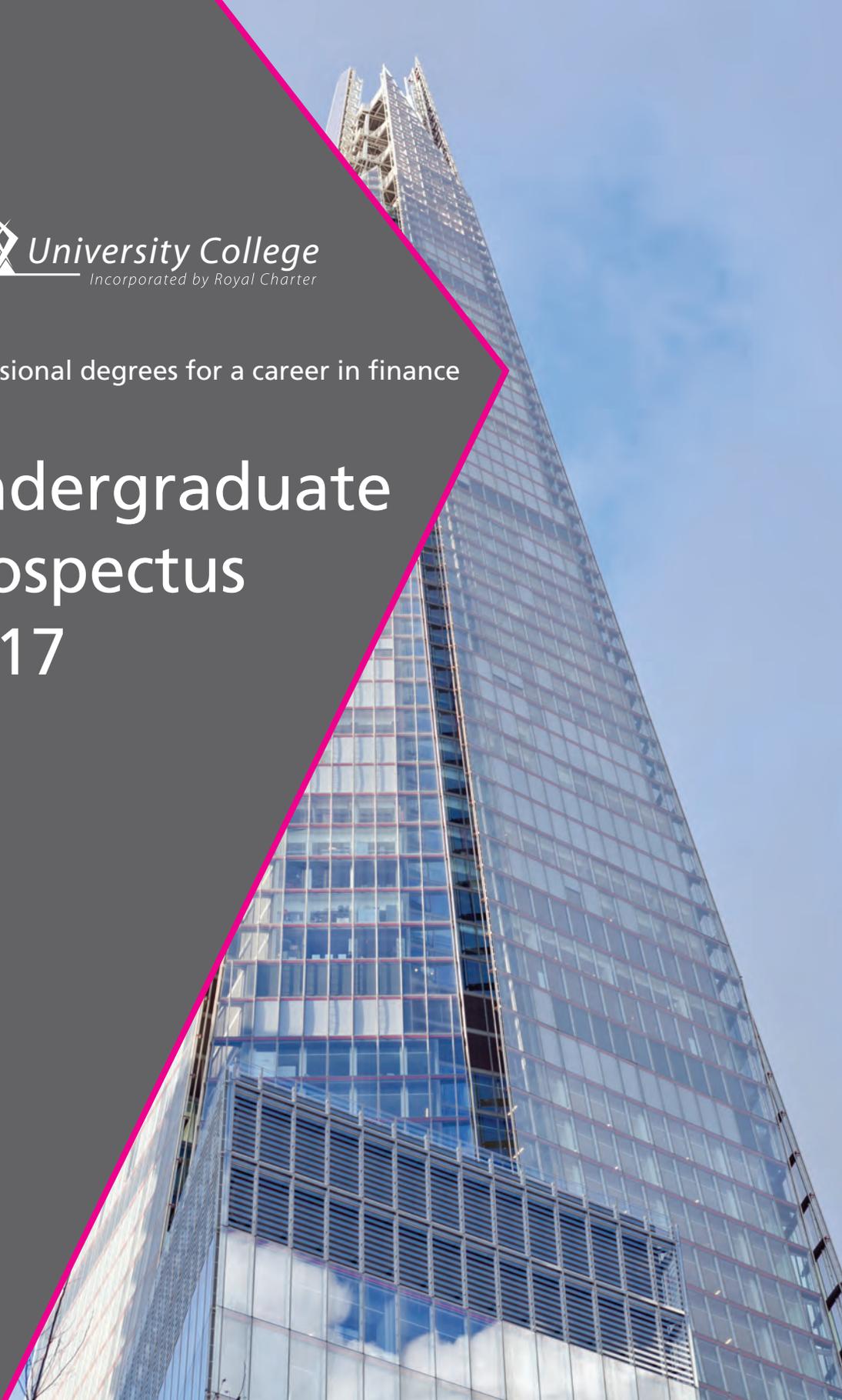




Professional degrees for a career in finance

# Undergraduate Prospectus 2017





Giving you  
an edge in a  
competitive  
world...





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**Dr Carol A Vielba**

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# Pathways to your financial career



*Having industry relevant qualifications is very important for the individual because it gives you confidence personally to operate effectively in the bank, present to senior employees of the bank and know that you're on firm ground with a solid understanding of what you're doing. That in itself and with the qualifications can help improve career prospects and achieve promotions and that's certainly what I've experienced having studied at **ifs** University College.*

**Jonathan Holman**, Consultant and Project Manager



**ifs** University College offers you a learning experience of the highest quality designed to give you the knowledge, skills and insight that you need for a successful and fulfilling career.

Founded in 1879 as the Institute of Bankers, for over 135 years we have remained at the forefront of professional education in financial services and hold an unrivalled reputation within the industry for producing graduates of the highest calibre. As a registered charity incorporated by Royal Charter, we are unique in our dedication to banking and finance subjects.

**ifs** University College alumni are employed by every major banking institution in the UK and can be found in senior positions right across the international financial services industry.

## Professionalism

We are the only UK degree awarding institution that is also an internationally recognised professional body. Many employers look for professional qualifications when recruiting. Studying with **ifs** University College not only gives you a recognised and respected honours degree on a par with any other, but also a professional qualification recognised by financial services employers the world over.

## Employability

We have made employability a cornerstone of all our programmes and are focused on producing graduates that have the critical combination of knowledge, practical skills and understanding that can be applied in the professional world.

Many major institutions include **ifs** University College qualifications within their management development programmes. They cover the essential understanding needed to prepare for a successful career and crucially reflect what employers look for in potential recruits.

## Student focus

We regard our students highly and believe they deserve to be provided with a learning experience that has a genuine and positive impact on their professional and personal lives. We are committed to delivering our teaching in innovative ways and to offering programmes that represent real value for money in terms of student support, contact time and course content.

We always place our students at the core of our approach, regularly gathering and acting upon feedback about their courses of study and ensuring that the student community





*The course is relevant to the current affairs of the financial world and is recognised by industry professionals, this gives **ifs** University College students a big advantage when entering the industry as a graduate.*

**Will Summerfield**, BSc (Hons) in Finance,  
Investment & Risk student



## Connecting you with future employers

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You can gain valuable exposure to potential employers through our active alumni network of industry professionals, many of whom regularly attend our various alumni events and professional networking groups.

The QAA (Quality Assurance Agency) recently identified 'the facilitation of student awareness of, and engagement with, the financial services sector, for example through the professional networking events' as an area of good practice here at **ifs** University College. This is due to the strong support we receive from the financial services industry, in particular the major financial institutions which employ large numbers of our students and alumni.

**ifs** University College alumni can be found working for leading organisations in financial services and related sectors across the UK and internationally, including:

ABN Amro

Allied Irish Bank

Aviva

Axa

Bank of China

Bank of England

Bank of Ireland

Barclays

BNP Paribas

Citigroup

Cooperative Group

Deutsche Bank

Ernst & Young

Financial Conduct Authority

Handelsbanken

HSBC

ING

JP Morgan

KPMG

Legal and General

Lloyds Banking Group

National Australia Group

Nationwide

Norwich Union

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Prudential

RBS Group

Santander

Société Générale

Standard Chartered

UBS

Visa International

West Bromwich Building Society

Yorkshire Building Society

Zurich Financial Services



## Campus

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Situated near Monument, in the heart of London's financial district, our Lovat Lane campus is surrounded by many of the world's leading financial institutions.

Covering 6 floors, the campus includes modern classrooms each equipped with the latest learning technology, seminar rooms, a fully equipped computer room and further student work and breakout areas.

The campus has dedicated conference facilities in a separate building at the end of the lane where students can attend industry events and network with existing professionals.



## Student story

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### Hazel Smith – BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk

#### Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?

Finance was always my passion and I was always quite good at Maths and Business, so that's why I decided to study Finance which is a mixture of them both.

#### When did you realise you wanted to work in finance & how did you reach that decision?

When I was little I wanted to work in banking, but it wasn't until the beginning of my A-levels that I realised that finance would be the better option for me as it was the part of my Business course that I understood and enjoyed the most.

#### What have you enjoyed most about the course to date?

To this date the thing I have most enjoyed about the course were the trading sessions with Amplify. Although it was very stressful, it was extremely fun and taught us about our future in the workplace.

#### How will your studies help you in achieving your goals?

My studies will help me achieve my goals because of the specific course that I chose. As far as I could find, this was the only university that offered Investment and Risk in the same course.

I have been undecided for a long time about which career I want to go into so by studying both I now have the chance to try them out and make my decision.

# Student life

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Studying at *ifs University College* is about more than simply getting a degree. Our City and professional environment gives you the opportunity to develop essential life and professional skills whilst also enjoying access to a wealth of enriching culture and entertainment.

London offers an extensive metropolitan life-style that is unmatched anywhere else in the world. Our campus is surrounded by a plethora of history, culture and entertainment opportunities.

Within a few minutes of the campus by foot or underground you'll find the iconic historical sites of the Tower of London, St Paul's Cathedral, Trafalgar Square, the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace. For art lovers, the Tate Modern, the National Gallery and the South Bank Centre are within easy reach while theatre goers are spoilt for choice with the West End a few minutes away and Shakespeare's Globe theatre a stone's throw across the river.

Covent Garden, Oxford Street, Soho and Mayfair, some of the most famous entertainment and shopping districts in the world are a short tube journey. The campus is also well located for fashionable parts of London such as Shoreditch, Old Street and Brick Lane whose bars, restaurants and clubs are destinations for an incredibly diverse mixture of music, art and food lovers.

## Students' Union

All students have the opportunity of becoming an associate member of Student Central. Located on Malet Street, just a short journey from *ifs University College* on the underground, Student Central comprises the major universities in London. Membership entitles you to get involved with everything that Student Central has to offer including access to clubs and societies, bars, places to eat and entertainment.

The Students' Union is run by the students themselves and being a member means you are entitled to apply for an NUS card, which enables you to get discounts locally and nationally on clothes, books, music, cinema tickets, travel clubs and restaurants.

## Clubs and societies

*ifs University College* encourages and supports students to set up clubs and societies. Student Societies have long played an integral role in the personal and social development of students. They are a means by which students can develop transferable skills, explore interests, expand their social networks and generally contribute to a vibrant university community. We currently have societies ranging from the Investment Society, the Football Society to the Social Society.

Visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/studentlife](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/studentlife) to find out more about what's on offer.



# Teaching and learning

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*ifs* University College's approach to teaching and learning ensures that you complete your studies with a deep theoretical understanding and the real-world practical knowledge needed to apply that theory in the workplace.

## Study

In your first year there will be approximately 10 to 12 hours face-to-face teaching contact time per week. As with any programme at degree level, you will also be expected to undertake a considerable amount of independent study. Classroom-based discussions led by your lecturer as well as online discussion forums will support your developing abilities to critique and challenge models. You will learn the theoretical frameworks and explore their use through research, report writing and via debate and discussion with your fellow students.

## The Lecturing team

We ensure a blend of academic and practitioner experience within our lecturing team. Our faculty are drawn from both the academic and professional worlds, qualified to the highest levels and committed to enhancing the student experience. Many of our lecturers have themselves worked in the financial services industry and keep up-to-date with industry regulations and news, enabling them to help you understand how the theory relates to practice.

## Putting it into context

Throughout the duration of your studies you will have opportunities to understand how your learning can be applied to the workplace. You will hear from a variety of guest speakers who hold senior positions within the industry and as such are able to give you unrivalled insight and understanding of the subjects under discussion.





## Student story

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### Tudor Stainsby – BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice & Management

#### Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?

Due to the fast paced nature of the industry, it always appealed as a choice I wouldn't get bored with, especially with the amount of roles available within a bank. There are clear progression ladders which give you an end goal and the motivation needed to get there.

#### What do you think London can offer you as a place for study?

It has many resources within a stone's throw from each other, from libraries to student bars to gyms, which aren't as expensive as you may think. This makes travelling relatively stress free and helps you focus on what you're at university for - studying.

#### What have you enjoyed most about the course to date?

The Prestige Lectures. These give the opportunity for an invaluable insight from industry professionals. It's an environment I enjoy being in.

#### How will your studies help you in achieving your goals?

I believe my studies will help me get my foot in the door with an investment bank to begin my career. This is due to the networking opportunities *ifs University College* provides, the contacts they have and the fact that all my lecturers have industry experience.

# How can the Careers & Employability Service help you?

The Careers & Employability Service is here to help you take the steps towards your future career.

You will find a careers library of information resources in our London Campus Careers Zone. You will also have access to a host of useful careers resources at [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/studentlife](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/studentlife) and within our exclusive online student platform.

We have designed a range of helpful careers and employability related events and activities across the campus this year to support you through your journey, including:

- Employability Week in October and related events throughout the year
- Skills Workshops, Prestige Lectures and Future Leaders career events throughout the year
- The e-Mentoring programme
- The Advanced Work-based Learning Module for second year students
- Student led societies – join an existing society, or apply to start your own

The Careers & Employability Service can also offer you:

- 1-2-1 career coaching
- CV/cover letter assistance
- Internship and graduate job search
- Career development programmes
- Mock interviews
- Weekly job alerts
- On-campus employer events
- Inspiring Leaders series
- Online career resources

**Top Tip:** Once you are a student here, look out for more information on the campus notice boards and sign up to email alerts to get updates on careers events and activities.

The earlier you get started, the more time you have to think about your goals, come up with your plan, develop your skills and experience, and find your ideal graduate job.



“

*I decided to study at **ifs** University College first and foremost because of their links with the industry. They gave us the opportunity to go out and complete an internship through the links that they have and as their lecturers used to work in the industry, they really bring the content of the courses alive.*

**Joe Read**, BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice and Management

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## Student story

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### Senia Mechoureb – BSc (Hons) in Finance & Accounting for Financial Services

#### Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?

The financial industry has always interested me due to the importance it plays to everyone in day to day life. Unlike other industries, it is a sector that remains fundamental to the development of the modern world irrespective of the challenges it has previously faced.

#### When did you realise you wanted to work in finance & how did you reach that decision?

Whilst at college, it was recommended during a tutor discussion that I looked into the Certificate and Diploma in Financial Studies offered by *ifs University College*. After a few months into the course, I knew this was the subject area I wanted to go in to in the future. I was never aware that financial industries and their markets could be 'studied', and upon realising this, I was determined that I wanted to study Finance at *ifs University College*.

#### What have you enjoyed most about the course to date?

Personally, I have enjoyed the wide area of subjects this degree has covered. I feel lucky to have gained knowledge in so many areas of finance that I would not have known existed otherwise. Additionally, I find the industry experience the lecturers can provide helps to further enrich the information we subsequently learn.

#### How will your studies help you in achieving your goals?

This degree has provided me with an enriched background of the financial industry in the UK whilst touching upon other global markets. In terms of knowledge, I feel that I have been provided with the core knowledge needed to work in a financial organisation. I now feel more prepared in going out to gain industry experience.



#### Speakers from the industry

Highlights from the past 12 months have included Prestige Lectures from Dr Paul Pester, Chief Executive Officer of TSB and Paul Seward, UK Chief Risk Officer of HSBC. We have also heard from a number of industry experts and commentators such as Alex Brummer, City Editor for the Daily Mail and Edward Bonham Carter, Vice Chairman of Jupiter Fund Management. These events take place across the City at prestigious venues, keeping you at the centre of it all.



# Immersion into the industry right from day one

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Our programmes are different. From the moment you join **ifs** University College you will have the opportunity to become part of the financial services community. These opportunities help develop your confidence as well as giving you a real insight into what it is like to work in financial services.

All students studying our full-time degrees automatically become student members of the Institute of Financial Services, the professional body of **ifs** University College. Student Membership gives you direct access to our members and alumni community as well as a range of services that are designed to support you throughout your studies.

Student members will also receive a free subscription to Financial World magazine; bringing together some of the best financial journalists, academics and observers of the financial and economic scene.

## Networking and events

You have the opportunity to hear from high profile industry leaders at our Prestige Lectures, as well as networking with members and alumni also in attendance. These lectures are a great opportunity to connect with industry professionals, building relationship that could help you in your career. You can also keep up-to-date with industry developments and hear debates around current issues.



*The Institute of Financial Services conducts regular Networking Events that bring together people from the financial sector for topical discussion. We, as students, are able to go to these events to meet and network with members of the alumni. These events have played a huge role in getting us to communicate effectively and to try to make new contacts.*

**Elliott Seal**, BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice and Management graduate



Our Future Leaders events are designed to bring together early-to-mid career financial services professionals. The events are aimed at supporting career progression and provide a great opportunity to meet new business contacts and share experiences with peers.

## Chartered Associateship

Once you have successfully completed your degree, and gained a minimum of two years experience of working in the financial services industry or a related discipline, you will be eligible to participate in the Institute of Financial Services Chartered Associate scheme.

Chartered Associateship is a mark of senior standing and recognises a commitment to on-going development and high professional standards. It is awarded to alumni who maintain their knowledge and skills post qualification through a programme of high-quality structured Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

# Support and advice

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As an *ifs University College* student you will have access to guidance on a range of issues including study support and resources, advice on practical matters such as finding accommodation and confidential pastoral support and advice.

## Student support

We provide a focal point of student contact and support in the form of a programme manager or personal tutor. Their role is to ensure that our programmes are delivering on their promise and are meeting your needs. They are easily accessible and can provide support and advice on any aspect of study or student life. We also have our on-campus student support team offering a high level of personal support and guidance.

## Advice and pastoral care

*ifs University College* has a dedicated team who are available on campus to assist you. They are able to provide advice on pastoral matters in the strictest confidence and where appropriate put you in contact with a range of other supporting organisations.

## Student Representatives

*ifs University College* aims to involve its students in the formative development of the learning and teaching strategy and strives to improve the student experience acknowledging the importance of responding to the student perspective. As part of this process, student representatives are appointed to *ifs University College's* academic deliberative committees as it is committed to providing formal representation of students' views.

Class representatives are also appointed for each programme and year of study to provide you with an informal way to share study-related matters.



## Mentoring

*ifs University College* operates the Future Self Student Mentor Scheme. Mentors have first hand experience of studying with us and can offer support with study skills, motivation and time management. They are committed to helping you overcome any issues you might encounter on the path to successful completion of your course. Our mentors are already working within the financial services industry so can also offer advice and guidance on career development and securing employment opportunities.

Peer mentors are also on hand to help you. Peer mentors are 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students who can help you with your transition to degree-level study as they have been there too!



## Henry Grunfeld Library

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Good referencing and original research can be the difference between a 1st or 2:1. More than just a room filled with books, the Henry Grunfeld Library is a flexible and comfortable space to explore ideas. Our experienced librarians are on hand every day to guide and support you and your research needs.

Our library also gives you instant access to Bloomberg, the industry standard for trading room facilities across the City, with more coverage of more recent data and news than any other trading software.

It is designed to train investors and economists, and allow research into companies, countries and economics. All students will have password access to the terminal

and will have full access to institution holdings, company profiles, financial data, industry insights, analysis and estimates and portfolio management.

The library also gives students:

- A flexible space to relax, and for private and group study
- A collection of core text books, directories, journals and newspapers
- A bookable group study space – that can flex for PC work or flat desk work
- A chance to engage with academics and students working in the industry who will be using the library
- An opportunity to find out about the history of the banking industry and our institution from the extensive archives

# Student story

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## **Natasha Willmott – BSc (Hons) in Finance & Accounting for Financial Services**

### **Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?**

It's an area of study that will continuously be updated and remain important throughout my career. No matter what job I enter in the future, some element will contain finance.

### **What have you enjoyed most about the course to date?**

I enjoy the more stable timetable compared to other universities, it enables more focus, and better understanding of the subject.

### **What do you think London can offer you as a place for study?**

For finance and accounting London is probably the key area to go and study, you are learning in the financial district, and it's not only about the place you actually study it's also the walk to university and seeing all the people around you working in your future jobs.

### **How will your studies help you in achieving your goals?**

In order to achieve my goals this degree is essential. It gives me the ground knowledge to help me into my future career and it allows several paths to be opened.



## **Millie Montague – BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk**

### **Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?**

Finance is a fast-paced, ever-changing industry which makes it exciting to study and work in. My previous work experience first inspired me to study finance, and I have enjoyed it ever since.

### **What have you enjoyed most about the course to date?**

Every module is just so interesting – the lecturers help to bring the subjects to life and see you engaged through every lecture. In addition, the lecturers provide you with plenty of support if you do begin to struggle or lose your way.

### **What do you think London can offer you as a place for study?**

London offers everything, but most importantly - opportunity. The city is busy and alive, with lots of cool places to go and see, you will never be bored. It's also a great place to be if you want to work in finance as the City is on your doorstep making jobs and internships easier to find; it's also great for attending networking and recruitment events too as they are generally held in London. You can find every cuisine and night out you desire here, and I wouldn't choose anywhere else now I have settled in.

### **How will your studies help you in achieving your goals?**

In order to get the job I desire, like most in finance or banking, it is necessary to have a degree. Obtaining a finance and investment degree not only provides this, but also gives a head start when you begin as you will have a great deal of background knowledge around the area you work in. Being around like-minded people with similar aspirations also encourages me to be the best I can be and work hard, as well as making contacts that may prove useful in the future.

**Visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/stories](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/stories)**

# BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice and Management

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The BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice and Management draws upon the many years of experience **ifs University College** has in educating banking professionals and our unrivalled understanding of the banking and financial services industry.

The programme covers all the essential understanding that you need to prepare for a successful career in banking and financial services management. Crucially it reflects what employers tell us they are looking for from potential recruits.

In the first year you will get to grips with the workings of the sector both from an organisational point of view and in respect of the financial markets. You will also gain a thorough grounding in the essential concepts of risk that underpin financial decision making at every level, and an appreciation of the different customer groups and their financial needs.

The second year builds specific understanding of the commercial environment in which banks operate and the principles of management and organisational effectiveness. There is also an opportunity to build specialist knowledge in retail or corporate financial services.

Through our links with the major financial services organisations, we can also help students to secure internships to enable them to undertake work-based learning.

In the final year the focus is on developing and embedding core strategic concepts, enhancing decision-making ability and growing the detailed industry knowledge that is essential for a successful management career in banking and financial services. Throughout the programme you will have the opportunity to be introduced to, and interact with, financial services employers through visits, industry speakers and practical workshop activities.



*The lectures are really enjoyable as I feel that I am learning so much. Most of the lecturers have real life experience in the industry and have had successful careers themselves, which you don't necessarily get at other universities.*

**Cole Mills, BSc (Hons) in  
Banking Practice and Management**



<b>Entry criteria:</b>	BBB/BBC (see page 28 for full criteria)
<b>Fees:</b>	£6,000 per academic year
<b>UCAS code:</b>	N310
<b>URL:</b>	<a href="http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/ftbpm">www.ifslearning.ac.uk/ftbpm</a>



## **Banking Practice and Management modules:**

### **First-year modules**

- Fundamentals of Leadership and Management
- Financial Markets and Risk
- Assessing Financial Performance
- Marketing in Financial Services

### **Second-year modules**

- Organisational Management in Financial Services
- Financial Services: The Commercial Environment
- Retail Financial Services
- Commercial and Corporate Financial Services

### **Third-year modules**

- Strategic Management in Financial Services
- Research-based Dissertation

### **Third-year option modules**

- Globalisation of Financial Markets
- Advanced Work-based Learning
- Risk Management in Banking
- Corporate Lending
- Wealth Management

#### **Career paths:**

Retail financial services  
Corporate banking  
Executive and management trainee schemes  
Branch or regional management  
Corporate lending & credit  
Relationship management  
Product development  
*ifs University College Masters programme*

# Internships

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Exposure to the industry is increasingly important in a competitive market where job seekers need to differentiate themselves from their peers. Our internship programme recognises this and seeks to enhance your skills and employability by securing exposure to the industry as part of your studies. In doing so, you will gain invaluable experience of applying your learning in the work environment.

## Internships and work-based learning

An internship is a key element of work-based learning (WBL) which can form part of your final-year studies. WBL encourages you to apply your academic learning in the workplace and to apply the knowledge and skills gained during your internship experiences to your ongoing studies. It particularly focuses on how the internship has enhanced your understanding of organisational strategy, its influences and drivers, and how options are evaluated and implemented in an organisation.

In addition to providing an opportunity to enhance technical, subject specific knowledge and skills, WBL also offers the opportunity to develop a broad set of intellectual, practical and transferable skills to assist in career progression.

Internships are typically undertaken during the summer vacation, ideally over a period of 8–12 weeks on a full-time basis. Shorter or more flexible arrangements are possible, provided the work undertaken results in a tangible output and a genuine enhancement of your knowledge and understanding.

The careers team can provide assistance to you in identifying and securing suitable internships. They will work with employers to ensure that any placements are adding genuine value to your studies and experience.

Other internship and work experience opportunities are encouraged and initiatives are in place to support you to gain relevant work experience during your studies.

Visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/internships](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/internships) to find out about the latest opportunities available to **ifs** University College students.



*I went out to the industry, put my learning into practice, and learnt some new things that you can only learn on the job. All the theory you learn in the classroom, you're actually seeing it work in the workplace, you don't really get that at other universities where you might only be learning quantitative things whereas once you're in the workplace you're actually seeing all the qualitative things as well.*

**Aryan Amirbashiri**, BSc (Hons) in  
Banking Practice and Management





## Student story

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### **Jamie Gane** – BSc (Hons) in Finance & Accounting for Financial Services

#### **Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?**

I believe finance will offer me a stable career that will enable me to progress both professionally and personally. I am very driven by the opportunity to gain qualifications within finance as it is a growing market with plenty of opportunities.

#### **What is your end goal? Where do you think your studies will take you? Career prospects?**

My aim is to go into the insolvency field, concentrating mostly on pre-insolvent businesses. I aim to complete my chartered accountancy exams and progress through the financial system, eventually owning my own business either abroad or outside of London.

#### **How will your studies help you in achieving your goals?**

I believe my studies have given me a great foundation towards the world of work. I now feel confident entering the workplace and, although I still have a lot to learn, I have learnt through the personal experiences of my lecturers and I look forward to entering the workforce.

# BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment and Risk

The BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment and Risk is designed for students who want a career in investment banking and related roles. It provides the opportunity to study for a directly relevant degree in a business-like environment that gives unique exposure to, and immersion in, the financial services industry.

The programme will enable you to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the core elements of investment and financial analysis and risk management that underpin sound decision-making. It will provide you with opportunities to investigate and analyse a range of issues relating to financial markets and the financial services sector (particularly investment/corporate banking) and its national and international environment.

Alongside study of the broader environment in which investment banking operates, the programme will also develop your understanding of key aspects of equity markets and investments, security analysis, asset classes and bond and equity pricing as well as covering portfolio management, derivatives, and alternative investments.

Critically, the programme also provides you with the opportunity to evaluate the impact of changing regulatory and operating conditions and gain insights into and understanding of the local and global tensions in banking and financial services. Ethics and professional standards form a key component of the course and will be taught at each level of the programme.

We recommend that students applying to this course are currently studying A levels in Maths, Economics or other maths related subjects.



*What I have enjoyed the most is the depth of knowledge that I have acquired from studying here and the fact that classes are quite small, which makes it more intimate and personal and having a closer relationship to the tutors is a very important part of the experience here. And the broader understanding of the financial markets, whether it is equities, fixed income markets or derivatives it is just very useful and enjoyable to learn about.*



**Mads Brinkmann-Andersen**

BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment and Risk

**Entry criteria:** AAB/ABB (see page 28 for full criteria)  
**Fees:** £6,000 per academic year  
**UCAS code:** N300  
**URL:** [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/ftfir](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/ftfir)

## Finance, Investment and Risk modules:

### First-year modules

- Financial Markets and Risk
- Assessing Financial Performance
- Introduction to Financial Market Instruments
- Economics
- Introduction to Quantitative Methods

### Second-year modules

- Financial Services: The Commercial Environment
- Interpretation of Financial Statements
- Corporate Finance
- Debt and Equity Investment and Valuation

### Third-year modules

- Fixed Income Markets
- Derivatives and Risk Management
- Research Based Dissertation

### Third-year option modules

- Advanced Work-based Learning
- Wealth Management
- Globalisation of Financial Markets



**Career paths:** | Investment banking  
Trading  
Fund and asset management  
Analyst and brokerage  
Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) award

# The world of investment

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As a student studying our Finance, Investment and Risk programme you will be introduced to the practical elements of trading a variety of financial instruments within the contemporary market environment by Amplify Trading.

You will have the opportunity to attend 'real-life' trading simulation sessions in the City with investment experts. These sessions provide a crucial practical skill-set and many financial institutions now actively seek candidates that have benefited from the front desk experience delivered by them. Visit [www.amplifytrading.com](http://www.amplifytrading.com) to find out more about the expert traders.

Experts will guide you on risk management protocols and the psychology of trading and its effect on the management of risk and will provide you with personalised 'trading reviews' of your performance.

**In Year 1** you will have two half day sessions with Amplify Trading to build on the theory learnt in the module 'Introduction to Financial Market Instruments'. This will include a tour of their trading floor and the opportunity to spend a four hour session trading across a selection of stock indices, currency and commodity futures using a state-of-the-art trading desk with live market price action. You will receive feedback on how well you managed your positions and are encouraged to reflect on behaviour factors that may have affected your decision making process.

**In Year 2** you will have four half day practical sessions designed to develop the key theoretical aspects covered in the module 'Debt and Equity Investment and Valuation'. This practical programme in investment management addresses key themes of constructing an investment portfolio using debt and equity instruments. You will be taught how to analyse investment opportunities and will be given specific investment goals for your portfolios to achieve. Performance will be assessed on investment decisions made given the changing macroeconomic environment and your ability to manage your risk exposure.

**In Year 3** you will again have four half day practical sessions that will cover the key aspects learned during the 'Derivatives and Risk Management' and 'Fixed Income' modules. You will have access to a full trading desk with live access to multiple asset classes to enable a unique practical experience to bring in key concepts from both modules in order to enhance your learning experience. You will learn how to develop risk management protocols to ensure control over your investment decisions and understand more about the psychology of trading and its effect on the management of risk.



Will de Lucy, Managing Director at Amplify Trading



## Student story

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### James Killingback – BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice and Management

#### Why do you want to study 'finance'/'banking'?

I have been interested in financial services from an early age. I enjoyed studying business at school and moved onto studying business and finance at college which led me to studying banking. Banking for me is very interesting and is a very broad subject. It has educated me on how to control/manage my own finances too.

#### When did you realise you wanted to work in finance & how did you reach that decision?

Personally I have always been interested in working in the City. I studied the *ifs* University College Certificate and Diploma in Financial Studies at college which I enjoyed and was then guided to look at their degree programmes. After gaining more knowledge on the subject I soon realised there were many opportunities in the financial industry to start a career.

#### What have you enjoyed most about the course to date?

As a Banking Practice and Management student my overall experience at university and the course itself has been great. The lecturers are extremely knowledgeable and provide substantial support in all areas from revising, gaining experience or their personal experiences in the industry.

#### What do you think London can offer you as a place for study?

Personally, there is no better place in the world to study finance than London. The university is surrounded by the financial world which is great for students when visiting the campus. London is great for socialising too, whether that is with friends or networking with people from the industry.





# Entry criteria

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## BSc (Hons) in Banking Practice & Management

We normally make offers of BBB/BBC at 'A' level (this excludes General Studies, Critical Thinking, Extended Projects and Citizenship Studies). We accept the BTEC Extended Diploma at DDM and the Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma are accepted along with other qualifications. The International Baccalaureate is also accepted (28 – 30 points). Offers vary depending on the relevance of subjects studied at AS/A2 level, or equivalent.

## BSc (Hons) in Finance, Investment & Risk

We normally make offers of AAB/ABB at 'A' level (this excludes General Studies, Critical Thinking, Extended Projects and Citizenship Studies). We accept the BTEC Extended Diploma at D\*DD and the Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma are accepted along with other qualifications. The International Baccalaureate is also accepted (30 – 32 points). Offers vary depending on the relevance of subjects studied at AS/A2 level, or equivalent. Ideal applicants will have studied one of the following 'A' levels: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Economics, Statistics or Physics.

## International applicants

We also welcome applications from international applicants. All international applicants will need a minimum IELTS score of 6.0 with no element below 5.5. We accept international qualifications (equivalent to 'A' levels).

**All applicants are usually required to hold a minimum of GCSE Maths grade B and English Language grade C or equivalent.**

## Mature applicants

Applications are also welcome from mature students. Life and work experience are important when it comes to the commitment of higher education so we take these into account when making offers.

## Certificate and Diploma in Financial Studies

If you are studying our CeFS and DipFS qualifications, remember that these qualifications can contribute to our entry requirements, helping you to stand out from other applicants.

## Summer Maths Programme

Applicants are invited to register for our Summer Maths Programme which runs before teaching starts. The programme focuses on the fundamental math skills that you will come across during your studies at *ifs University College*. It's a great opportunity to boost your numerical skills, get a head start on your studies and begin your first year with confidence.

If you don't meet the entry criteria, you may have other qualifications or skills that make you an ideal candidate. We would love to hear from you to discuss your application further.

For further information on entry requirements, please contact the Full-time Programmes Team at [ftp@ifslearning.ac.uk](mailto:ftp@ifslearning.ac.uk) or call 020 7337 6293/4.

# Applications

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Visit [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) to find out more about how to apply and for full details of the applicant journey.

## UCAS code I55

All applications made before the closing date will be considered equally against the stated selection criteria and in the context of the number of available places. *ifs University College* will consider late applications only for courses where places are still available.

For more information on applying to study at *ifs University College* visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/admissions](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/admissions)



# Fees

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UK/EU students - £6,000 per academic year  
International students - £10,500 per academic year\*

## Money matters

We are able to offer a learning experience of the highest quality and qualifications that are internationally recognised at a lower cost than traditional universities. This is because we are not burdened by large overheads for such things as estates management and our specialist nature allows us to focus our resources squarely on the teaching of our programmes.

Students undertaking full-time *ifs* University College programmes are eligible to apply for a loan from the Student Loans company.

\*This fee is subject to change. Please check our website for the latest information.

## Government Grants and Student Loans

If you are a full-time student studying on your first higher education course, you can apply for a government loan for your tuition fees along with a means-tested maintenance loan to help with your costs of living.

Government grants and loans can help to cover student tuition fees and living costs. Financial support and applications are available for students from the UK, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and EU countries.

- **Tuition fee loan** - Covers your full tuition fees and is paid directly to the learning provider which means you will not have to pay the tuition fee prior to your studies commencing or during your course. More details are available from the Student Loans Company at [www.slc.co.uk](http://www.slc.co.uk)
- **Maintenance loan** – Students can apply for a further loan to assist with living costs, the final amount will depend on your household income.

For more detailed information on all aspects of government financial support please visit: [www.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance)



# Scholarships, Prizes and Bursaries

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There are numerous sources of financial support for undergraduates. This support is in addition to any loans and grants from the Student Loans Company.

## Scholarships

### **ifs University College Scholarships**

A number of first year scholarships are available to recognise and reward high academic achievement by students who have already studied with **ifs University College**. These are awarded upon commencement of studies in the first semester to the highest achieving students of **ifs** Certificate and Diploma in Financial Studies qualifications.

### **Alumni fund scholarships**

Through gifts made by **ifs University College** alumni we are able to offer a number of scholarships to our first year undergraduate students.

Alumni scholarships are available to UK and EU/International students. The awards are merit-based and recognise those students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in their pre-entry qualifications.

## Prizes

### **Academic Achievement Prizes**

To recognise and reward high academic achievement in the preceding academic year, prizes are presented to the outstanding students who have met the criteria as set out in the Bursaries, Scholarships and Prizes policy.

### **Student Engagement Prizes**

These are presented to students who demonstrate commitment in a number of areas to their programme that does not form part of the formal assessment e.g. attendance at and contribution to lectures and seminars, participation in extra curricular activities, has accepted the role of student representative, ambassador or mentor.

## Bursaries

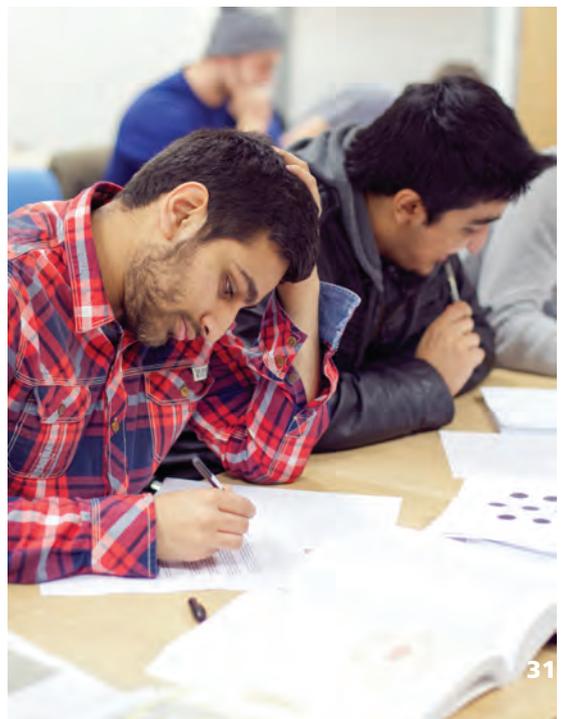
Home UK undergraduate students whose family income is £40,000 or less may be eligible for an **ifs University College** bursary. The amount available will depend upon household income.

To be eligible for an **ifs University College** Bursary the student must meet the criteria as set out in the Bursaries, Scholarships and Prizes policy.

## How to apply

No formal application is required. Eligible students will automatically be considered by the Scholarships, Bursaries and Grants Committee.

For more information please visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/feesandfunding](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/feesandfunding)





# Accommodation

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**ifs University College** does not own any accommodation itself but for the time you are studying with us we can help you find accommodation that perfectly meets your needs.

We have links with organisations who offer high quality, affordable student accommodation who will be only too pleased to help you with your search:

## UNITE

Many of our students choose UNITE student homes. There are several in London which are perfectly located for an easy commute, and come fully equipped with all the modern conveniences a student needs.

[www.unite-students.com](http://www.unite-students.com)

## ISH

International Student Housing offer short and long term accommodation in London. [www.ish.org.uk](http://www.ish.org.uk)

Other useful websites include:

[www.mansionstudent.co.uk](http://www.mansionstudent.co.uk)

[www.spareroom.co.uk](http://www.spareroom.co.uk)

[www.rightmove.co.uk/student-accommodation.html](http://www.rightmove.co.uk/student-accommodation.html)

## Cost examples from UNITE

Prices include bills.

- **Emily Bowes Court** = located 2 minutes from Tottenham Hale station. En-suite room from £175 per week
- **Station Court** = located 5 minutes walk from Seven Sisters. En-suite room from £171 per week
- **Stratford One** = next door to the Westfield Shopping centre. En-suite room from £198 per week

# International students

*ifs* University College welcomes applications from international students to study at its London campus.

*ifs* University College has been awarded HTS (Highly Trusted Sponsorship) status by the UKVI and is licensed to sponsor international students under Tier 4 of the Points Based System.

## Location

The City of London is a global financial centre, boasting the headquarters of many of the world's largest international financial institutions. In the wider context, London is also one of the most cosmopolitan and multi-cultural capital cities on the planet with incredibly diverse cultural and social opportunities available.

Although it can be overwhelming, *ifs* University College provides a comprehensive induction and orientation programme to help its students settle in to London life. In addition tourist websites such as [www.timeout.com](http://www.timeout.com) and [www.visitlondon.com](http://www.visitlondon.com) can offer advice and resources for exploring London and the surrounding areas.



## International student fees

Tuition fees for international students commencing their studies in 2017 are £10,500 per academic year\*.

There are many funding and scholarship options available to help support your studies. Your local British Council office or education authority can guide you towards the best funding opportunities. Also, [www.gostudyuk.com](http://www.gostudyuk.com) is a great resource for various scholarship opportunities.

Please see page 31 for scholarships available to international students at *ifs* University College.

\*This fee is subject to change. Please check our website for the latest information.

## Checklist for preparing to come to the UK

- Obtain a visa (if applicable) and ensure that all of the details are stamped correctly
- Make sure you have a current passport and that the key pages are photocopied
- Collect any documents needed
- Buy adequate medical insurance if necessary
- Arrange your accommodation
- Pack spare passport photos
- Pack suitable clothing: the UK has very diverse weather conditions
- Pack academic qualifications, with a translation if necessary

## Applications & admissions

*ifs* University College welcomes applications from international students. Applications are open and can be made directly to *ifs* University College at [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/international](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/international) or via the UCAS website [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

## Visit us

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Come and see us at one of our open days. Take the opportunity to meet academic and support staff, view the facilities and talk to current students about their experiences.

**Wednesday 6 April 2016**

**Saturday 11 June 2016**

Visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/opendays) to register to attend.

If you cannot make these dates or you would simply like to pop in and see us, please contact our Schools and Colleges Liaison Manager, Stefanie Hurrell, at [shurrell@ifslearning.ac.uk](mailto:shurrell@ifslearning.ac.uk) or call 020 7337 6291 to arrange a visit.



## UCAS Fairs

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Look out for us at UCAS Fairs across the country in 2016!

Visit [www.ifslearning.ac.uk/ucasfairs](http://www.ifslearning.ac.uk/ucasfairs) to find out more.

02-03 March	Manchester
09-10 March	Hampshire and Isle of Wight
14-15 March	Bristol
14-15 March	Surrey
16-17 March	West London
18 March	Hertfordshire
21-22 March	Sussex
23 March	Cardiff
12-13 April	Exeter
18-19 April	London
20-21 April	East Midlands
27 April	Tees Valley
28 April	Tyneside
15-16 June	West and North Yorkshire
17 June	Sheffield
20-21 June	Bedfordshire
20-21 June	Kent & Medway
22 June	Cambridgeshire
22 June	South London
23 June	East London
23-24 June	Essex
27-28 June	Birmingham

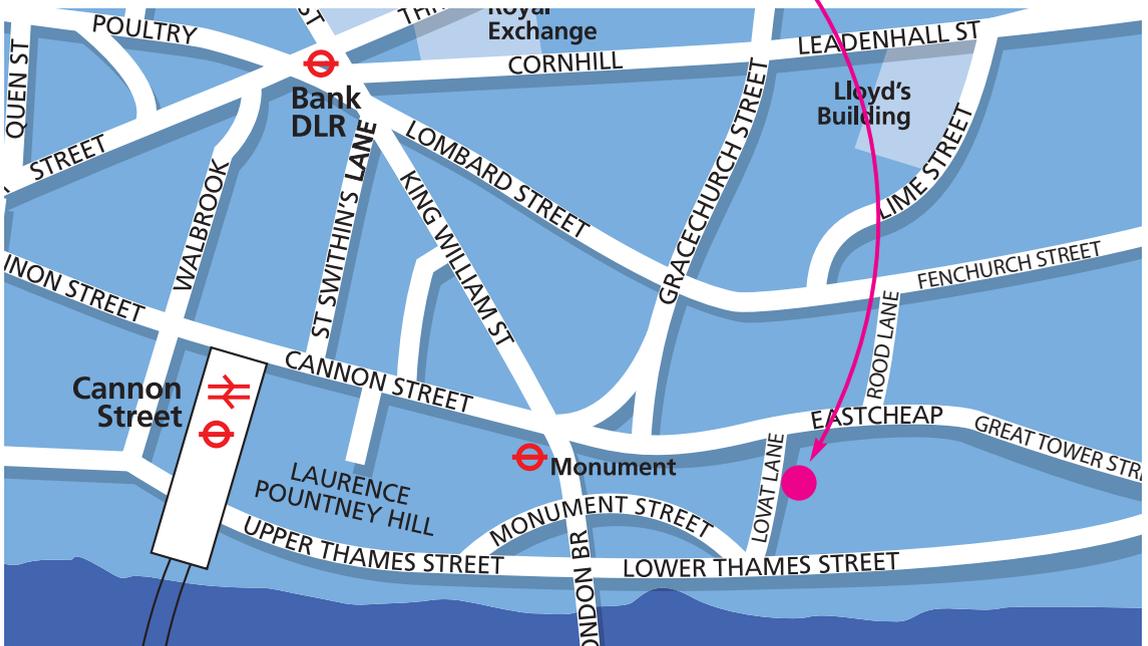


# Speak to a member of the programme team

If you have any questions or need advice on our programmes please contact Full-time Programmes at [ftp@ifsllearning.ac.uk](mailto:ftp@ifsllearning.ac.uk) or telephone 020 7337 6293/4 where a member of the team will be pleased to help.

## How to find us

*ifs* University College  
25 Lovat Lane  
London  
EC3R 8EB



*ifs* University College is easily accessible by public transport with Monument, Bank, London Bridge and Cannon Street stations a short walk away providing quick links to all other mainline rail stations. London City Airport is close by and direct rail links are accessible to all other London airports.



The university college for financial education

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