionnaires, staff-student committees etc.) and action taken or planned**  
In general the students were happy with the MSc FC programme – they felt particularly strongly that it gave them very good job prospects.

Two key issues highlighted by the students were late return of coursework marks/feedback and also inadequate feedback on the coursework. These coursework issues actually affect many programmes throughout Computer Science (and is also a key concern of the NSS results) - a real emphasis is being placed at the highest level of department and faculty to resolve this issue. Another slight concern is the very short time between the end of the Bank Internships and project report submission - the MSc FC project deadline this year has been pushed a week later to address this.

**D. Issues Identified by External Examiners and action taken or planned**

No issues identified by the external examiner.

**E. Specific Programme Organiser Comments and action taken or planned**

This was a particularly small year of 7 students and so no issues with resourcing and personal tuition (concerning projects) was possible resulting in a year of very satisfied students.

One concern was whether some of the content (Computer Architecture, Compilers, Operating Systems) is really appropriate for MSc Financial Computing students – extensive revision of the programme to make the content more appropriate is currently under discussion.

**F. Programme Organiser comment on any structural changes to the programme** which have been made in the preceding year which might necessitate an updating of the existing Programme Specification (PS). Please confirm that the PS has been reviewed and updated. Programme Organisers are then requested to send in their updated PSs by email each year to Rob Traynor in Academic Support (r.traynor@ucl.ac.uk) for uploading on to the Academic Support website.z

**Some additional modules such as Business Analytics have been added to the programme in 2013/14 – these have proved very popular due to the demand for big data analysis skills in the financial industry. Otherwise no major revisions were carried out for 2013/14 but future extensive revisions are under discussion.**

**G. If the Programme is subject to accreditation by a Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB), please include the following information:**

- The name of the PSRB concerned;
- The date (month/year) of the latest PSRB accreditation of the programme;
- The main outcomes of this latest accreditation;
- The expected date (month/year) of the next PSRB accreditation of the programme.