Masters of Business Administration (MBA)

Financial Crime & Compliance

MBA
Going Beyond.

Bangor University’s Business School is one of the top European University Schools for banking and financial studies offering a full range of disciplines from undergraduate to doctoral level.

Bangor Business School is ranked in the world’s top 10% of institutions and economists for research in the field of banking and is ranked highest of all UK universities (RePEc, August 2021).

Coupled with research excellence and a commitment to high quality teaching, staff combine their research careers with a dedication for delivering relevant and germane content.

Students are attracted to Bangor due to its reputation for high quality and expertise, particularly in the area of banking and financial services in which Bangor is a leading European centre. Staff research papers and articles are published regularly in leading journals and their books attract a worldwide audience.

In recent years, staff at the Business School have conducted high level consultancy work including major policy studies for many leading organisations like the European Commission, The World Bank and the UK Treasury.

About ManchesterCF

ManchesterCF provides online financial intelligence training programmes to financial institutions, financial intelligence units and law enforcement agencies around the world.

Our expertise is derived from solid experience in international banking, financial intelligence and compliance.

About Bangor University

Established in 1884, Bangor University combines traditional academic excellence with cutting-edge research and facilities.

Bangor was one of the first universities in the UK to offer degrees in banking including a banking MBA. It is the only institution in the world that offers the Chartered Banker MBA and Financial Crime & Compliance MBA.

The executive MBA qualifications on offer are dual awards giving a professional designation of Chartered Banker or Financial Intelligence Specialist.

Bangor’s interest in banking goes back to the days of the famous country banker, George Rae, who in 1902 endowed a public lecture series in banking at Bangor that attracted some of the leading thinkers and practitioners of the day.

The Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021, published in 2022, recognises that 85% of Bangor University’s research is world-leading or internationally excellent. Bangor University is also classified in the top 10 in the UK for teaching quality and student experience within the Accounting and Finance subject area (Times and Sunday Times: Good University Guide 2023).

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Financial Crime & Compliance MBA

Bangor Business School is the only institution globally that can offer the Financial Crime & Compliance MBA (FCCMBA) a ‘Master in Business Administration (Financial Intelligence Specialist)’

A ground-breaking new qualification awarding an MBA together with the professional designation of Financial Intelligence Specialist (FIS).

Awarded in partnership with ManchesterCF, global providers of financial intelligence training, the Financial Intelligence Specialist (FIS) designation sets a new standard in the world of financial intelligence.

The FCCMBA is delivered through distance learning on a part-time basis and can be studied from any location with a good internet connection. The programme emphasises areas of anti-money laundering in different contexts, anti-corruption and compliance with sanctions. Informed by the UN Principles for Sustainable Banking, the programme focuses on constraining crime and terrorism through the diligence of financial institutions.

The FCCMBA experience brings together high-level skills and knowledge from an internationally recognised university and centre of research excellence with global specialists in international banking, financial intelligence and compliance.

Who would benefit from the programme?

The FCCMBA aims to develop career prospects for financial regulation and anti-money laundering compliance specialists, as well as those interested in entering this field. Financial regulatory compliance is a major area of growth and employment in global financial services. This programme looks at on-going concerns as to how crime and terrorism can be constrained through the diligence of financial institutions.

This high-level and intensive learning experience also combines generic MBA modules in Human Resources, Managerial Economics, Research Methods and Corporate Strategy with more specialist ones, equipping participants to aspire for senior positions within the industry.

Educational Aims

This programme aims develop an advanced comprehension of the causes and methods of combating financial crimes and associated wrongdoing in the financial sector.

Fostering a developed understanding of the managerial, professional, ethical, legal and regulatory framework in which financial services institutions operate, a particular focus placed on mitigating money laundering and other financial crimes.

This programme also aims to enhance lifelong learning skills and personal development of transferable intellectual and study skills. These traits are highly appropriate to a career in the banking and finance professions yet are not exclusive to those career choices.

This programme will further embed a deep appreciation of issues of sustainability and compliance within the provision of financial services.
Course Structure

The Financial Crime & Compliance MBA comprises eight modules, four broad-MBA focused and four subject-specific modules studied over a 24-month period.

MBA-Focused Modules
The four management modules are assessed by a written assignment of 2000 words with a 2-hour computer-based examination.

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<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CS</strong> Corporate Strategy</td>
<td>In a globally competitive environment where the ability to manage effectively in a context of continuous change is a paramount managerial skill, an understanding of the principles and processes of corporate strategy is a crucial determinant of managerial effectiveness. By analysing strategic decision making within business, this module enables students to develop a critical understanding of the strategic process of business management. The module will also develop an understanding of the interconnections between the other functional domains within a business.</td>
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<td><strong>RM</strong> Research Methods for Business Decision Making</td>
<td>The overall aim of this module is to equip students with research tools which can be used in their study of other modules and in their mini projects. The course also serves as a foundation for further study of more advanced research methods for those students who wish to pursue higher degrees. We start with an introduction to research methodology and sessions on information technology. The main part of the course comprises an introduction to techniques of describing and summarising data, elements of data modelling, principles of probabilistic inference, regression analysis, time series analysis and survey methodology.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POB</strong> People &amp; Organisational Behaviour</td>
<td>This module draws upon a broad overview of key issues arising from contemporary research into human resource management (HR) and organisational behaviour (OB) to provide an integrated analysis of management, organisations and people, developing the conceptual, strategic and practical skills necessary for managers in complex, global organisational contexts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ME</strong> Managerial Economics</td>
<td>Managerial theories of the firm including production and cost, market structures, strategic pricing and competition policy are considered in this module. The objective of the module is to expose the student to a challenging perspective on evaluating firms and management in areas as diverse as pricing policy and rival behaviour in inter-dependent markets. The module examines the key concepts of managerial economics and applies these to real world scenarios.</td>
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“In 2019, Thomson Reuters Regulatory Intelligence captured 56,624 alerts from more than 1,000 regulatory bodies, averaging 217 updates a day.”

Thomson Reuters ‘Cost of Compliance’ report (2020)
“My first semester at Bangor University for the MBA in Financial Crime & Compliance has been an incredibly enriching experience. The courses have challenged me to think critically and creatively, while the supportive faculty and fellow students have made the transition seamless.”

Ashley Bethel
Compliance Officer
Susquehanna Crypto (Bahamas) Limited, The Bahamas
Subject Specific Modules

The Financial Crime & Compliance focused modules are worth 30 credits each and are assessed with two pieces of assessments of 5500 and 1500 words per module. By exception, the Introduction to Financial Crime & Compliance course includes a recorded presentation.

**IFC Introduction to Financial Crime & Compliance**

The module introduces the concept of money laundering and common typologies of these behaviours. This includes consideration of legal obligations, regulation risk assessment and the levels of diligence and reporting which are required to counter money laundering. In this introductory module, learners are introduced to aspects of critical thinking to inform the tasks of due diligence and problem solving for financial intelligence purposes. In addition, they develop the ability to research academic and professional literature, present information in appropriate manners for different audiences (regulatory, corporate as well as academic).

**IPG Institutional Perspectives of Global Financial Crime**

The module considers the legislative and regulatory environment that defines and seeks to control financial crime associated with inappropriate exploitation of the physical environment as well as trade-based money laundering. The resulting economic sanctions that are often introduced to encourage compliance are assessed. The motivations for initial development and persistence of each crime are outlined and how they may be detected. Appropriate policy responses are introduced to counter and combat such crimes.

**HAG Human Aspects of Global Financial Crime**

The legislation and wider legal and regulatory environment for defining, identifying and countering criminal behaviours is discussed in the context of human trafficking, corruption and terrorist financing. The module also considers techniques and methods of detection of these crimes and appropriate approaches to monitoring and reporting of these behaviours – from individual suspicious transactions to comprehensive law enforcement investigations.

**FCB Financial Crime in the Banking Industry**

The module considers financial crime and intelligence about capital markets, and private and correspondent banking. For each of the three contexts the student is introduced to regulatory concepts and approaches, before learning about different methods used to detect crime, mitigate and prevent such behaviours. Products, risk management and the wider institutional structures relevant to each situation are discussed. The specific banking sub-sectors may be adjusted from year-to-year depending on relevant developments in the industry.

**Sample Study Structure**

The structure of your studies will depend on the intake that you join the programme. See sample study structure below for each year of study.

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<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Semester 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods for Business Decision Making</td>
<td>Corporate Strategy</td>
<td>People &amp; Organisational Behaviour</td>
<td>Managerial Economics</td>
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Candidates are assessed on an individual basis. Entry to the FCCMBA requires a recognised undergraduate degree or possession of an approved professional qualification and practical experience.

Individuals who do not have a formal degree or professional qualification, but who have several years of approved management experience will also be considered. Candidates may wish to submit their resume for assessment to confirm eligibility for the programme.

Applicants must have a high level of fluency in the English language. Where a candidate does not converse through the medium of English in their profession or has not completed their bachelor’s degree in English, an IELTS Test may be requested. Where this is requested, the following minimum scores are required:

**English**

- IELTS: overall score of 6.0 (with no element below 5.5.)

Other English language tests are accepted by Bangor University and can be discussed with the team.

**Work Experience**

Applicants should have a minimum of three years practical experience at a relevant level.

**Accelerated Routes**

Accelerated routes of study based on exempting individual modules will be considered for students from Bangor University’s own Chartered Banker MBA and for graduates of relevant master’s degrees from recognised universities.
Learning

Distance Learning
The Financial Crime & Compliance MBA is a distance learning programme, offered on a part-time basis and provides a rich combination of resources through an array of platforms to aid learning. The study approach minimises time away from the office and has less impact on the daily operation of the business making the programme highly accessible to students worldwide.

Blackboard
Blackboard is the virtual learning environment (VLE) used by Bangor University. Each module in the FCCMBA programme benefits from a bespoke area within the platform where all study resources are held. Blackboard houses discussion forums designed to encourage student and tutor interaction where discussion of the study materials and module aims can take place and these are encouraged throughout the programme. ManchesterCF computer exercises are available for students to test their knowledge but these MCQs do not contribute towards the assessment of the module.

Online Learning
The online learning element of the FCCMBA programme is delivered by a combination of recorded lectures, live tutorials and Blackboard.

IT Inductions are held at the beginning of each semester to explain how to use the various platforms that we use.

Materials
Materials are available in the virtual learning environment, Blackboard, and include a study guide and digital textbook(s). To further aid learning, subject-specific course materials such as multiple choice questions can be accessed through the ManchesterCF portal.

Students are also directed to the relevant literature, including book chapters, journal articles (theoretical and empirical), books and internet sources that they are expected to read during their private study time. Private study is supported by interactive materials delivered via Blackboard online discussions and email contact with staff.
Lectures
A combination of recorded and live interactive lectures take place during set times in the semester. All are recorded, giving students the ability to study at their own pace.

Assessment
The FCCMBA includes a combination of four broad-MBA focused 15-credit modules and four subject-specific 30-credit modules.

The four management modules are assessed by a written assignment of 2000 words with a 2-hour computer-based examination. The financial crime and compliance-focused modules are worth 30 credits each and are assessed with two pieces of assessments of 5500 and 1500 words per module. By exception, the Introduction to Financial Crime & Compliance course includes a recorded presentation.

The designation of Financial Intelligence Specialist (FIS) will be awarded upon successful completion of the programme.

Corporate Incentives
Corporate discounts are available for employees that are financially supported.

Flexible Payment Options
To help spread the cost of the programme, options to pay on a semester or monthly basis are given.
“The Financial Crime & Compliance MBA programme is well designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the financial crime landscape. Its flexible format allows for a good work/life balance.”

Derek McMillan (FCCMBA Student), Head of Compliance, Global Anti-Fraud Program & Compliance Rules and Head of Compliance Europe and The Americas, MoneyGram
Application Procedure

When you choose to study an MBA programme you are making one of the most important decisions in your life.

Choosing the right MBA programme will give you the toolkit to realise your future potential. In the present global climate, gaining a specialist MBA from a top university and a leading professional qualification is a particularly important statement about you and your career aspirations.

Visit our website where application details, admission procedures and fee information can be found www.bangor.ac.uk/financialcrimecompliancemba

Contact our Admissions Team if you have any questions or need any further advice before you get started.

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