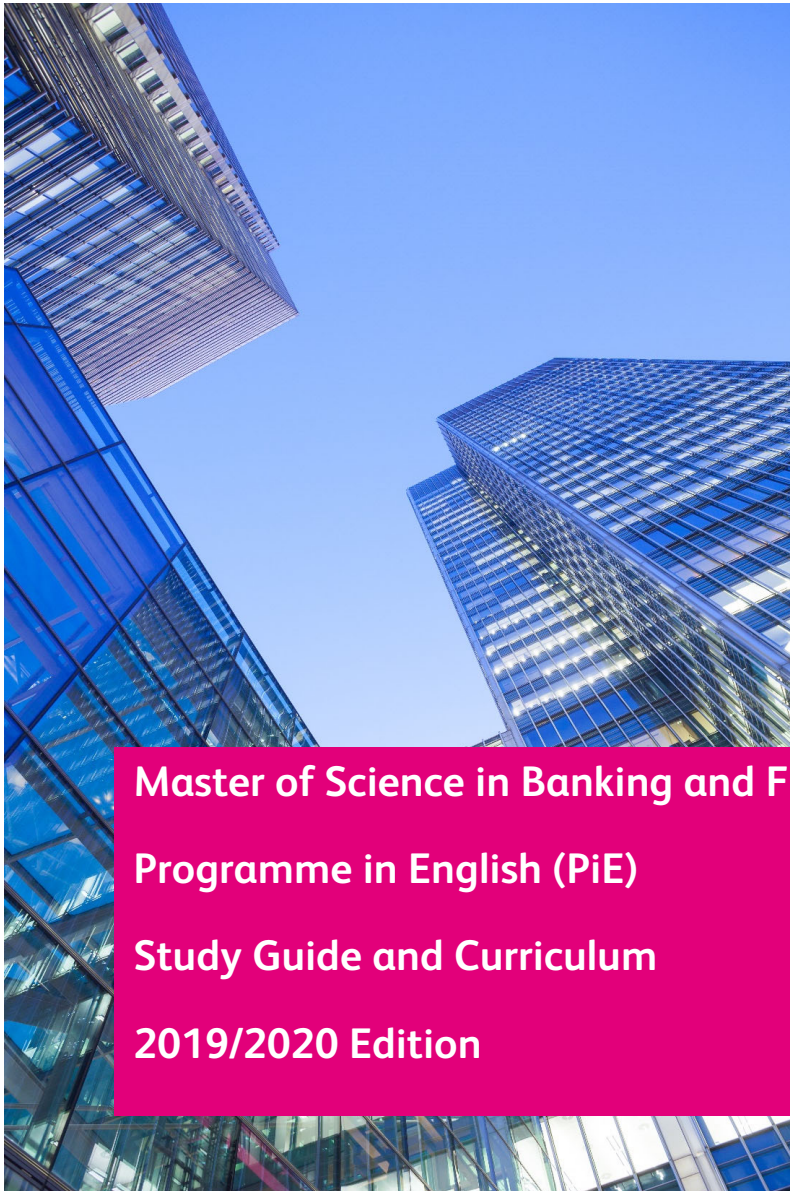


Lucerne University of  
Applied Sciences and Arts

**HOCHSCHULE  
LUZERN**



**Master of Science in Banking and Finance**

**Programme in English (PiE)**

**Study Guide and Curriculum**

**2019/2020 Edition**

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## **1 Master's Studies in Banking and Finance**

The *Master of Science in Banking and Finance* degree programme offers a profile which is unique to the Swiss university scene, especially when compared internationally. Students who have already specialized in banking and finance subjects at a Bachelor's level will be able to seamlessly continue their specialization and expand it, both from a content and a methodology perspective. Lectures are held in English language only. With an adequate level of dedication, it is also possible to follow an occupation during the programme.

The potential number of qualified applicants for this study course is subject to profile requirements. Accordingly, a close personal exchange amongst the participants in an academic year, and between students and lecturers is facilitated. We strive for a dialogue-orientated degree programme, where students' and lecturers' contributions complement each other into a true learning partnership.

### **1.1 Why Choose the Master Banking and Finance at the Lucerne School of Business?**

Various reasons as to why the *Master of Science in Banking and Finance* should be pursued at the Lucerne School of Business are explained below:

#### **Dual Degrees with partner universities in Edinburgh and Hong Kong**

We offer a dual degree with Edinburgh Napier University and Lingnan University in Hong Kong. Take advantage of the opportunity to also study in Hong Kong or Edinburgh – and receive two master degrees, while working on your personal international network.

#### **Cutting-edge and well connected**

The Institut für Finanzdienstleistungen Zug IFZ (Institute of Financial Services Zug IFZ) is an institute with an excellent reputation in the industry, and is Switzerland's leading research institute in many areas. Among them are for example digitization in banking, FinTech, crypto and crowd finance, sustainable investments, and compliance.

#### **Multiple career paths in the financial industry**

The graduates of our master's programme in Banking and Finance hold positions in banks, pension or investment funds, are asset or portfolio managers, work in consulting companies, and in finance departments in several industries. Our graduates work in Switzerland and abroad in corporate or private banking, asset management, investment banking, and in risk management.

#### **Top quality studies and lecturers from the industry**

Our programme is very focused since we teach in small groups and students have direct access to their lecturers. The high level of satisfaction among our students is proven by the results of the programme's ongoing evaluation.

#### **A programme which is practically relevant for the financial services industry**

Our programme is practically relevant for the financial services industry. In addition to working on current topics of relevance in the industry, we work with several teaching practitioners who hold senior management positions in Switzerland's top financial services companies.

## **Excellent basis for topping up a CFA, CAIA, FRM and more**

Completing the master's programme enables you to advance your education even further with an internationally recognized certificate such as "Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)", the "Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA)", the "Financial Risk Manager (FRM)" or the "Certified International Investment Analyst (CIIA)".

### **Location: Zurich – Rotkreuz - Lucerne:**

Our Campus Rotkreuz can be reached from Zurich and Lucerne in about 30 minutes. While Zurich is an international financial centre, Lucerne is a national hub for the insurance sector and one of the major regions for tourism in Switzerland. Zug is a renowned and important location for commodity trading, private equity, and became home to many companies in the blockchain sector. The region is also known as "crypto valley".

## **1.2 Personal Responsibility and Active Participation**

Despite the structures predefined by curriculum, timetable and examinations, studies at Master's level require taking on personal responsibility for managing your own learning process, particularly with basic methodical and analytical competences which are to be developed further in addition to the specific contents. Past students of the degree programme have gained valuable experience and success through self-organized study groups.

In order to efficiently manage their own studies, students have a variety of options to participate in the success of their learning partnership and to co-design their study course. Amongst others, these options include; preparation and post-processing of lessons, contributing your own questions or discussions to lessons or to electronic learning platforms, as well as suggestions for relevant excursions and the subjects of term papers, project reports or Masters' Theses. An important element of the above mentioned consists of written evaluations, which are undertaken on a regular basis. They make an important contribution to the advancement and improvement of the overall course, content, and lectures and any module specific events. Students are requested to take the evaluations of lecturers seriously, and to provide constructive criticism, and well-founded information with regards to any potential for improvements, and to clarify within reason if any topics are redundant. Independent of these evaluations, direct access to lecturers and the Head of Studies are open to all students- and not just via your class representative who will take on special responsibility for timely and open communication with regards to the co-ordination of tasks and resolution of any conflicts arising.

The greatest responsibility for the long-term success of the study course (and the reputation of their own degree) will be taken on by the graduates after conclusion of their studies themselves. We are confident that the professional performance and success so far of our graduates ensures a strong reputation for our MSc Banking and Finance degree in the financial industry.

General Information about the degree programme

## **1.3 Overview of the Study Course/Degree**

MSc Banking and Finance is a scientifically-founded, and simultaneously practice-orientated advanced professional and management training course with an international orientation. This degree lays the foundations for a successful professional career in the finance industry or the corporate finance sector.

The systematic combination of scientific methodology and practical know-how during their studies provides graduates of this Master's programme with competencies enabling them to resolve problems of an unusual nature, structure complex situations, and make well-reflected decisions of their own in later professional practice.

Master's graduates have excellent long-term professional development and career prospects. The Master's course prepares its students for taking on challenging roles in a professional expert role and/or as a management executive in the corporate finance sector. After conclusion of their studies, key functions at a strategic level of the finance industry will therefore be available to students, for instance, in banks, financial service companies, retirement fund management, asset management, the financial advice sector, accountancy firms or in the finance departments of companies in all industry sectors.

The MSc Banking and Finance is a degree programme offered by the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business. The study modules are accounted for in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The ECTS facilitates and promotes the national and international mobility of students and the recognition of their degree across national borders.

The Master's degree programme consists of a standard study period of four semesters. The volume of studies comprises 90 ECTS credits. Once students have passed their Master's examinations and formulated satisfactory research reports, they are awarded the academic title of *Master of Science in Banking and Finance*.

#### **1.4 Admission Requirements**

The Head of Studies will decide the acceptance into the MSc Banking and Finance degree programme within a clearly regulated admissions framework. Applicants must fulfil all of the following criteria cumulatively:

- University Bachelor's or equivalent university degree in business administration or business economics, economic sciences, business law or a related discipline
- Proof of advanced studies in banking and finance amounting to at least 24 ECTS credits (post-qualification possible)
- Proof of the ability to actively participate in English language lessons at university level
- Positive result of admission interview

Any missing competencies required for the admission into the degree programme of banking and finance can be fulfilled by the end of the first year of studies at the latest. In this case, admission will be granted subject to achieving a post-qualification.

## 2 Course Guidance

### Head of Studies

Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business



**Prof Dr Andreas Dietrich**

Head of Study Course

+41 41 757 67 46  
andreas.dietrich@hslu.ch

### Administration

Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business

Head of Master's Administration

**Simone Portmann**

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simone.portmann@hslu.ch

Administration MSc Banking and Finance

**Selina Granzotto**

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selina.granzotto@hslu.ch

### Internet sites of importance for the Master's study course:

<https://www.hslu.ch/en/lucerne-school-of-business/degree-programmes/master/banking-and-finance/>

### Postal address:

**Lucerne School of Business**

Master's Administration  
Grafenauweg 10  
P.O. Box 7344  
CH – 6302 Zug  
Switzerland

From August 2019 you will find us at Suurstoffi 1 in 6343 Rotkreuz.

### 3 Lecturers

#### Overview of Lecturers



**Dr Matthias Daniel Aepli**  
Market Risk Management, Risk Management  
in Banking



**Simon Amrein**  
Crowd and Crypto Based Markets  
Financial sector and financial regulation  
in Switzerland



**Prof Dr Thomas Ankenbrand**  
Agent-based models of real estate and fi-  
nancial markets, FinTech and New Busi-  
ness Models, Crowd and Crypto Based  
Markets

*Former CEO from Hypotheken Servicing  
Schweiz AG, Entris Banking AG and RBA-  
Service*



**Manuel Bauer**  
Mergers & Acquisitions



**Prof Dr Thomas Kurt Birrer**  
Corporate Financial Management for MNEs



**Dr Mathias Bucher**  
Blockchain and Analytics  
*Founding Partner, SwissChoice GmbH,  
Founding Partner and co-CEO, All-Moun-  
tain Capital AG (2010-2015), former Vice  
President and Portfolio Manager, Hori-  
zon21 AG*



**Nicolas Bürkler**  
Commodities

*Member of the IFARA panel of experts,  
founder and VR of the SIM Research In-  
stitute, founder and VRP of the Rigi Mai-  
son AG*



**Prof Dr John Davidson**  
Private Equity  
*Former Investment Professional in the  
Private Equity and Real Estate sector,  
Swiss Re, former Global Asset Manage-  
ment in the Private Equity sector, UBS*



**Prof Dr Andreas Dietrich**  
FinTech and New Business Models

*Head of Study Course MSc Banking and Fi-  
nance, formerly involved in several consul-  
tancy functions (Deloitte Consulting;  
Worldbank/IMF/DFID/SECO), Member of  
the Board of Directors  
Cantonal Bank of Lucerne*



**Adrian Ettlin**  
Derivatives and Structured Products



**Dr Jürg Fausch**  
Derivatives and Structured Products



**Prof Dr Nils Hafner**  
Digital Customer Management in Banking  
*International Expert on the establish-  
ment of profitable client relations, lec-  
tureships at various universities*



**Dr Anina Christina Hille**

Hedge Funds

*Former Head Alternative Investment Specialists der Division "Swiss Universal Bank", Credit Suisse*



**Dr Thomas Krabichler**

Credit Risk Management



**Dr Christian Kraft**

International Topics in Real Estate, Real Estate Investment Banking



**Dr Stefan Kull**

Behavioural Finance, Fin. Environment in International Markets

*Lecturer at the University of St. Gallen (HSG), Managing Director of DANFORDS Finanzmanufaktur*



**Philippe Oster**

Derivatives and Structured Products, Commodities

*Former Head of Portfolio Management, Zugerberg Finanz AG*



**Prof Dr Jürg Schwarz**

Practical Exercises in Research Methods, Research Methods III

*Managing Director of schwarz & partners GmbH, Methodology Consultant at the University of Zürich*



**Prof Dr Yvonne Seiler Zimmermann**

Advanced Corporate Finance



**Prof Dr Fabio Sigrist**

Practical Exercises in Research Methods, Research Methods II, Blockchain and Analytics

*Former Risk Management Consultant, EVMTech*



**Prof Dr Martin Spillmann**

Market Risk Management, Risk Management in Banking, Corporate Financial Management for MNEs

*Lecturer, former Deputy Group Treasurer UBS, Member of the Board of Directors Raiffeisenbank Zug*



**Dr Manfred Stüttgen**

Leadership and Ethics, Sustainable Investments (incl. Real Estate)

*Founder & CEO of YNVESTOR AG, former Head of Branding, MD, Credit Suisse, Consultant and Manager UBS, Deutsche Bank, McKinsey & Company*



**Prof Dr. Michael Trübestein**

Real Estate Investment Banking, International Topics in Real Estate Investments



**Prof Dr Gabrielle Wanzenried**

Advanced Corporate Finance

*Lecturer at Akademie für Wirtschaftsprüfung*



**Reto Wernli**

Research Methods I



## 4 Modules

### 4.1 Module Catalogue

A compact timetable, balanced study times across all four semesters, and block-release studies make it possible to participate in studies and course-related vocational activities (max. 40-50%) at the same time.

1st Semester		Module 1, 9 Credits Financial Environment in International Markets – Tax, Law and Finance		Module 9, 9 Credits Scientific Research	
	1st Semester	Module 2, 3 Credits Digital Customer Manage- ment in Banking	Module 5, 3 Credits Derivatives and Structured Products		
2nd Semester	2nd Semester	Module 3, 6 Credits Risk Management	Module 6, 6 Credits Investments	Module 13, 3 Credits Leadership and Ethics	Module 10, 9 Credits Practical Exercises in Research Methods
3rd Semester	3rd Semester	Module 4, 6 Credits Trends and Innovations in Banking	Module 7, 6 Credits Alternative Investments		Module 11, 9 Credits Applied Research Projects
4th Semester	4th Semester		Module 8, 6 Credits Corporate Finance		Module 12, 15 Credits Master's Thesis

Credits = ECTS Credits (1 Credit = 30 hours workload for students)

Work experience alongside studies  
(on average a 50% time commitment)

If necessary: making  
up of entry qualifications in  
Banking and Finance

### 4.2 Module and Course Management

The lecturers responsible for the modules and courses overall are shown in the table below (current version can be found on MyCampus).

Table of Modules		ECTS Credits	Regular Semester	6 Semester Study Source	Compulsory Choice	Responsible
Module 1	Financial Environment in Intl Markets	9	1	1	-	<b>Amrein</b>
Course 1.1	<i>Financial Environment in International Markets</i>	6				Kull
Course 1.2	<i>Financial sector and financial regulation in Switzerland</i>	3				Amrein
Module 2	Digital Customer Management in Banking	3	1	3	-	<b>Hafner</b>
Module 5	Derivatives and Structured Products	3	1	3	-	<b>Fausch/Ettlin/Oster</b>
Module 9	Scientific Research	9	1	1	-	<b>Sigrist</b>
Course 9.1	Research Methods I	3				Wernli
Course 9.2	Research Methods II	3				Sigrist
Course 9.3	Research Methods III	3				Schwarz
Module 3	Risk Management	6	2	4	-	<b>Spillmann</b>
Course 3.1	Risk Management in Banking	2				Spillmann/Aeppli
Course 3.2	Credit Risk Management	2				Krabichler
Course 3.3	Market Risk Management	2				Spillmann/Aeppli
Module 6	Investments	6	2	2	3/6	<b>Dietrich</b>
Course 6.1	Behavioural Finance	2				Kull
Course 6.3	Fixed Income Management	2				Knaus
Course 6.6	Agent-based modelling of real estate and financial markets	2				Ankenbrand
Course 6.7	Sustainable Investments (incl. Real Estate)	2				Stüttgen
Course 6.8	International Topics in Real Estate Investments	2				Trübestein
Module 10	Practical Exercises in Research in Methods	9	2	2	-	<b>Sigrist/Schwarz</b>
Module 13	Leadership and Ethics	3	2	4	-	<b>Stüttgen</b>
Modul 4	Trends and Innovations in Banking	6	3	5	-	<b>Ankenbrand</b>
Course 4.1	Blockchain and Analytics	3				Bucher/Sigrist
Course 4.2	FinTech and New Business Models	3				Dietrich/Ankenbrand
Module 7	Alternative Investments	6	3	3	3/5	<b>Dietrich</b>
Course 7.1	Hedge Funds	2				Hille
Course 7.2	Private Equity	2				Davidson
Course 7.3	Commodities	2				Bürkler/Oster
Course 7.5	Crowd and Crypto Based Markets	2				Ankenbrand/Amrein
Course 7.6	Asset-Backed Securities and Insurance-Linked Securities	2				NN
Module 11	Applied Research Projects	9	3	5	-	<b>Dietrich</b>
Module 8	Corporate Finance	6	4	4	3/5	<b>Dietrich</b>
Course 8.1	Advanced Corporate Finance	2				Seiler/Wanzenried
Course 8.2	Family Business Finance	2				Wanzenried
Course 8.4	Mergers & Acquisitions	2				Bauer
Course 8.5	Corporate Financial Management for MNEs	2				Spillmann
Course 8.6	Real Estate Investment Banking	2				Trübestein
Module 12	Master's Thesis	15	4	6	-	<b>Dietrich</b>
<b>Total ECTS Credits</b>		<b>90</b>				

The time required to spend on every credit point is estimated to be ca. 30 hours. From this, you can calculate the approximate number of hours of work required for this study course.

### 4.3 Studies Spread Across 6 Semesters

For students aiming to work in addition to their studies or to look after their family simultaneously for 60-70% of the time, there is an option to complete their Master's studies within 6 semesters after consultation with the Head of the Study Course. In this case, with a balanced work load, studies will then progress as follows:

Semester	Module	ECTS
<b>1st Semester</b> <b>(18 ECTS)</b>	Module 1: Fin. Environment in Intl Markets	9
	Module 9: Scientific Research	9
<b>2nd Semester</b> <b>(15 ECTS)</b>	Module 6: Investments	6
	Module 10: Practical Exercises in Research Methods	9
<b>3rd Semester</b> <b>(12 ECTS)</b>	Module 2: Digital Customer Management in Banking	3
	Module 5: Derivatives and Structured Products	3
	Module 7: Alternative Investments	6
<b>4th Semester</b> <b>(15 ECTS)</b>	Module 3: Risk Management	6
	Module 8: Corporate Finance	6
	Module 13: Leadership and Ethics	3
<b>5th Semester</b> <b>(15 ECTS)</b>	Module 4: Trends and Innovations in Banking	6
	Module 11: Applied Research Projects	9
<b>6th Semester</b> <b>(15 ECTS)</b>	Module 12: Master Thesis	15

#### 4.4 Module Descriptions

Below, a brief introduction to the individual modules along with their objectives is provided. An updated version of the descriptions can be found on the ILIAS learning platform and on our web-site.

<b>Module 1: Financial Environment in International Markets</b>	9 Credits	1st Semester
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Modern financial management takes place in a global environment. Students need to be able to display professional and confident behaviour, upholding the goals and values of their company. An important part of this confidence is a familiarity with the economic environment, international regulations and the domestic context for financial intermediaries in Switzerland..

Courses	Course 1.1 Financial Environment in International Markets (6 ETCS) Course 1.2 Financial sector and financial regulation in Switzerland (3 ETCS)
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<b>Module 2: Digital Customer Management in Banking</b>	3 Credits	1st Semester
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The ongoing digitalisation in the financial sector is a threat and opportunity at the same time. In this module, students learn how to manage bank customers in a digital world.

<b>Module 3: Risk Management</b>	6 Credits	2nd Semester
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This module introduces students to the problems, models, and management techniques which are important to the risk management of banks. It will provide a comprehensive insight into the management of operative risks and the capital adequacy requirements for all risk categories (Basel II and III) (Course 3.1). Course 3.2 deals with models and management approaches pertaining to credit risk. "Market risk management" (Course 3.3) teaches the most important techniques of measuring and managing market risk. After successfully completing the three course lectures, students should be able to become directly involved with a bank's risk management unit.

Courses	Course 3.1 Risk Management in Banking (2 Credits) Course 3.2 Credit Risk Management (2 Credits) Course 3.3 Market Risk Management (2 Credits)
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<b>Module 4: Trends and Innovations in Banking</b>	6 Credits	3rd Semester
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In module 4, students deal with trends and innovations in banking. Course 4.1 presents and discusses Blockchain and Analytics. In course 4.2 the focus will be on FinTech and New Business Models in Banking such as Robo Advisors, or Crowdfunding. It aims to assess the influence of the ongoing digitalisation on banks and how they can/should react to these developments.

Courses	4.1 Blockchain and Analytics (3 Credits) 4.2 FinTech and New Business Models (3 Credits)
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**Module 5: Derivatives and Structured Products**

3 Credits 1st Semester

The importance of derivatives and structured products has increased steadily in recent years, as they allow investors to create tailor-made investment ideas and risk profiles. These developments are as well reflected in trading volumes and an increasing range of products. In module 5, students are introduced to derivatives as well as structured products and they learn, in a very practical manner, how to structure, value, and trade these instruments.

**Module 6: Investments**

6 Credits 2nd Semester

The "Investments" module will analyse and provide more detailed insights into certain central factors influencing investment decisions.

Courses	6.1 Behavioural Finance (2 Credits)
	6.3 Fixed Income Management (2 Credits)
	6.6 Agent-based modelling of real estate and financial markets (2 Credits)
	6.7 Sustainable Investments (incl. Real Estate) (2 Credits)
	6.8 International Topics in Real Estate Investments (2 Credits)

**Module 7: Alternative Investments**

6 Credits 3rd Semester

Alternative investments have gained increasing importance within the asset management sector over the past few years. Investments in hedge funds, private equity, or commodities are meant to specifically improve the risk-yield profile of an investment portfolio. The "Alternative Investments" module is meant to analyse and provide an understanding of selected alternative investments with regards to their functionality, their market participants and markets environments, and their contribution to risk and yields of portfolios.

Courses	7.1 Hedge Funds (2 Credits)
	7.2 Private Equity (2 Credits)
	7.3 Commodities (2 Credits)
	7.5 Crowd and Crypto Based Markets (2 Credits)
	7.6 Asset-Backed Securities and Insurance-Linked Securities (2 Credits)

**Module 8: Corporate Finance**

6 Credits 4th Semester

The "Corporate Finance" module serves to deepen insights into certain aspects of corporate finance. On the one hand, this involves the optimum financing of family businesses and company succession (family business finance). On the other hand, it is meant to address corporate financial management for international corporations.

Courses	8.1 Advanced Corporate Finance (2 Credits)
	8.2 Family Business Finance (2 Credits)
	8.4 Mergers & Acquisitions (2 Credits)
	8.5 Corporate Financial Management for MNEs (2 Credits)
	8.6 Real Estate Investment Banking (2 Credits)

**Module 9: Scientific Research**

9 Credits 1st Semester

Within the scope of these Master's studies, the objective is to obtain a considerable growth in competence around application-orientated research. This skill is meant to enable graduates to classify scientific insights properly and to render them suitable for practical queries; to solve practical problems applying scientifically sound methods; and to generally provide them with the ability to refer back to a well-tried systematically-analytical discipline of thinking and deciding if they encounter practical challenges. Furthermore, students learn to apply VBA and Bloomberg.

Courses	9.1 Research Methods I (3 Credits)
	9.2 Research Methods II (3 Credits)
	9.3 Research Methods III (3 Credits)

**Module 10: Practical Exercises in Research Methods**

9 Credits 2nd Semester

Module 10 serves to enhance students' active command of the methodology (in accordance with module 9) through the application of these methods (and also adding to what you have learned by yourself), and to deepen the passive command of methodology by critically reproducing third party research (and also adding to what you have learned by yourself). Your current knowledge of methodology will also be interlinked with subject-related applications over the course of the overall research process. You will also supplement your knowledge of methodology acquired in Module 9 in a needs-orientated manner.

**Module 11: Applied Research Projects**

9 Credits 3rd Semester

During the 3rd Semester of your Master's studies, you will undertake some practice-orientated research projects. Here students will be included in application-orientated research projects of the institute or in practical project orders.

For this applied research project, students can fall back onto their initial competences from the Bachelor's studies, the "Scientific Research" module 9, the "Practical Exercises in Research Methods" module 10 and specific expertise from lessons and exercises. The selected topics require the application of scientific methods.

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**Module 12: Master Thesis**15 Credits 4th Semester

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With their Master's Thesis, students will provide proof of their ability to process a challenging professional problem inside a given timeframe in a scientifically sound, independent, appropriate and solution-orientated manner.

The Master's Thesis is meant to provide an opportunity to apply and extend the following competences obtained during your Master's studies:

- Problem solving and analysis competency: Students analyse a complex problem of theoretical and practice-orientated dimensions, provide explanations and/or demonstrate approaches, and develop solutions.
- Reflection and judgement competency: Students reflect on third party and their own approaches in a differentiated, critical manner; demonstrate a multitude of perspectives and develop their own position, supported by a convincing valid, and logical argument.
- Competence in applied research: Students adhere to the standards of scientific working. They put the problem into an overall context, explain the current scientific state of knowledge and apply one or several scientific methods adequate to the problem.
- Methodology competency: Students apply the methods acquired over the course of their studies and develop their own methods, if applicable. Students demonstrate that they can analyse and decide between different methodology options.
- Practical and decision-making competency: Students establish a relation to the application and deduce substantiated recommendations for action.

Students will also have to write their Master's Thesis in a linguistically and formally correct, and comprehensible manner. Ideally, their work will generate benefits for science and practical application, and their insights will be suitable for utilization in specialist articles and publications.

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**Module 13: Leadership and Ethics**3 Credits 2st Semester

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To be able to successfully lead a financial services company, you will need to have acquired professional and methodology competencies, although this expertise is not all that is needed. You will also require social competencies. Theory inputs, experimental exercises and guided literature studies will be used to undertake a solid SWOT analysis of your own leadership personality, an optimization of your role behaviour, and to work out your personal leadership development plan.

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## **5 Proofs of Proficiency**

Every module consists of one or more proofs of proficiency. The assessment of the proofs of proficiency of an overall module, i.e. the (rounded) result of the module assessed must be at least sufficient (i.e. result in a grade of 4.0) for the module to be credited with the intended ECTS Credits.

Thematically orientated modules frequently finish with written course examinations at the end of the semester. Depending on didactic considerations and the subject matter conveyed, these can be either "closed book" or "open book". In this regard, the assessment can vary from classic exams, case studies, and/or open questions where students will have to develop and compare different approaches to a solution with each other. In some of the modules, there is also a requirement for the provision of proofs of proficiency during the semester itself in the shape of written work, case studies or presentations in addition to the final module examination, which are also credited to the overall module grade.

The Master's Thesis will be assessed in combination with its defence.

### **5.1 Date and Duration of Module Examinations**

For every course, a proof of proficiency must be provided. Those proofs of proficiency taking the form of examinations generally take place towards the end of the teaching period during an examination period of two to three weeks (mid- to end of January, mid- to end of June/early July). The dates and additional information on these examinations will be published on MyCampus.

### **5.2 Transcript of Records**

Students will receive a record of achievement referred to as *Transcript of Records* at the end of every semester. The transcript of record contains the courses and modules completed during the semester, including the module assessments and the ECTS Credits obtained. The HSLU sends out these Transcripts of Records by mail.

For further important provisions related to the proofs of proficiency - for instance resources, incapability or legal means - please see the legal framework conditions.

### **5.3 Diploma**

After successful conclusion of their Master's studies, students will receive a Swiss-recognized diploma entitling them to hold the title of "Master of Science in Banking and Finance, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences/FHZ". To obtain this diploma, students must successfully complete the whole course of study, i.e. obtain 90 ECTS Credits.

The successful graduates of this Master's course of studies will be provided with the following documents when they are awarded their diploma:

- Diploma certificate
- Degree certificate
- Diploma supplement

The diploma supplement is a standardized description of the objectives and contents of the Master's course of studies and its ranking inside the Swiss university system. The diploma certificate is considered proof of successfully completing your Master's course of studies.



## **6 Further Information on the Degree Programme**

### **6.1 The University and the Institute**

The MSc Banking and Finance is a degree programme offered by the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business. Lessons will be led by lecturers with a scientific background and practical experience. The Lucerne School of Business has a specialized institute in the banking and finance sector that offers further education, processes application-orientated research projects and offers additional services. MSc Banking and Finance students will be involved in the institute's research activities.

#### **Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business**

The Lucerne School of Business is part of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. As a Central Switzerland centre of excellence for advanced management education and with its teaching, research and consultancy services, the School of Business provides an important contribution to the development of a knowledgeable society.

The university trains specialist and executive staff and assists organisations and institutions with finding a solution to business and economic problems. In addition to a Bachelor's course of studies in Business Administration with seven fields of study and a Bachelor's degree in Business Informatics, three consecutive Master's programmes are also on offer. Amongst Swiss Universities of Applied Science, this institution is the largest provider of post-graduate and further education programmes. The Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts maintains links to other universities and partners from several industry and government. The school's five institutes are centres of excellence with national and even international appeal.

The Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business is bound by its motto: "Commerce propagates schooling - the university propagates commerce". With this, the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts would like to express its close relationship with economic practice. In addition to providing practice-orientated training and further education for prospective and experienced specialist and executive staff, its record of achievement also covers the research and service sector.

#### **Institut für Finanzdienstleistungen Zug IFZ**

The MSc Banking and Finance is led by the *Institut für Finanzdienstleistungen Zug IFZ* (Institute of Financial Services Zug IFZ). The *Institut für Finanzdienstleistungen Zug IFZ* is the centre of excellence for finance and banking of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. It includes the areas of financial services management, financial markets, corporate finance, controlling and accounting, as well as real estate management. In addition to its training commitment, the IFZ offers further education, research and consultancy services to company finance staff as well as specialist and executive staff from the financial sector.

### **6.2 Study Location**

The teaching of the MSc Banking and Finance will take place from August 2019 in Rotkreuz. Occasionally, block-release seminars and company visits may take place at other locations, sometimes involving overnight stays externally.

Classrooms in Rotkreuz are in the immediate vicinity of the station. An overview map of the Rotkreuz location can be found on the next page.

**Site plan is currently not available.**

### **6.3 The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)**

By now, all well-known European universities apply the ECTS framework. It discloses the extent and assessment of study attainments in a transparent manner on an international basis. Should students change universities or complete part of their studies at a host university, the ECTS facilitates crediting study attainments accordingly (transfer function). A diploma for training undertaken is awarded if a certain number of ECTS credits has been attained.

ECTS Credits describe the time expenditure involved in studies completed. One ECTS Credit equates to 30 hours regardless of whether these studies are completed during contact studies (seminars, lessons etc.) or through self-study. A Master of Science at a Swiss University of Applied Sciences comprises 90 ECTS Credits and corresponds to a workload of ca. 2,700 hours, spread across four semesters (course-related work to an extent of a maximum of 50% is also possible if there is sufficient capacity on the part of the student).

The credits required for a course of studies are spread across the individual elements of the education, i.e. modules. Credits allocated to a module are awarded once the proofs of proficiency prescribed for it have been completed successfully, i.e. have been awarded a grade of at least "sufficient". No credits are awarded for a student's mere presence at a course.

### **6.4 Credit Transfer for External Attainments**

External study attainments can be recognized and transferred on application, if they are deemed to be of equal value. Equivalence means that the respective study attainments have been completed at other universities either at home or abroad at a Master's level.

Recognized attainments can replace either whole modules or individual courses of a module. In case of individual courses, credits can only be transferred if the remaining module components can be completed without any limitations.

If possible, the external assessment of study attainments transferred will be included in the Transcript of Records. Otherwise, the qualification "fulfilled" will be entered on the Transcript of Records.

Applications for a transfer of credits must be submitted by the end of the 4th week of the semester in which the training components to be replaced take place. Documentation in this regard can be downloaded from the Intranet (ILIAS).

### **6.5 Study Dates**

The Master's course of studies commences in mid-September of each year and takes two years. Lessons usually take place Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If possible, no lectures are held on Wednesday afternoons. Regular lecture hours usually take place in calendar weeks 38 to 51 and 8 to 21. Examinations and block-release seminars (also Monday to Wednesday) take place in calendar weeks 3 to 6 and 22 as well as 26 to 27.

### **6.6 Tuition Fees**

The tuition and other fees for the MSc Banking and Finance amount to CHF 800 per semester. In addition, costs of ca. CHF 400 for teaching materials will also need to be covered per semester. When compared on an international basis, the degree program through HSLU illustrates an exceptionally attractive cost-benefit ratio.

Study loans can be applied for with the cantonal bodies. There is also an option to apply for a scholarship grant.

### **6.7 Scientific and Practical Relevance**

The performance mandate of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts is not merely limited to education (Bachelor's and consecutive Master's courses of study). It also includes further education, application-orientated research and other services.

Furthermore, all lecturers are working in one or several of the thematic focus areas. This provides a guarantee that knowledge and insights attained from the overall performance mandate, i.e. also from research and other services, can be directly incorporated into the Master's studies. Students benefit from both, a scientific background and the lecturers' practical experience.

The practical relevance of their education is also ensured by several additional elements:

- Frequently, external contributors from the business and government sector also participate in these courses.
- Most lecturers have long practical experience.
- Excursions within the framework of study weeks directly expose students to business practices.
- Student works at Master's level deal with practice-relevant topics, some of which are submitted by external sponsors.
- Students are involved in the institute's research and consultancy projects.
- The university's advice centre supports students with a number of activities and offers with regards to starting and planning their career.
- Educational objectives and contents are regularly validated by surveying students, business partners and graduates themselves.

### **6.8 Course-related Work and Practical Training**

It is recommended to undertake course-related work or complete practical training before or during your studies. If possible, try and choose practical training offering an insight into the field of responsibilities and activities of financial service companies, and which will prepare you for your future occupation. Course-related work or practical training are often beneficial for your studies in themselves, and increase your study motivation and intensity. If you are looking to take part in course-related work or look after your family, this should not exceed 50% of your time (recommended: 40%). In addition, please note that your studies will require a high level of dedication and a certain flexibility during certain phases.

### **6.9 Studies Abroad**

The Head of Studies supports study visits at universities abroad as much as possible. Students who wish to study abroad for some time are recommended to seek advice in advance from their Head of Studies and the International Offices when selecting courses abroad, to ensure the study attainments acquired will be recognized afterwards.

### **6.10 Dual Degree**

It is possible to study in Hong Kong or Edinburgh for one semester and receive a dual degree from the Lucerne School of Business and our partner university. More information:

<https://www.hslu.ch/de-ch/wirtschaft/international/dual-degrees-articulation-programmes/>

### **6.11 Libraries and Electronic Resources**

Students can borrow materials from the library contents of the IFZ Zug. Students holding a HSLU card will also be granted access to the contents of all IDS libraries in German-speaking Switzerland (→ [www.informationsverbund.ch](http://www.informationsverbund.ch)). Please note that your HSLU cards needs to be registered before you can start borrowing any of the contents, unless you already hold an IDS library pass. Further information on the library of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts – School of Business and access to electronic data bases and magazines can be found under:

→ <https://www.hslu.ch/en/lucerne-school-of-business/campus/bibliothek/>

### **Fitch Solutions and Bloomberg**

MSc Banking and Finance students will be able to freely access Fitch Solutions and Bloomberg. For Fitch Solutions, please send an e-mail to apply for a log-in to Prof. Dr. Andreas Dietrich. Access is provided from any location. Bloomberg can be used from the computer inside the IFZ library in Zug. Further information on both data bases can be found under:

→ <http://www.fitchconnect.com/>

→ <http://www.bloomberg.com/professional>

### **6.12 Careers Services**

The Careers Services of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts offers students a steadily increasing number of options to prepare for the start of their career:

- Advice (assistance, for instance regarding the compatibility of studies, job and family)
- Key qualifications (offers for multidisciplinary training and further education)
- CV data base (online information for interested employers)
- Jobs (vacancies advertised for part-time work, practical training, entry sources, etc.)
- Company portraits (information on potential employers)
- Contact days (job fairs with employers)
- Self-employment (courses and advice)
- Information and links (the best sites for job applications, job market, etc.)

→ <http://www.careers.hslu.ch>

### **6.13 University Sports**

The sports programme of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts is open to all students (CHF 25.00 per semester, charged with tuition fees)

→ <http://www.hscl.ch>

## **7 Residence and Entry**

### **7.1 Flats / Accommodation for Students**

At the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, the Verein Studentisches Wohnen (StuWo-Luzern) offers affordable accommodation to students ([www.stuwo-luzern.ch](http://www.stuwo-luzern.ch)). Further search options:

- ➔ [www.immo.ch](http://www.immo.ch)
- ➔ [www.students.ch/wohnen](http://www.students.ch/wohnen)
- ➔ [www.studentenwohnen.ch](http://www.studentenwohnen.ch)
- ➔ [www.campusluzern.ch](http://www.campusluzern.ch)

### **7.2 Entry and Residence Permits**

Information on travel formalities, residence permits, etc. can be obtained from the Staatssekretariat für Migration (state secretariat for migration). We will assist you with the application for any required permits.

- ➔ <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen.html>

Students holding a foreign university admission pass and/or a foreign passport are very welcome in our MSc Banking and Finance course. If you have obtained a foreign university admission pass and would like to take up regular studies, you must also submit a variety of other documents in addition to the usual application paperwork, and will have to prove that you have a sufficient command of the English language.

## 8 Annex: Basic Information on Master of Science in Banking and Finance

### Academic Year 2019/20

#### Holidays with no lessons and bank holidays

St. Leodegar	02/10/19
All Saints Day	01/11/19
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	08/12/19
Christmas	24/12/19, afternoon – 26/12/19
New Year	31/12/19, afternoon – 02/01/20
Easter	10/04/20 – 13/04/20
Ascension Day	21/05/20
Whit-Monday	01/06/20
Corpus Christi Day	11/06/20
National Holiday	01/08/20
Ascension Day	15/08/20

#### Basic information on the academic year

Autumn semester starts 2019	16/09/19
W OPEN annual event	26/09/19
Autumn semester contact studies end 2019	21/12/19
Spring semester starts 2020	17/02/20
Annual Careers Service Job Forum	March 20
Spring semester contact studies end 2020	23/05/20
Academic year 2020/21 starts	14/09/20

#### Important dates of the module examinations

Examination 1st semester period autumn semester 2019	10/01/20 – 24/01/20
Examination 3rd semester period autumn semester 2019	06/01/20 – 17/01/20
Examination 2nd semester period spring semester 2020	22/06/20 – 04/07/20
Examination 4th semester period spring semester 2020	15/06/20 – 27/06/20