



Undergraduate Programme Specification

Session	2025/26	Last Modified	2/2025
Named Award Title	BA (Hons) Business		
Award Title for Each Award	BA (Hons) Business BA Business DipHE Business CertHE Business		
Date of Approval	November 2024		
Details of Cohort Applies to	All students who entered at SCQF Level 7 in 2025-2026		
Awarding Institution	University of the West of Scotland	Teaching Institution(s)	University of the West of Scotland
Language of Instruction & Examination		English	
Award Accredited by		n/a	
Maximum Period of Registration		Refer to Authorised Interruption Guidance Notes (uws.ac.uk)	
Duration of Study			
Full-time	4 years	Part-time	Typically 6 years
Placement (compulsory)	n/a		
Mode of Study	☒ Full-time ☒ Part-time		
Campus	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☒ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☒ Other (specify) Dumfries and Galloway College (SCQF Level 9 and 10)
School	Business and Creative Industries		
Divisional Programme Board	Management, Organisations People		
Programme Leader	W Kwiatkowski		

Admissions Criteria

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

SQA National Qualifications:

Level 7 entry:

Scottish Highers: BBBB (standard entry requirements)

Scottish Highers: BCCC (minimum entry requirements)

Level 8 entry:

Scottish Advanced Highers: BCC

Or GCE

Level 7 entry:

A-Levels: BCC (standard entry requirements)

A-Levels: CCC (minimum entry requirements)

Level 8 entry:

A-Levels: BBB

Or SQA National Qualifications / Edexcel Foundation

Level 7 entry:

BTEC Extended Diploma: MMM

Level 8 entry:

HNC: in Business, Business Management, Administration & IT, Events Management; graded unit not required

BTEC Extended Diploma: DDM in a relevant subject

Level 9 entry:

HND: in Business, Business Management, Administration & IT; Events Management; graded unit not required

Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Level 7 entry:

Irish Leaving Certificate H1H2H2H2

International Baccalaureate: 24 points

Scottish Wider Access Programme (SWAP): BBB Access to Humanities

Access to HE Diploma: BB

Level 8 entry:

International Baccalaureate: 28 points

Level 9 entry:

DUT: in a business-related subject

Further desirable skills pre-application

Applications can also be submitted by applicants who do not meet the above criteria but have relevant experience under the University's Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning provisions (see reg. 2.13 of the UWS Regulatory Framework).

For applicants whose first language is not English, reg. 2.12 of the UWS Regulatory Framework sets out the English Language Requirements in terms of IELTS.

General Overview

Students studying a degree in any of the pathways (i.e. Business, Human Resources, Finance or Marketing), will follow a common framework at Levels 7 and 8, ensuring a broad range of contextualised business subject areas are explored, providing a robust foundational knowledge, skills and competencies that bridge and bond for future studies. Moving to Levels 9 and 10 students will follow a specialist pathway of their choice. Each pathway offers its own distinct core modules which differentiate them from each other.

A key component of the Finance, Human Resources and Marketing pathways is that each will offer, or be progressing, professional institute exemptions or recognition. These pathways will allow students to gain either an accredited body qualification or the opportunity to claim exemption(s) from key institute examinations.

The programme also benefits students by having a digital/AI theme embedded across all levels, ensuring students are kept up to date with advancements in transformational technologies that are revolutionising how we work, learn and live. This digital skillset is contextualised to your chosen pathway.

On completion of an Honours degree, graduates may follow a variety of routes at post-graduate level both within the University and elsewhere. Many may pursue professional qualifications in their chosen specialist area of study.

Modules explore current issues that impact the world we live in e.g., sustainability, green consumption, poverty, social corporate responsibility, ethics and leadership, etc. As such the programme is proud to embed United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout our modules.

Our study content and assessments will normally offer a blend of lectures, tutorials, presentations, practical sessions, or/and workshops. Assessment methods include academic essays, formal reports, seminar discussion and debates, digital profiles, digital content creation and preparation of business and project plans, research projects and more. Both educational content and assessments are aligned with industry requirements, focusing on developing skills that will help students take practical, digital and higher order skills in industry.

The BA (Hons) Business pathway provides students with the opportunity to develop a critical understanding organisational strategy, organisational culture, leadership, change management and knowledge management. Students will also elevate their awareness of contemporary business issues, including globalisation and the transformative potential of AI and other novel technologies. Depending on their preferences and interests, final year students will have the opportunity to chose between an ethics-themed optional module and one delving deeper into the transformative impact of accelerating AI on businesses, organisations and societies of the future.

Typical Delivery Method

Full-time students will typically be expected to attend 9 hours of on-campus sessions per week. Sessions will typically run for 12 weeks in each taught term.

Part-time students will attend daytime classes with full-time students, with the exact number of hours to attend on campus each week determined by individually agreed study plans.

Any additional costs

n/a

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

Learning outcomes throughout the programme have been designed to ensure that, in addition to acquiring subject matter-related knowledge, students will have the opportunity to develop skills and attributes that are most valued by employers.

As a graduate from UWS you will be:

- Universal - globally relevant with widely applicable abilities, skills and behaviours;
- Work ready - dynamic and prepared for employment in complex, ever-changing environments which require lifelong learning and resilience;
- Successful – have a solid foundation on which to continue succeeding and realising your potential, across various contexts.

During your time at UWS, you will develop attributes across three dimensions:

- Academic – knowledge, skills and abilities related to high-level academic study;
- Personal – qualities and characteristics of well-rounded, developed, responsible individuals;
- Professional – skills, aptitudes and attitudes expected from professional working life in the 21st century.

The employability skills and attributes which students will gain experience in developing, applying and reflecting upon during the workplace learning will be those identified by The Council for Industry and Higher Education as the key competencies valued by employers.

Work Based Learning/Placement Details

There are no formal arrangements for work-based learning and/or placement opportunities currently embedded into the programme. However, we support our students in obtaining relevant work experience.

Attendance and Engagement

In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#), Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this programme, academic engagement equates to the following:

Students should also reference the 'BCI Guidance on Implementation of the Revised Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure', which details the School attendance and engagement requirements and how this will be monitored for attendance.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

To meet the diverse needs of our student body, we are dedicated to adapting learning experiences where required. This personalised approach ensures that all students can succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances. By embracing and promoting

these principles, we aim to cultivate a learning community where everyone feels valued, supported, and empowered to achieve their full potential.

Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards ([Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework](#))

Learning Outcomes	
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SCQF LEVEL 7	
Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of concepts, theories and skills relevant to business.
A2	Demonstrate learning skills appropriate for business.
A3	Understand the multidisciplinary nature of business including, accounting and finance, marketing, human resource management and general management in a global context.
A4	Recognise the evolving nature of business in a globalised society.
A5	n/a
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Use Information and communications technology as appropriate to business.
B2	Apply and practice relevant business and management information to a range of business situations.
B3	Apply knowledge to a range of concepts, values, and principles of business.
B4	n/a
B5	n/a
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Use appropriate communication, information technology and numeracy skills.
C2	Develop professional presentation and reporting techniques for working in industry.
C3	Utilise a wide range of skills for the gathering, basic analysis and presentation of routine information, ideas and concepts.
C4	n/a
C5	n/a
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	List and use problem-solving approaches relevant to the pathway sector.
D2	Implement basic evaluation techniques relevant to the pathway sector.
D3	n/a
D4	n/a
D5	n/a
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Exercise some initiative and independence in carrying out defined activities independently or as part of a team under guidance.
E2	Work with others to support development of active learning, reflective practice and personal development planning.

E3	Accept responsibility for learning and engage in self and peer reflection.
E4	n/a
E5	n/a

Level 7 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
7	BUSN07057	Entrepreneurial Thought and Action	20	☒	☐	☐	
7	BUSN07054	Understanding Organisations in Business and Society	20	☐	☒	☐	
7	MARK07013	Foundations of AI in Business	20	☐	☒	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Level 7 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
7	HURM07001	Introducing People Management*	20	☒	☐	☐	
7	MARK07006	Introduction to Marketing*	20	☒	☐	☐	
7	ACCT07021	Fundamentals of Finance*	20	☐	☒	☐	
7	BUSN07055	Professional Development Experience Level 7	20	☒	☒	☒	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							
Those modules marked as * are the recommended optional modules for BA (Hons) Business students.							

Level 7

Criteria for Progression and Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

To progress to the next level of study (i.e. SCQF level 8), students are expected to complete the full 120 credit points each year. However, a student who has not earned passes in up to 40

credits points-worth of modules may be allowed to progress to the next level of study 'with deficit' in accordance with reg. 3.13 of UWS Regulatory Framework.

In line with reg. 1.21 of the UWS Regulatory Framework, students who complete 120 credit points at SCQF Level 7, including all core modules at this level, will be eligible for a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) in Business exit award. Students who complete 120 credit points at SCQF Level 7 without completing at least one core module at that level, will be eligible for a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) in Combined Studies exit award (see reg. 1.61 of the UWS Regulatory Framework). Awards shall be made with distinction in line with regs. 3.25-3.26 of the UWS Regulatory Framework.

For further information, please refer to the UWS Regulatory Framework and the Student Experience Policy Statement.

SCQF LEVEL 8	
Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Understand the contribution of government policies and initiatives on business, which may include legal framework and financial controls.
A2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of types of business and their objectives, the impact of environmental factors on businesses, their functions and organisational structures.
A3	Understand the main areas and features of study in related business disciplines, which may include project planning, risk assessment, consumer behaviour, health and safety and contract management.
A4	n/a
A5	n/a
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Determine and apply the appropriate market structures relevant to a business based upon the demand patterns, competition and barriers.
B2	Demonstrate understanding of the various organisational cultures appropriate for organisational sector and structure.
B3	Demonstrate an ability to apply business concepts/functions which impact organisational success.
B4	Practice operational skills required in the business environment, which may include business management, budgeting, marketing and HRM.
B5	n/a
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Use a range of communication skills and some advanced and specialised skills to convey complex information to a range of audiences and for a range of purposes.
C2	Use a range of routine skills and techniques in more complex situations.
C3	Use interpersonal skills of effective listening, persuasion and presentation.
C4	n/a
C5	n/a
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Develop an outline knowledge and understanding of management research and academic processes.
D2	Undertake analysis, evaluation and synthesis of basic business concepts, information and arguments relevant to the pathway studied.
D3	Select and use problem-solving techniques to critically investigate and evaluate the operation of a business.
D4	n/a
D5	n/a
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities with appropriate guidance.

E2	Take continuing account of own and others' roles, responsibilities and contributions in carrying out and evaluating tasks.
E3	Systematically identify and address own learning needs in current areas, associated with the research and critical analysis of the pathway studied.
E4	n/a
E5	n/a

Level 8 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
8	BUSN08062	Creating Sustainable Business	20	☒	☐	☐	
8	BUSN08061	Digital Workplaces	20	☐	☒	☐	
8	BUSN08XXX	Operations Management	20	☐	☒	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							
1) Long thin module running over terms one and two.							

Level 8 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
8	HURM08001	Organisational Behaviour*	20	☒	☐	☐	
8	MARK08XXX	Social Media Marketing*	20	☒	☐	☐	
8	BUSN08XXX	AI Innovation and Business Analytics*	20	☐	☒	☐	
8	BUSN08068	Professional Development Experience Level 8	20	☒	☒	☒	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							
Those modules marked as * are the recommended optional modules for BA (Hons) Business students.							

Level 8

Criteria for Progression and Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

To progress to the next level of study (i.e. SCQF level 9), students are expected to complete the full 120 credits each year. However, a student who has not earned passes in up to 40

credits-worth of modules may be allowed to progress to the next level of study 'with deficit' in accordance with reg. 3.13 of UWS Regulatory Framework.

In line with reg. 1.21 of the UWS Regulatory Framework, students who complete 240 credit points, including at least 90 credits points at SCQF Level 8 or above, including all core modules at this level, will be eligible for a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) in Business exit award. Students who complete 240 credit points, including at least 90 credits points at SCQF Level 8 or above, without completing at least one core module at this level, will be eligible for a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) in Combined Studies exit award (see reg. 1.61 of the UWS Regulatory Framework). Awards shall be made with distinction in line with regs. 3.25-3.26 of the UWS Regulatory Framework.

For further information, please refer to the UWS Regulatory Framework and the Student Experience Policy Statement.

SCQF LEVEL 9	
Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate knowledge of a substantial range of major concepts, values and principles associated with business.
A2	Demonstrate in-depth and in-context study of a broad range of areas in business-related disciplines.
A3	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of emerging business issues.
A4	n/a
A5	n/a
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Apply knowledge and understanding of relevant and up-to-date theories and practice to undertake independent research.
B2	Reflect critically on own learning.
B3	n/a
B4	n/a
B5	n/a
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Effectively interpret, use and evaluate numerical and graphical data.
C2	Use a range of IT applications to support and enhance work.
C3	Use a range of communication skills and some advanced and specialised skills to convey complex information to a range of audiences for a range of purposes.
C4	n/a
C5	n/a
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Use knowledge, understanding and skills to critically evaluate and formulate evidence-based arguments and identify solutions to clearly defined problems of a generally routine nature.
D2	Identify and address own learning needs within defined contexts and to undertake independent learning with limited guidance.
D3	n/a
D4	n/a
D5	n/a
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Work in groups or teams as a participant in a way that contributes effectively to the group's tasks.
E2	Interact effectively with tutors and peers.
E3	n/a
E4	n/a
E5	n/a

Level 9 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
9	BUSN09079	The Landscape of Leadership	20	☒	☐	☐	
9	BUSN09080	Organisation Strategy and Culture	20	☒	☐	☐	
9	BUSN09082	Research Design & Methods	20	☐	☒	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Level 9 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
9	BUSN09078	Emerging Issues in Business*	20	☒	☐	☐	
9	BUSN09092	Project Management*	20	☐	☒	☐	
9	BUSN09XXX	AI for Digital Business Transformation*	20	☐	☒	☐	
9	BUSN09085	Professional Development Experience Level 9	20	☒	☒	☒	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							
Those modules marked as * are the recommended optional modules for BA (Hons) Business students.							

Level 9

Criteria for Progression and Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

To progress to the next level of study (i.e. SCQF level 10), students are expected to complete the full 120 credits each year. However, a student who has not earned passes in up to 20 credits-worth of modules may be allowed to progress to the next level of study 'with deficit' in accordance with reg. 3.14 of UWS Regulatory Framework.

In line with reg. 1.21 of the UWS Regulatory Framework, students who complete 360 credit points, including at least 90 credits points at SCQF Level 9 or above, including all core modules at this level, will be eligible for a Bachelor's Degree (BA) in Business exit award. Students who complete 360 credit points, including at least 90 credits points at SCQF Level 9 or above, without completing at least one core module at this level, will be eligible for a Bachelor's Degree (BA) in Combined Studies exit award (see reg. 1.61 of the UWS Regulatory

Framework). Awards shall be made with distinction in line with regs. 3.25-3.26 of the UWS Regulatory Framework.

For further information, please refer to the UWS Regulatory Framework and the Student Experience Policy Statement.

SCQF LEVEL 10	
Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	Demonstrate critical understanding of the principle areas, features and boundaries, terminology and conventions of business disciplines.
A2	Demonstrate critical understanding of a defined business-related research project or investigation.
A3	n/a
A4	n/a
A5	n/a
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Analyse problems in terms of business-related concepts and apply appropriate principles to propose solutions.
B2	Interpret and explain complex business-related concepts.
B3	Retrieve, interpret and utilise primary and secondary information from a variety of sources, including electronic sources.
B4	Identify accurately business-related issues which require researching.
B5	Maintain the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and judgement necessary to undertake a sustained piece of individual research on a chosen topic with minimal guidance.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Communicate effectively and appropriately orally and in writing.
C2	Make use of and evaluate numerical and statistical information.
C3	Distinguish between alternative opinions on the basis of evidence presented in coherent and logical arguments.
C4	Make effective use of information retrieval systems and use information technology applications to present documents in an appropriate form.
C5	n/a
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Maintain expertise in the skills of enquiry, investigation, analysis, evaluation and judgement necessary to undertake a sustained piece of individual research on a chosen topic.

D2	Engage in discourse in relation to business-related studies and associated ethical issues.
D3	Give reasons for opinions and identify flaws in arguments in relation to a business-related discipline.
D4	Adopt an evaluative approach to the study of business subjects.
D5	Bring together information from a variety of sources, including research publications.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	Work effectively together with others in groups or teams, taking a leadership role where appropriate.
E2	Systematically identify and address own learning needs both in current and in new areas, making use of research and other appropriate materials.
E3	Demonstrate the ability to learn independently and with minimal guidance.
E4	n/a
E5	n/a

Level 10 Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
10	BUSN10078	Knowledge (Mis)management	20	☒	☐	☐	
10	BUSN10087	(De)Globalisation and Business Management	20	☒	☐	☐	
10	MARK10017	Honours Project	40	☒	☒	☐	1
10	BUSN10080	Organisational Change and Crisis	20	☐	☒	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Level 10 Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
10	BUSN10XXX	Future Business and AI*	20	☐	☒	☐	
10	BUSN10079	The Common Good*	20	☐	☒	☐	
10	BUSN10082	Professional Development Experience Level 10	20	☐	☒	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

Footnotes for Option Modules

- 1) The optional module is pre-selected in agreement with Dumfries and Galloway College for students based at that institution. Lanarkshire- and Paisley-based students need to select one optional module. Availability of optional modules on each campus depends on student numbers. Students may elect to study a language in lieu of the optional modules specified above. However, such intentions must be first discussed with the programme leadership.
- 2) Part of the entrepreneurial suite of optional modules.

Level 10

Criteria for Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

In line with reg. 1.21 of the UWS Regulatory Framework, students who complete 480 credit points, including at least 90 credits points at SCQF Level 10 or above, including all core modules at this level, will be eligible for a Bachelor's Degree with Honours (BA (Hons)) in Business exit award. Students who complete 480 credit points, including at least 90 credits points at SCQF Level 10 or above, without completing at least one core module at this level, will be eligible for a Bachelor's Degree with Honours (BA (Hons)) in Combined Studies exit award (see reg. 1.61 of the UWS Regulatory Framework). Awards shall be made with distinction in line with regs. 3.25-3.26 of the UWS Regulatory Framework.

For further information, please refer to the UWS Regulatory Framework and the Student Experience Policy Statement.

Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the [University Regulatory Framework](#).

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

Combined Studies

There may be instances where a student has been unsuccessful in meeting the award criteria for the named award and for other more generic named awards existing within the School. Provided that they have met the credit requirements in line with the SCQF credit minima (please see Regulation 1.21), they will be eligible for a Combined Studies award (please see Regulation 1.61).

For students studying BA, BAAcc, or BD awards the award will be BA Combined Studies.

For students studying BEng or BSc awards, the award will be BSc Combined Studies.

Version no: 1

Change/Version Control

[illegible]