BA (Honours) in ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

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CAO Code
NC022

Duration:	Three Years Full-Time
NFQ Level:	Level 8
CAO Points 2018:	341

About the Course
This accountancy and finance degree is about much more than just the numbers. It will give you the technical skills you need and also the ability to think critically and creatively, to understand how an organisation can succeed. It features a blend of specialised accounting and finance subjects together with general business subjects.

The course will help you understand the relationships between finance and other business disciplines. You will develop a critical and methodical approach to problem-solving and decision-making in a financial context and develop the ability to interpret and communicate financial and other information. The broader business viewpoint of the course will give you an excellent foundation in leadership and management and give you the broad perspective necessary for the modern interconnected business world.

This degree will equip you for a career in accountancy, finance and related fields. NCI has particular expertise in this area and graduates have achieved excellent employment rates.

As a graduate of this course you will:
- Understand the theory and practice of accounting and finance.
- Develop your skills and knowledge in all areas of business.
- Be able to pursue a career in general management, accountancy or related fields.
- Be eligible for professional accountancy body exemptions.

Course Structure and Award
This undergraduate course is a three-year honours degree. The course is run over six semesters with continuous assessment held throughout the course and examinations at the end of each semester. On completion you will receive a QQI BA (Honours) Degree in Accounting and Finance at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.
This undergraduate programme is a three-year honours degree with the option to extend to a four-year honours degree if the 8-month paid work placement option is availed of.

Career Prospects
Recent graduates from current accounting and finance degrees at NCI are employed as trainee accountants and tax advisors within the Big 4 and Top 10 accountancy firms together with industry and financial services. Many are undertaking the professional accountancy exams and specific employers include: EY, Deloitte, BDO, Grant Thornton, JPA Brenson Lawlor, JP Morgan, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Citi, BNY Mellon, Moore Stephens, Cornmarket, PwC and Daiwa.

Course Fees
This course qualifies under the Free Fees Initiative and Student Grant Scheme.

Further Study Options
Upon successful completion of the BA (Honours) in Accounting and Finance, graduates can progress to postgraduate courses at level 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications such as the MSc in Finance at NCI or pursue a professional accountancy qualification such as ACA, ACCA or CIMA.

Who is the course for?
The course will appeal to students looking to move into the international world of accounting and finance. The course is for school leavers, mature students and graduates of QQI level 5/6 programmes who wish to embark on a course of full-time study.

Professional Recognition
Graduates who meet the criteria decided by the professional accounting bodies may apply for generous exemptions from the examinations of professional accountancy bodies on completion of the course. These include Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI), Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), Chartered Institute of Management Accounts (CIMA) and Certified Public Accountants (CPA) Ireland.

Work Placement
Work placements are highly regarded by graduate recruiters and offer many advantages to students including, valuable work-based skills and experience, the opportunity to make contacts in industry, assisting in developing personal and professional confidence and an opportunity to boost your employability prospects when you graduate.

This programme offers high achieving students the option to complete an 8-month paid work placement after successful completion of second year. This option is subject to strict requirements and will be discussed with students on entry to the course.

On-the-job experience before you graduate will give you the edge in today's job market. Complete a professional work placement and graduate knowing what your future career really entails and whether it's right for you.

Minimum Entry Requirements
Minimum entry requirements are a grade H5 and above in two higher level subjects together with a minimum of O6/H7 in four other subjects. A minimum of grade O6/H7 must be obtained in English. A grade O5/H6 must be obtained in Mathematics. Mature applicants, applicants with a disability or those applying through the DARE or HEAR access schemes should consult pages 66 and 67.

A Guide to COURSE CONTENT

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Year 1

Semester 1

- Financial Accounting
- Fundamentals of Management
- Economics in the World
- Managing Your Learning
- Business Law for Accounting and Finance
- Mathematics for Business and Finance

Semester 2

- Financial Accounting
- Economics in the World

Year 2

Semester 1

- Financial Accounting
- Management Accounting
- Corporate Finance
- Taxation
- Quantitative Methods in Finance
- Company Law for Accounting and Finance

Semester 2

- Financial Accounting
- Management Accounting
- Corporate Finance
- Business Economics
- Corporate Governance and Ethics
- Collective Investments

Year 3

Semester 1

- Management Accounting
- Financial Reporting
- Law and Regulation
- Portfolio Analysis
- Derivatives and Risk Management
- Plus one elective

Electives

- Introduction to Strategy
- Taxation
- International Financial Management
- Life Assurance
- Loans
- Retirement Financing
- Entrepreneurship

Semester 2

- Management Accounting
- Financial Reporting
- Contemporary Issues in Accounting and Finance
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Plus one or two electives

Electives

- Taxation
- Business Analytics and Research
- Retirement Benefits
- Auditing and Assurance

Elective Modules

Electives may include prerequisites, are subject to change, and availability is subject to class sizes.