

# Programme Specification: Post Graduate Taught

## For students starting in Academic Year 2024/25

### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme and award title(s)</b>	MSc Economics
<b>Award type</b>	Taught Masters
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time Part-time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 7
<b>Normal length of the programme</b>	1 year full-time or 2 years part-time
<b>Maximum period of registration</b>	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele Campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	n/a
<b>Regulator</b>	Office for Students (OfS)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p><b>UK students:</b></p> <p>Full-time fee for 2024/25 is £12,700</p> <p>Part-time fee for 2024/25 is £7,000 per annum*</p> <p><b>International students:</b></p> <p>Full-time fee for 2024/25 is £21,900</p>

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

### 2. Overview of the Programme

Economics is a discipline that evaluates economic motives and economic behaviours of all market participants including individuals, households, firms, institutions, governments, and international organisations with the aim of delivering improved economic outcomes. By doing so, it brings to the fore the key aspects featuring economic interactions and employs tools that produce policy prescriptions capable of improving both the interactions and their outcomes. The interactions are captured by economic models. The tools are both theoretical and empirical. The policy prescriptions are inextricably linked with schools of economic thought which reflect political beliefs. The outcomes depend on the effective and timely adoption of specific economic policies. The successful Economist correctly assesses economic environments and chooses the appropriate policies that, if adopted in a timely manner, provide the right remedies to economic issues. The MSc Economics provides ideal training for such an Economist.

It does so by ensuring graduates have gained an advanced skillset enabling them to address current and future

economic policy challenges. This by mastering the underlying monetary rationale of economic interactions, acquiring the tools needed for a successful career as a professional economist, and deriving relevant policy recommendations under scenario analysis. The tools involve:

- Familiarity with key concepts and methods of applied economics through core modules and a variety of options
- Following cutting-edge research in applied economics
- Hands-on testing of economic policies and econometric tools and methods by using databases and advanced software packages.

In this way, the MSc Economics exposes students to the diverse analytical and empirical economic frameworks, which are accompanied by statistical methods to test key hypotheses and provide quantitative propositions. This methodology finds applications in a wide range of real-world problems and policy-related issues. Thus, the MSc Economics provides valuable insights into the key attributes of applied economic research, business behavior, government policy as well as the wider economy and opens a wide range of career prospects in the public and private sectors, finance, banking, local authorities, and NGOs.

### **3. Aims of the programme**

The programme gives students outstanding training in applied economics, blending theory and empirical research skills with a clear applied quantitative focus. By the portfolio of available options, the master's provides a breadth of additional strengths in key economic-related areas such as finance, the environment and sustainability.

By the end of the programme, successful students will gain:

- A systematic understanding of knowledge in applied economics and relevant areas.
- A command of analytical theories and techniques, in the relevant areas of applied economics.
- Knowledge of applying advanced quantitative techniques in different contexts.
- Enhanced research skills in economic theory and applications
- Increased confidence in advanced data analysis, data evaluation of economics decision-making problems and their solutions in dynamic and uncertain global business environments.
- An in-depth expertise of advanced applied statistics and econometrics
- Improved employability through enhanced professional and practical skills.

### **4. What you will learn**

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

#### **Subject knowledge and understanding**

Successful students will be able to:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of key concepts, theories and empirical frameworks in applied economics related to the functioning of financial markets, and their impacts in economic activity.
- Demonstrate mastery of a variety of advanced empirical (statistical/econometric) methods in economics and professional software for the analysis of real economic and business data.
- Analyse complex real-world problems and provide potential quantitative solutions.

#### **Subject specific skills**

Successful students will be able to:

- Apply advanced critical and analytical thinking, relying on theory and application.
- Employ advanced applied statistical and econometric methods.
- Synthesise, present, and communicate reasoning, policy analysis and accompanying data evaluation in an effective way.
- Conduct advanced research in applied economics.
- Produce professional reports on their quantitative research findings.

#### **Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)**

Successful students will be able to:

- Apply rational strategic thinking, focusing on a particular policy issue or policy challenge.
- Produce key quantitative economic findings and convey them effectively to non-specialized audiences, in a variety of ways (written as well as oral).
- Work effectively with information technology and use advanced spreadsheet software in the analysis of quantitative data.
- Manage their own learning, reflect on, and plan their own academic work thus demonstrating academic independence.

The master's is academically rigorous and delivered in a supportive and inclusive learning environment. It equips students with a range of skills and capabilities that are highly valued by prospective employers. In addition to subject-specific knowledge, it develops analytical/critical/reasoning ability skills, advanced literacy (essay-writing, presentations) and numeracy (statistics, data analysis and presentation), time-management and capacity for independent study. In other words, the master's equips its graduates with intellectual, professional, and personal resources which they can draw throughout their lives.

### **The Keele Graduate Attributes**

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social and ethical awareness**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

## **5. How is the programme taught?**

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Traditional and interactive lectures where the lecturer provides students with a framework for reading and independent study. Some lecture classes may feature activities such as group discussion, quizzes that involve voting, or other interactive activities.
- Small group tutorials and seminars where key issues can be explored and discussed in more depth. Students are expected to play a full part, and on some occasions, to lead these discussions. Some tutorials and seminars consist largely of student presentations, and many are based on the application of business ideas to case studies drawn from the media and the findings of relevant academic research.
- Practical, computer-based, lab classes where students acquire the hands-on skills associated with 'soft' data analysis and interpretation.
- Independent study based on directed reading from textbooks, research monographs, academic journals, business case studies, official government publications and the media.
- Web-based learning using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE). The KLE is used to give students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools, and as a platform for online discussions, quizzes and blogs.

The programme also offers the choice of 45 compulsory credits between a Dissertation, Consultancy project, or Placement project.

- The dissertation requires independent thought and action and encourages the integration of course material in finance and economics with areas of individual expertise and interest. The context, quantitative analysis, and conclusions of the study are to be presented for assessment in a dissertation. Completion of the dissertation is supported by an academic supervisor.
- For the consultancy project, the aim is to encourage and enable students to reflect on an applied research placement and to develop and apply skills within the management of organizations. Participation in the Consultancy Project is only available after a comprehensive selection process. Postgraduate students who meet the criteria will be attached to an organization/company for a period of between 8-12 weeks. During this time, you will need to undertake, in conjunction with KBS and organization, a research project on behalf of the organization/company.
- Placement project - it will be the students' responsibility, with the support of the School's Placement Officer, to find and secure the placement which can last between 6-12 months. The placement should be a paid work placement at a suitable level for postgraduate study. During your time of the placement, students are required to complete an extended project on behalf of the organization.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or

module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways. For example:

- Lectures and independent study allow students to gain a systematic understanding of key areas in economics and how they may be used to analyse both current problems and potential solutions.
- Seminars and tutorials provide opportunities for students for structured group discussions of problems in economics where students are expected to clearly formulate and exchange their ideas using the learned theory and evidence from real business practice. Seminars and tutorials also provide opportunities for group presentations which require the group to develop a common solution to a problem or an answer to a question and present their ideas clearly and efficiently to members of staff and other students using an appropriate medium of communication.
- Seminars, tutorials, and web-based activities encourage students to reflect on their own learning and take responsibility for its development by addressing areas of difficulty, perhaps by discussing them with their colleagues or by getting additional help from a member of staff.
- Undertaking an independent dissertation project with the support of an experienced and active researcher allows students to formulate relevant research questions and, also to devise and implement a feasible and methodologically sound strategy for answering them.

## 6. Teaching Staff

The programme is taught by highly qualified staff with specialist qualifications in economics or closely related areas. All current members of academic staff have doctorates (PhDs or equivalent) in relevant areas and hold (or are completing) qualifications in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Membership of the Advance Higher Education is encouraged in KBS, and most members of staff are currently either Fellows, Senior Fellows, or Principal Fellow.

All KBS staff are active researchers and scholars whose work has been disseminated in various outlets. This research and scholarship inform the teaching that takes place in KBS. This means that we are teaching cutting edge knowledge, with staff often actively researching or practising in that area. Additionally, some of our staff actively research teaching and learning within higher education, so how we teach is also at the forefront of higher education practice. More information about KBS Staff Members is available on the KBS website: [Our people - Keele University](#)

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 7. What is the structure of the programme?

Entry points will be twice a year, September and January and modules will be taught to multiple cohorts simultaneously. The full-time programme lasts between 12-24 months, and the part-time programme lasts between 24 and 36 months, dependent upon the route chosen.

The summary of the year for the full-time mode is as follows.

### **Full-time mode:**

For the September intake, students will be first taught all semester 1 modules, followed by the study of all semester-2 modules, and then the compulsory study of a Dissertation, Consultancy project or Placement project in semester 3.

For the January intake, students will be first taught all semester 2 modules, followed by the compulsory study of a Dissertation, Consultancy project or Placement project in semester 3, and then the study of all semester-1 modules.

### **Part-time mode:**

There are nine taught modules (six core plus three optional). The breakdown per year is as follows:

ECO-40010, ECO-40014, FIN-40055 and two optional modules will be taught in the first year (75 credits).

ECO-40008, ECO-40012, ECO-40016 and an optional module will be taught in the second year (60 credits).

The Dissertation Finance and Economics, Consultancy project, or work Placement project will take place in

semester 3 of the second year.

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 7	90	90	90

## Module Lists

### Level 7

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Macroeconomic Theory and Policy	ECO-40008	15	Semester 1
Microeconomics: Theory and Policy	ECO-40010	15	Semester 1
Econometric Theory and Applications	ECO-40014	15	Semester 1
Environmental Economics and Sustainability	ECO-40012	15	Semester 2
Public Economics and Public Policy	ECO-40016	15	Semester 2
Research Methods	FIN-40055	15	Semester 2

Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Advanced Business English Communication for Postgraduates	ENL-40017	15	Semester 1
Portfolio Management and Investment Analysis	FIN-40041	15	Semester 1
Leadership	MAN-40056	15	Semester 1
Understanding Consumer Behaviour	MAN-40120	15	Semester 1
Advanced Business English Communication for Postgraduates	ENL-40017	15	Semester 2
Derivative Instruments	FIN-40037	15	Semester 2
Fixed Income Securities and Credit Risk	FIN-40039	15	Semester 2
Green Finance	FIN-40053	15	Semester 2
Creativity and Personal Development	MAN-40058	15	Semester 2
Dissertation - Finance and Economics	FIN-40071	45	Semester 3
Consultancy Project	MAN-40198	45	Semester 3
Placement Project	MAN-40200	45	Semester 3

### Level 7 Module Rules

\*Students can choose Consultancy Project only if they have completed MAN-40058 Creativity and Personal Development.

ENL-40017 Advanced Business English Communication for Postgraduates. Open only to non-native speakers of English on recommendation of the Language centre. Students could join the module in either Semester-1 or Semester-2.

Students also have access to one-to-one sessions during office hours for individual help and advice, and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice.

## Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

### Level 7

<b>Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of key concepts, theories and empirical frameworks in applied economics related to the functioning of financial markets, and their impacts in economic activity.	Environmental Economics and Sustainability - ECO-40012 Microeconomics: Theory and Policy - ECO-40010 Macroeconomic Theory and Policy - ECO-40008 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014 Public Economics and Public Policy - ECO-40016
Demonstrate mastery of a variety of advanced empirical (statistical/econometric) methods in economics and professional software for the analysis of real economic and business data	Consultancy Project - MAN-40198 Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071 Placement Project - MAN-40200 Research Methods - FIN-40055 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014
Analyse complex real-world problems and provide potential quantitative solutions.	Consultancy Project - MAN-40198 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014 Placement Project - MAN-40200 Research Methods - FIN-40055 Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071

<b>Subject Specific Skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Apply advanced critical and analytical thinking, relying on theory and application.	Microeconomics: Theory and Policy - ECO-40010 Environmental Economics and Sustainability - ECO-40012 Macroeconomic Theory and Policy - ECO-40008 Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014 Public Economics and Public Policy - ECO-40016 Consultancy Project - MAN-40198 Placement Project - MAN-40200
Employ advanced applied statistical and econometric methods.	Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014
Synthesise, present, and communicate reasoning, policy analysis and accompanying data evaluation in an effective way.	Environmental Economics and Sustainability - ECO-40012 Macroeconomic Theory and Policy - ECO-40008 Public Economics and Public Policy - ECO-40016 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014 Microeconomics: Theory and Policy - ECO-40010
Conduct advanced research in applied economics.	Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071 Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014 Research Methods - FIN-40055
Produce professional reports on their quantitative research findings.	Environmental Economics and Sustainability - ECO-40012 Public Economics and Public Policy - ECO-40016 Placement Project - MAN-40200 Consultancy Project - MAN-40198 Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Apply rational thinking, focusing on a particular policy issue or policy challenge.	All Modules
Produce key quantitative economic findings and convey them effectively to non-specialized audiences, in a variety of ways (written as well as oral).	All Modules, and particularly: Dissertation Finance & Economics FIN-40071 Consultancy Project MAN-40198 Placement Project MAN-40200
Work effectively with information technology and use advanced spreadsheet software in the analysis of quantitative data.	Econometric Theory and Applications - ECO-40014 Dissertation - Finance and Economics - FIN-40071 Consultancy Project - MAN-40198 Placement Project - MAN-40200
Manage their own learning, reflect on, and plan their own academic work thus demonstrating academic independence.	All modules and in particular Dissertation Finance & Economics FIN-40071 Consultancy Project MAN-40198 Placement Project MAN-40200

## 8. Final and intermediate awards

<b>Master's Degree</b>	180 credits	You will require at least 150 credits at Level 7
<b>Postgraduate Diploma</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 90 credits at Level 7
<b>Postgraduate Certificate</b>	60 credits	You will require at least 40 credits at Level 7

## 9. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- Unseen closed and open book assessments in different formats test students' knowledge in Economics and their ability to apply that knowledge responsibly in understanding domestic and global economic developments and challenges. Examinations may consist of essays, short answers, and computer-based exams.
- Essays and Reports, including those based on case study material, also test the quality and application of subject knowledge. In addition, they allow students to demonstrate their ability to carry out basic bibliographic research and to communicate their ideas effectively in writing in an appropriate scholarly style using the Harvard, or recognized alternative, system of referencing.
- Portfolios create a vehicle to promote active student learning and development of economic reasoning skills.
- Class tests taken either conventionally or online via the Keele Virtual Learning Environment assess students' subject knowledge and their ability to apply it to problems in a structured and focused way.
- Short research papers test students' knowledge of different research methodologies. They also enable students to demonstrate their ability to formulate research questions and to answer them using an appropriate strategy.
- Dissertations test students' ability to undertake independent study, framing a problem, critically evaluating relevant literature including alternative methodologies and methods, applying a clear methodology through to conclusion, and presenting the results in a coherent, logical manner.
- Consultancy, or placement projects test students' ability to develop and apply their skills within the management of organizations and to gain work experience from real business life.

Methods of assessments depend on the individual nature of the modules. Final assessments test students' knowledge and understanding of the main body of material, key concepts, methods, and analytical frameworks; they also test analytical and critical thinking and presentation skills.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

## 10. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an external body.

## 11. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

## 12. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

In order to be able to join the programme, students will need at least a second-class undergraduate honours degree from a UK University whose content will be at least 50% in economics or an economics-related discipline with an analytical (math) and quantitative (statistics, econometrics) component of a broadly similar nature as of



that of an economics degree; or an overseas equivalent qualification. In exceptional circumstances, professional qualifications or relevant work experience may also be considered.

Applicants for whom English is a second language will require English language proficiency of at least Academic IELTS 6.5 test scores with a minimum of 5.5 in each subtest (or equivalent).

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

### **13. How are students supported on the programme?**

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module and tutorial group leaders are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules and in the tutorial groups for which they are responsible. They also give individual feedback on in-course assessments and more general feedback on examinations.
- The Programme Director monitors overall student progress, undertakes progress reviews, and provides a general point of contact for students.
- The Programme Director is also responsible for all aspects of programme coordination. They may be consulted on a wide range of issues and, among other things, commonly may be approached to provide a reference for job and other applications.
- The Programme Director acts as first point of contact for students on non-academic issues which may affect their learning and can refer students to a range of specialist health, welfare, and financial services co-ordinated by the University.
- Each student is allocated an Academic Mentor who provides individual student support in accordance with the University guidelines.
- Students whose first language is not English are offered language classes, facilities, and services by the University's Language Centre. Students have access to one-to-one tutorials for individual help and advice and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice.
- Additional help with university level study skills is available from the Learning Support Officer in Keele Business School.
- All members of teaching staff on the Programme are available to see students during advertised weekly office hours and at other times by appointment.

Other support and learning opportunities include:

Keele Careers and Employability online and in-situ services (e.g. recruitment and selection methods workshops, one-to-one meetings to discuss your individual requirements, jobs bulletin).

A careers consultant delivers a session specifically tailored to the KBS postgraduate students.

The alumni mentoring scheme enables students to be matched with one of our alumni volunteers who will have already commenced their career and can offer advice and guidance on preparing for graduate employment. This is an online service provided by the University.

Events and activities organised by KBS and Smart Innovation Hub (SIH) - there are regular activities (subject to availability) taking place within the SIH which are opportunities for you to learn more about the world of economics, finance, or business and to hone your networking skills.

### **14. Learning Resources**

Teaching on the economics master's largely takes place in the Smart Innovation Hub which is a new state-of-the-art home for Keele Business School.

The learning resources available to students on the Programme include:

- The extensive collection of economics materials relevant to postgraduate study held in the University Library, including books and journals; often in digitised form (e-books, online journals) accessible online to Keele students with their Keele credentials.
- The Keele Learning Environment which provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture notes, electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library and other resources - video, audio and text-based - accessible from external providers via the internet.
- Students joining finance modules will have access to the Bloomberg Professional service, a portal of information with its wealth of news and analyses, real-time and historical datasets and simulated online trading platforms. This platform is used by banks and other financial services organisations in their daily operations. At KBS, Bloomberg is available in the dedicated KBS Multifunctional IT suite to which students of relevant Modules have access.
- Extensive online datasets are given by the Bloomberg portal as mentioned, and by Thomson Reuters Eikon and Datastream, an industry-standard source of economic, financial, and business data. This is available via

- a computer link located in the KBS Multifunctional IT suite.
- Students will have the opportunity to use statistical/econometric software packages such as STATA to perform complex numerical analysis in their essays and Dissertation.
- Microsoft Office and Teams - students have access to the Microsoft Office and KBS uses the Microsoft Teams platform for many of its online learning activities.

## 15. Other Learning Opportunities

Students will be fully supported in enhancing their software skills, they be able to meet future employers in Quest Lectures Series and will be fully supported if they wish to engage with further studies, e.g. MPhils or PhD in Economics (e.g. discussing potential topics with module leaders).

## 16. Additional Costs

Whilst there are no anticipated additional costs for this programme, there may be travel costs associated with visits to host companies for the dissertation or consultancy project. However, it may be possible for the project to be conducted remotely via digital communications.

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

## 17. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students on the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

## 18. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

**a.** UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

**b.** QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Economics (2023) [https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/sbs/sbs-economics-23.pdf?sfvrsn=e271a881\\_6](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/sbs/sbs-economics-23.pdf?sfvrsn=e271a881_6)

**c.** Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

The Economics profession is not accredited by any professional body; however, the programme:

- offers the opportunity to apply to the Government Economic Service (GES) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/civil-service-government-economic-service> which requires an Economics UG or PG Degree (by at least 50%);
- covers the key Economics topics required by the Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA), Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK) - Part III: Economics: <https://www.cfainstitute.org/en/programs/cfa/curriculum/cbok>
- covers the standards stipulated by the Institute for Apprenticeships for Economics: [Professional economist \(integrated degree\) / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

## Version History

### This document

**Date Approved:** 26 June 2024

### Previous documents

Version No	Year	Owner	Date Approved	Summary of and rationale for changes
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