



Department of
Accounting



POSTGRADUATE OFFER HOLDERS

2024-2025

Welcome Booklet

DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING
AND FINANCE

MSC ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

MSC ACCOUNTING, ORGANISATIONS
AND INSTITUTIONS



CHECKLIST: What to do next

- ✓ Accept and confirm your offer on [LSE for You](#)
- ✓ Submit your [Financial Undertaking Form](#). It is best to do this as early as possible, particularly if you require a CAS for your visa
- ✓ Read the [Graduate Offer Pack](#) for information on visas, accommodation, what to do before you arrive at LSE, and general information about student life and London
- ✓ Bookmark the [Department of Accounting Offer Holders page](#) for latest updates

CONTACT US

Please get in touch with us if you have any questions:

Your Programme Team

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Questions about the programme. For questions about admissions and your application contact the Admissions Team on +44 (0)20 7955 7160

Disclaimer: The information in this booklet may be superseded by recent changes in regulations and other, more recent, particulars. As a guiding principle, the School's webpages will generally contain the latest, most up-to-date information.



WELCOME FROM THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Congratulations on securing an offer to pursue studies at the Department of Accounting at LSE. Securing a place in our Diploma and MSc programmes is highly competitive, making your offer a notable achievement.

LSE stands as a distinguished and singular institution, and this distinction carries over to our Department. Our ethos revolves around fostering a supportive environment throughout your postgraduate journey. While delivering a top-tier academic experience is paramount, our commitment extends further. Our robust academic mentoring system, coupled with broader school-wide initiatives, ensures comprehensive personal support. Furthermore, we offer a sturdy 'bridge' to guide your transition from academic study to the professional realm and help you realise your career aspirations.

As your Programme Director, I am deeply dedicated to these three pillars of our program, as are all members of our faculty and professional services staff.

Embarking on this rigorous programme promises significant rewards for your future. You will graduate equipped with a diverse set of critical skills, firmly grounded in accounting and finance expertise, applicable across a broad spectrum of professional contexts and challenges. Moreover, you will cultivate a network of connections that will endure throughout your career. We eagerly anticipate welcoming you in September.

Best regards,

DR JULIA MORLEY
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR



The Marshall Building, home to the Department of Accounting at LSE since 2022.

WHY LSE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING?

LSE presents an unparalleled chance to delve into the social sciences within a globally renowned university setting, all amidst the vibrant cultural, social, and recreational offerings of one of the world's premier capital cities.

The heart of London

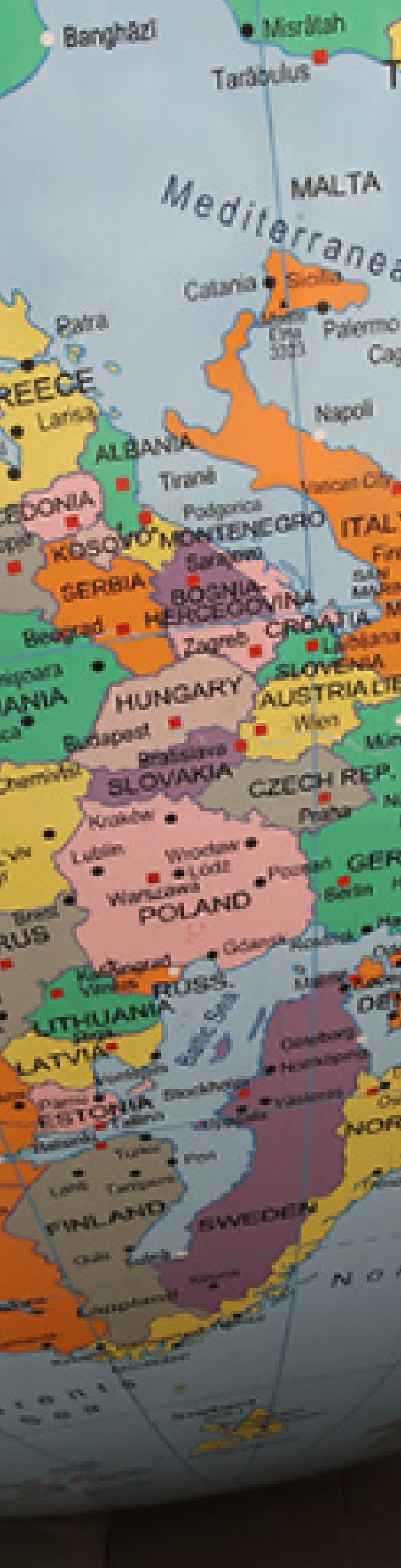
LSE provides a distinctive opportunity to engage with the social sciences within a globally esteemed academic institution while immersing oneself in the rich cultural, social, and recreational offerings of one of the world's most illustrious capital cities.

The essence of LSE is intertwined with its location. Nestled in the heart of central London, the School thrives in one of the most diverse cities worldwide. With close proximity to Europe's financial, legal, and cultural hubs, LSE serves as a pivotal hub for international discourse, reflecting our commitment to engaging with UK and global affairs.

LSE epitomises a dynamic, cosmopolitan environment deeply rooted in the 'real world'. This vibrancy stems from the diverse blend of faculty and students, our active engagement in academic and political spheres, and the seamless exchange of ideas between the School and its surroundings. Government, Parliament, financial institutions, legal entities, and media outlets are all within easy reach of the School, fostering a dynamic ecosystem of collaboration and influence.

Follow our latest news and events





A world centre for research and teaching

Our teaching is continuously enriched and guided by our research endeavours. Graduate students, in particular, hold a cherished and significant position in bolstering the School's scholarly contributions through their research pursuits during their academic journey. LSE fosters a conducive environment for staff research, leveraging academic departments, institutes, and interdisciplinary research centres. A remarkable 97 percent of LSE academics are actively involved in research, positioning them as sought-after advisers, consultants, and commentators. This active engagement extends their influence into the practical realms of the subjects they both teach and research.

Research quality

The Research Excellence Framework (REF) is a comprehensive evaluation of research quality across UK universities conducted by the Higher Education Funding Councils approximately every five to seven years. Findings from the 2021 REF reaffirmed LSE's status as a global leader in research, with the School consistently ranking at the forefront or near the summit in various assessments of research excellence.

The Department of Accounting

The Department of Accounting maintains its esteemed status as one of the foremost entities worldwide for both teaching and research in the economic, institutional, and organisational dimensions of accounting and financial management. Accounting at LSE is rooted in research and grounded in the social sciences, with a clear aim to influence accounting regulation, practice, or the professional realm.

Faculty members within the Department are actively engaged in research and education spanning a wide spectrum of accounting topics. They collaborate across disciplines such as economics, finance, history, law, management, organisational studies, psychology, and sociology. The Department's research and teaching endeavours encompass a broad range of subjects, addressing both private and public sector concerns and advocating for various evidentiary sources and investigative methodologies.

In the QS World Rankings 2024, the Department secures a prestigious position, ranking first in London, and sixth globally for Accounting and Finance.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

As a postgraduate student in Accounting, you will receive specialised support from our dedicated career consultants within the Department, in addition to the services offered by the central [LSE Careers Service](#). Throughout your programme and beyond graduation, you'll have access to professional development activities, guidance, and career coaching tailored to your needs.

Situated in central London, LSE provides unparalleled access to a vast array of internationally renowned employers. Exclusive employer events are hosted on campus for LSE students, offering unique networking opportunities. Additionally, a series of career seminars and events are organised specifically to address the professional development requirements of students within the Department of Accounting.

Our extensive alumni network presents invaluable networking prospects, boasting over 10,000 graduates from the Department of Accounting. This network spans across various sectors globally, providing access to inspirational leaders and fostering connections that can shape your career trajectory.

Graduate Destinations

Upon completing their postgraduate degree, our graduates embark on diverse career paths.

Beyond acquiring specialised academic knowledge applicable to roles in the financial sector—such as financial reporting, management accounting, or asset markets—you will also cultivate transferable competencies like project management, communication, and quantitative skills. These skills are valuable across various sectors, including the public sector, consulting, and broader industry domains.

LSE Accounting graduates have pursued employment opportunities with businesses spanning a multitude of sectors worldwide. Common areas of employment include:

- Accounting and Auditing
- Consultancy
- Investment Banking
- Retail and Commercial Banking
- Asset Management

Companies who have employed recent graduates from this programme include Bain & Company, Bank of New York Mellon, Barclays Capital, BlackRock, Crédit Agricole, Crowe Horwath, General Electric, JP Morgan, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, PwC, KPMG, Proctor & Gamble, Merrill Lynch, Mondelez, EMI Music, Nordea Bank, Royal Dutch Shell, Schrodgers and Strategic Asset Partners LLP.

Events/Workshops

Throughout the year the LSE Careers Service and the Department of Accounting hosts a number of career events and workshops including:

- Careers Fairs such as Banking and Financial Services; Consultancy; Business and Management; Public Sector and Policy; European Internships; and Asia Careers Fairs.
- Alumni Networking Evenings
- Workshops in financial modelling; presentations skills; assessment centres and group assessment; interview practice; understanding the internship to graduate role cycle.



INTERVIEW WITH ACCOUNTING ALUMNI ETHAN ROBERTSON

MSC ACCOUNTING, ORGANISATION AND INSTITUTIONS (AOI) 2023
NATIONALITY: BRITISH



Thank you for joining us. Can you tell us a little more about yourself and what subject you studied before joining LSE?

My name is Ethan, and I am 22. I studied International Business Management before joining LSE which was very enjoyable and equipped me with broad international business awareness, but not advanced accounting knowledge. I completed a dissertation in my final year underpinned by the 'AOI Literature' which smoothed the transition into the intellectually challenging Accounting, Organisations and Institutions (AOI, AC424) course.

What drew you to LSE?

LSE is an internationally renowned institution, and the quality and challenge of the studies reflects this. AOI is unique as the programme tests you to take accounting away from its purely technical form by drawing on a broad range of social science schools of thought. This attracts students from a variety of undergraduate degrees and fosters a great environment for collaboration in lectures and group projects. Students can also take electives in a large variety of modules from departments across LSE; the only difficulty here is too much choice so research beforehand what interests you.

The LSE is centred in the heart of London which gives you excellent access to the London job market. Many students at LSE are interested in pursuing careers in financial services and the department staff and careers services are always there to help in guide and support you at any point in the application process. Lastly one great thing about LSE is the diversity. During my time so far, I have been able to meet and make friends from all over the world.

What has been a highlight of your time at LSE and with the Department so far?

The Cambridge Graduate weekend was my highlight. Three coaches full of Accounting students travelled to Cambridge for two days and we had team building games, guided tours, gondola rides and a night out with fellow classmates and faculty. Also the AOI Society quiz, at George IV, the foremost society and group at LSE!



What is your favourite module and why?

I have enjoyed all the courses so far. But I can give my top three which would be:

1. Corporate Financial Disclosure and Investor Relations (AC417) – We studied in detail the key players and interactions between the core capital market players (and some game theory).
2. Accounting Organisations and Institutions (AC424) – This is the AOI core course which isn't available as an outside option to students on other courses. This results in a close bond in the class and enjoyable class discussions.
3. Security and Valuation Analysis (AC444) – This is one of the more technical courses and I have enjoyed the group project where we are placed as a sell-side analyst to create an equity research report on a corporation of our choice.

What's a typical day like on the programme?

A typical day on the programme usually involves preparation for in class case discussions, formative assessments, background reading and one or two lectures a day. In my free time I usually explore London, meet with friends and take part in societies - for which there are plenty of societies to choose from; see LSE SU webpage.

What activities have you been involved with at LSE in addition to your studies?

1. AOI society !
2. Student Academic Rep – This is a great opportunity to meet with faculty and be the voice of the students regarding any concerns that could be resolved or positives in the programme that should continue for next year's programme (e.g. the Cambridge trip).
3. Squash Club
4. Rugby Club

What's your advice for someone wanting to study the same programme?

I would say make sure to do your research and understand why AOI specifically is something you are interested in because the work is intellectually challenging and if you are interested in the literature your experience will be all the more rewarding. A good starting point is to take a look at the preliminary reading by C S Chapman, D J Cooper and P Miller (eds.) *Accounting, Organizations and Institutions* (Oxford University Press, 2012) and journals *Accounting Organisations and Society* and *Critical Perspectives on Accounting*.

If you are interested in working in the U.K (or elsewhere) I would also recommend that over summer, you plan the applications that you wish to make when they open (many jobs open within the first month). Applications can be very time consuming, and the course is demanding so this will put you in a good position in Autumn Term.



CONNECTING WITH FELLOW ACCOUNTING OFFER HOLDERS



The Department of Accounting has established a LinkedIn group for postgraduate Accounting offer holders (Class of 2025), enabling you to connect with your peers before beginning your studies with us in September. Invitation to join will be sent in the summer.



Furthermore, the Department maintains a WhatsApp community group for postgraduate Accounting students to provide updates on news and events throughout your tenure at LSE. Invitation to join will be sent in the summer.





Additional support/information

Academic Mentor

Your Academic Mentor oversees your academic journey, ensuring progress and offering support in addressing any challenges, whether academic or personal. At the beginning of the Autumn Term, all postgraduate students will be allocated an Academic Mentor. Do not hesitate to reach out to your Academic Mentor whenever you encounter uncertainty or difficulty.

Accounting study space

Apart from the general learning areas across campus and the LSE Library, the Department of Accounting provides three exclusive study rooms in the Marshall Building specifically for accounting students. These rooms also grant access to Bloomberg Terminals.

Course choice video

Brief introductory videos for Accounting courses are accessible for viewing on the [Department website](#). However, please note that not all courses have corresponding videos. For comprehensive details, it's advisable to contact the respective course leader.

INSIGHTS Speaker series

To illustrate the practical application of theoretical concepts, the Department organises a speaker series of lectures. These sessions feature presentations by practitioners, and occasionally visiting academics, addressing topical subjects within accounting, finance, or themes covered in students' lectures and classes.

LSE LIFE

[LSE LIFE](#) serves as a hub for self-discovery, academic enrichment, and goal attainment. Our array of workshops and distinctive events cater to your chosen skills and personal interests. Additionally, we provide personalised one-to-one sessions to unearth your strengths, enhance your skills, and align them towards achieving your objectives.

As a student, you can utilise LSE LIFE to bolster your academic, communication, numeracy, and research abilities. Furthermore, you can seek guidance on personal effectiveness, life decisions, and gain valuable insights into graduate recruitment and career pathways. All these resources are conveniently located in a purpose-built space on the ground floor of the LSE Library.

LSE public events

lse.ac.uk/events

Discover the range of free events at LSE in the Public Lecture Programme. As a student, you have first-hand access to influential outside speakers at the School (national and international politicians, business leaders, industrialists and civil servants) as well as leading academics from all around the world who visit to participate in teaching, to give public lectures and to pursue their own research.

Language Centre

The learning of languages will lead to a more in-depth understanding of different societies and cultures and of the diversity and multiplicity of today's globalised societies and through literature you'll expand your mind, gaining understanding and experiencing other systems of living and other worlds. The LSE Language Centre offers language courses outside your degree in the following languages: Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

PROGRAMME TIMELINE

The Diploma in Accounting and Finance and the MSc Accounting and Finance are 9-month full-time course.

The MSc Accounting, Organisations and Institutions is 10-month full-time course.

LSE Term Dates

LSE's Welcome Week starts the week commencing 23 September 2024. Events and activities include registration, welcome presentations from the School and Department, and networking with peers.

Autumn Term

Monday 30 September 2024 - Friday 13 December 2024

Winter Break

Monday 16 December 2024 - Friday 17 January 2025

January exams

Monday 13 – Friday 17 January 2025

Winter Term

Monday 20 January 2025 to Friday 4 April 2025

Spring break

Monday 7 April - Monday 5 May 2025

Spring Term

Tuesday 6 May 2025 - Friday 20 June 2025

PROGRAMME TEAM



Programme Director

Dr Julia Morley, Associate Professor (Education)
- MSc Programme Director

Having studied Economics at Pembroke College, Cambridge, Julia qualified as a chartered accountant with ICAEW and worked in finance, media and consulting. Julia went to complete an MSc in Philosophy of the Social Sciences in the Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method at LSE, followed by a PhD in the Department of Accounting.

At LSE Julia teaches on AC342 Accounting, Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability; AC411 Accounting, Strategy and Control; and AC493 Financial and Management Accounting for Managerial Decision Making.

Programme Office

The Programme Office team, based in the Marshall Building, 3rd Floor - MAR 3.07, will work with you through the duration of your study to help manage your academic journey at LSE.



Gary Crow
Administrator



Yvonne Guthrie
Department Manager



Jack Heaney
Administrator



Yuhua Chen-Hudson
Programme
Manager, MSc AOI



Sandra Ma
Student Community and
Operations Manager



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