MSC DATA ANALYTICS AND FINANCE

Big Data is big business in today's data-driven landscape, increasing the demand for specialists in data analytics more than ever before. Our online Masters course in Data Analytics and Finance will prepare you with the relevant skills to maximise the opportunities that Big Data now offers, learning to apply the principles of data handling in the financial sector.

Modules are:

Data Design

How can data be useful for a business? How do you collect data? Do you know how to approach it?

Through this module you will gain a solid understanding of how to approach data analytics by starting with these key questions about intended outcomes for your business. From this, selecting the most appropriate data collection method will help you to develop skills in designing deployment approaches, implementing data collection approaches and revising instruments and systems to achieve valuable outcomes.
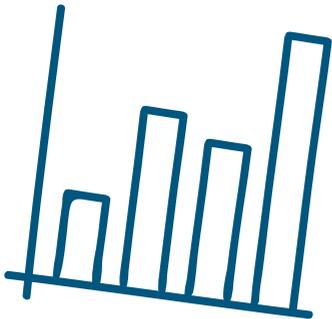
Data Handling and Decision Making

Modern businesses have access to more data than ever. People armed with the skills to handle that data - and who can use it to make informed business decisions - add real value to their workplace.

This module focuses on teaching you how to do an analysis of the data environment in an organisation, and crucially once you have that data, how you handle it and what you can do with it – whether that is to make the business more efficient, or lead it in a fresh direction. The key is not just to interpret and understand the data, but to make knowledge driven decisions. We test this through a case study driven task that allows students to apply what they have learnt to a real business scenario.

Data Visualisation and Interpretation

The volume of data held by organisations has grown massively in recent years and is generated at an ever-increasing rate. Data has the power to give businesses significant competitive advantage - if used effectively. This means there is a need for the data that is generated and analysed to be presented in a manner that is universally engaging and understood – for example across departmental

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boundaries or by non-specialists.

Business Modelling for Decision Making

The need to justify decisions, especially when handling financial affairs, has never been more important than it is in modern business. This module will explore tried and tested modelling techniques that will help in the decision making process. Using a balance of mathematic and analytical skills, students will gain a solid understanding of using quantitative methods for financial decision making.

Financial Management

During this module you will consider the role of management accounting in supporting the development, growth and sustainability of a company by aligning business performance with decision making and strategy. Understanding the data that underpins business proposals and planning are key, and you will develop the skills to independently access and process this data.

You will look at the role of both revenue and capital budgeting, marginal and absorption costing and evaluate their impact on revenue budgeting and pricing decisions.

Finally, it is important to ask - what happens when things go wrong? How can you predict corporate failure and what strategies can you implement to help in recovery?

Reporting Corporate Performance

What is the strategic contribution that the finance function can make to the growth and sustainability of a company? How it can help identify and manage risk?

To enable you to answer these key questions, in this module you will examine and evaluate the sources of finance available and how to access capital markets, as well as how structuring finances effectively can reduce cost.

Examining the discipline that the financial markets can impose on a company including dividend policy, governance and financial reporting, will leave you well placed to lead on this matter in your own company.

Finally you will look at the importance of analysing financial information in the valuation of a company and the acquisition and merger process.

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Research Project

The research project is a vital part of achieving Masters level - and it is your chance to undertake research into an area of your choosing, related to the programme theme.

We'll support you through the first stage with six weeks of sessions to help you create your research proposal - and you can choose from a conventional dissertation or an academic article and presentation. You will develop your critical abilities and produce a piece of work that's relevant in practice and meets the academic standards needed at Masters level, and just as importantly, add value to your organisation and career.

Course duration and hours of study

This varies depending on the course you're studying but you can access modules at a pace that is convenient for you. Once you have accessed a module, there is a minimum and maximum time that you will need to finish the module within.

You can find out more information on the course page, visit www.arden.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call our admissions team on +44 (0) 2476 515700 or 0800 268 7737 for more details.

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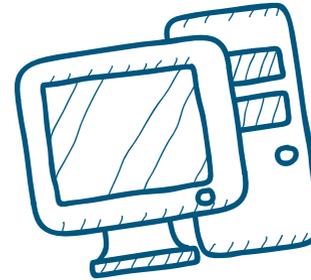
Entry requirements

To be eligible for this course you must normally have:

A UK honours degree at a minimum of second class (2.2) or equivalent.

For students whose prior learning was not taught in English:

IELTS 6.5 or equivalent.

Please be aware that this course will require you to handle numbers. We recommend that you hold a minimum of GCSE standard maths to succeed. Please speak to a member of our admissions team for more information.
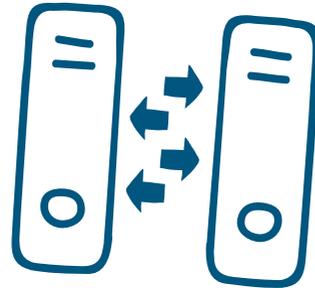
If you don't have academic qualifications

We're more than happy to consider, and positively encourage, an application from you if you have substantial management experience (typically 5 years) and can show us that you have the motivation to study the programme.

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How to apply

Email: enquiries@arden.ac.uk