

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

Programme name	Insurance and Risk Management
Award	MSc
School	Cass Business School
Department or equivalent	MSc Programme (Cass Business School)
Programme code	PSIRMT
Type of study	Full Time Part Time
Total UK credits	190
Total ECTS	95

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

You are required to take eight core modules in term 1 and term 2 as listed in the module diet. In term 3, you are required to take:

A Business Research Project with a credit value of 40 and a maximum of 10,000 words, taken in tandem with three specialist electives. Term three elective modules are chosen from a list of modules made available early in term two.

Students on the part-time route take the following core modules in year 1 and the remaining core modules in year 2. Term three elective modules (depending on option chosen) can be taken over the two years.

Theory of Risk and Insurance markets
Insurance Law and regulation
Accounting and Financial Management in Insurance
General Insurance

Students on Exempted route are required to do the following:

4 core modules x 15 credits each (exempt APL)

Theory of Risk and Insurance Markets
Insurance Law and Regulation
General Insurance
Risk Management

Term 2 Un-exempted Core modules

Business Organisation & Corporate Strategy in Insurance & Financial Services
Risk Analysis and Modelling
Accounting and Financial Management and Insurance

General Insurance

Aims

The programme is founded on three principles: academic rigour, relevant knowledge and international orientation. The programme also has a strong vocational orientation without compromising its academic rigour. You will acquire a sound knowledge of the theoretical foundations that underpin modern insurance and risk management techniques and, at the same time, apply these principles in practice through case studies and events organised in conjunction with City institutions. Many leading practitioners from such institutions teach on the course, providing a helpful link between theory and practice. The course is offered on the full-time basis (12 months programme) and part-time basis (24 months programme).

The programme aims to develop:

- the intellectual, social and practical skills of those who follow it;
- a strong academic and vocational background of the learner;
- the ability of to analyse, interpret and understand issues related to insurance and risk management and financial risk management.

The course enables you:

- to acquire a clear and thorough understanding of their science;
- to effectively assist and contribute to risk management problems within modern financial markets or institutions;
- to seek senior positions in the insurance, finance and financial risk management arena or proceed to further postgraduate studies.

Throughout the course, where possible, lecturers will emphasise the many ethical issues that arise in the context of insurance practice. In so doing you will be encouraged to share your views with your lecturers and with your class mates, where a diversity of opinion is to be expected and encouraged.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Understand the risks that threaten business organisations including financial risks produced by fluctuations in currencies, interest rates and commodity prices, threats to physical assets from natural perils, man-made threats of terrorism, fraud and criminality and the many operational risks that surround the organisation and planning of business activity.

- Understand how the expanding science of risk management aims to identify, control and finance these risks by combining insurance programmes, hedging strategies and new techniques such as Alternative Risk Transfer (ART).
- Understand the basic principles of risk and insurance, and the characteristics of the main types of insurance, both life and general.
- Understand the structure and operation of international insurance markets and the function of insurance firms within the financial system.
- Gain an understanding of how, at the present time, great changes are also taking place in the organisations that provide risk management services: there is an increasing overlap in the operation of banks, insurance firms and other financial institutions and a steady process of integration across the whole financial sector.

Skills

- Collect, classify, and analyse a variety of financial information. Synthesise information/data from a variety of financial sources
- Effectively communicate new ideas effectively to a non technical audience
- Identify, record and analyse vital financial information
- Formulate, examine and test hypotheses
- Apply all acquired numerical skills in the area of specialisation
- Demonstrate the skills involved in the preparation and interpretation of risk management and insurance plans
- Work comfortably and efficiently as a part of a large/small team
- Prepare descriptive and interpretative technical reports
- Evaluate and interpret investment/financial data
- Adapt and then apply learning from examples
- Apply the academic and vocational principles-methodologies to the solution of investment or risk management problems

- Conceptualise questions or areas of insurance and risk management
- Plan, conduct and report a programme of commercial research
- Use effectively IT equipment related to insurance and risk management
- Apply case studies to new situations.

Values and attitudes:

- Show adaptability in the use of models and techniques for managing risk.
- Demonstrate awareness of the risk environment, and appreciation of the wider social context of insurance and risk management.
- Show appreciation of ethical issues connected with risk management processes.
- Show appreciation of the importance of the regulatory regimes that guide financial markets.
- Demonstrate prudence in the use of resources

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Teaching and learning methods include the opportunity for you to apply your knowledge and expertise to problems beyond those generally encountered. A range of teaching and learning strategies are used to help you meet the different learning outcomes and to cater for the varied backgrounds and experiences of you and your fellow students.

- Lectures and directed reading are used to help to help you achieve an understanding of the current level of knowledge in the relevant areas.
- Case studies, the use of specialist software package and real life exercises as well as contributions from outside speakers are used to achieve integration between theory and practice.
- Substantial pieces of individual work such as a Business Research Project will provide you with the opportunity to acquire research and report writing skills on an individual basis and you will also work in small groups with your fellow students in order to benefit from peer interaction.
- Classes are supported by e-learning material which is available on the Moodle Virtual Learning Network.

The assessment of the course will also support your learning:

- Coursework provides ongoing feedback on your programme.
- Tests will assess the knowledge gained.
- Examinations provide a more in-depth assessment of knowledge gained and also assess your problem solving abilities.

The MSc in Insurance and Risk Management is designed and structured to allow for intellectual progression through core modules taught in terms 1 and 2. Modules taught in term 2 normally build on the knowledge and skill acquired in term 1. Term three allows for further progression by choosing specialist elective modules or a dissertation/project, where students can apply knowledge and skills acquired earlier in the programme.

A minimum of 10 teaching and learning hours (both contact and non-contact) are required for each credit awarded. The precise weighting of different types of teaching and learning depends on the modules you take and the breakdown is therefore provided within the appropriate module specifications.

Non-contact hours are for self-directed study and account for the **minimum** amount of time you should spend studying independently, including subject research, reading, working in groups and completing assignments and other homework.

Overall teaching and learning hours: approx 1900 hours

Contact hours: approx 348 hours

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

This course is assessed by coursework and examinations and applies standard MSc grade related criteria.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade- Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy and will be provided in a variety of ways throughout your course, both formally and informally, in order to support your learning.

You will normally be provided with coursework feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. The timescale for feedback on final projects or dissertations may be longer. Examination grades will be provided once they have been agreed by an Assessment Board.

More details about the feedback you can expect from individual modules and assessments will be provided by your lecturers.

The full policy can be found at:

https://www.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/68921/assessment_and_feedback_policy.pdf

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits. The programme is weighted according to the number of credits awarded for each module. Pass / Fail modules are excluded from this calculation.

The pass mark for each module is 50% and there are no minimum qualifying marks for individual components.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Compensation: where you fail up to a total of 20 credits at first or resit attempt (15 for a postgraduate certificate), you may be allowed compensation if:
 - Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the “What will I Study” section of the programme specification), and
 - It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme, and
 - A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
 - An aggregate mark of 50% has been achieved overall.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your

original mark shall be used for the purpose of your award calculation.

2. Re-Sit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt you will normally be offered one re-sit attempt.

If you are successful in the re-sit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a re-sit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass requirements for a module and do not complete your re-sit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:

http://www.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Master's Degree:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Degree	7	190	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	65
Without	50
Classification	

Postgraduate Diploma:

You must achieve 120 credits with a minimum mark of 50%.

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Degree	7	120	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	65
Without	50
Classification	

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be Compensated?	Level
Theory of Risk and Insurance Markets	SMM352	15	C	Y	7
Insurance Law and Regulation	SMM353	15	C	Y	7
Principles of Finance and Financial Analysis	SMM354	15	C	Y	7
Risk Management	SMM356	15	C	Y	7
Accounting and Financial Management in Insurance	SMM357	15	C	Y	7
Risk Analysis and Modelling	SMM359	15	C	Y	7
General Insurance	SMM372	15	C	Y	7
Business Organisation & Corporate Strategy in Insurance & Financial Services	SMM373	15	C	Y	7
Business Research Project	SMM527	40	C	N	7
Alternative Risk Transfer and Risk Securitisation	SMM382	10	E	Y	7
Claims Management	SMM383	10	E	Y	7
Marine, Aviation and Transport Insurance	SMM386	10	E	Y	7
Reinsurance	SMM389	10	E	Y	7

During term three you will be able to choose from a range of electives to personalise your experience.

This list of electives is an indication of the range of modules that can be on offer and is subject to change due to circumstances such as: enhancing or updating the quality and content of educational provision; responding to student feedback; academic staffing changes; the number of students in each programme; a lack of student demand for certain modules; or factors beyond the institution's reasonable control, such as meeting the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body. For these reasons, not all the electives listed will be offered every year. New (additional or replacement) modules may also be added for these reasons.

There may also be pre-requisites for joining a module, and space and timetable availability restrictions may also apply.

The list of electives offered in a given year will be confirmed by February 1st.

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

<http://www.cass.city.ac.uk/more-about-cass/careers-services> - Careers Service

<http://www.cass.city.ac.uk/more-about-cass/alumni-services> - Alumni Service

WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

Accrediting Body: Chartered Insurance Institute (CII)

Nature of Accreditation

Upon completion holders will, in addition to gaining the MSc, receive up to 210 credits towards the Diploma / Advanced Diploma in Insurance (120 or 290 required respectively for completion - further completion requirements also apply) and up to 60 credits to be used towards the Diploma/Advanced Diploma in Financial Planning (credits awarded are dependent on modules chosen). Holders will also be exempt from the core educational requirement (the 'Major Achievement' element) of the CII Fellowship should they wish to study for this after completing the Advanced Diploma.

Accrediting Body: Institute of Risk Management

Nature of Accreditation

Students who complete the programme are entitled to three exemptions from the IRM examinations.

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

To be accepted on to a Cass MSc degree you will need a good Bachelors degree. This usually means a UK 2.1 or above, or the equivalent from an overseas institution. Some level of previous study in the specific subject area may be required.

Applicants will need to submit two references, one of which must be an academic reference if the candidate does not have previous work experience. Previous work experience is not a requirement of our full time MSc courses.

We require all students who have not previously studied at in English to take an IELTS exam. The IELTS requirement is 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in writing.

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