

Subject	Financial Studies (Institute of Financial Studies)
<p>Course Summary</p> <p>The course consists of two units based on financial capability in the short, medium and long term. Students may study for the Certificate (one year AS equivalent) or the Diploma (two year A2 equivalent). This course attracts UCAS points in the same way as an A' level qualification.</p> <p><i>ifs University College</i> is a not-for-profit professional body and registered charity incorporated by Royal Charter and is the only specialist provider of professional financial education that is able to award its own taught degrees. It has a remit to provide the financial services industry with a skilled and competent workforce while also promoting a better understanding of finance amongst consumers.</p> <p>Financial Studies has been designed to provide you with a challenging qualification covering the core disciplines of financial capability. Students are encouraged to become responsible borrowers, sensible savers, and have an appreciation of the need for financial planning throughout their life. It is a comprehensive introduction to personal finance. It develops the knowledge and skills required for you to make informed financial decisions by introducing you to the risks and challenges involved in personal finance and to tools for effective planning. Through developing core skills of critical analysis and evaluation, synthesis and written communication, Financial Studies provides a foundation for further study in business and finance-related disciplines, as well as a wide range of other fields.</p>	
<p>Where might it lead</p> <p>The course is a good basis for further studies in Finance, Accounting or Business related programmes. It compliments Maths, Business Studies and Economics well at level 3. Many students who follow both the certificate and diploma go onto careers within the Financial Services industry such as accountancy or business management. These industries are well served by quality high level apprenticeships and either school leaver or under graduate programmes with companies such as Deloitte, Price Waterhouse Cooper and the major banks.</p>	
<p>Student perspective –Year 12</p> <p>“I have chosen the L3 Finance course as it offers a chance to gain valuable personal finance skills alongside UCAS points. I’ve not decided on my career path yet and think that this course gives me a good grounding in finance as one of my complimentary subject choices.”</p>	
Assessment	L3 Certificate in Financial Studies – equivalent to an AS level L3 Diploma in Financial Studies – equivalent to and A level Assessment is by examination and across two papers per unit. One multiple choice and one based around a pre-seen case study.
Exam Board	IFS – Institute of Financial Services
Subject GCSE grade requirement (in addition to a minimum of 4 GCSE’s at C/4 or above inc Maths and English)	Please discuss with a member of the team.
Contact details	Mrs Jenny Collins collinsj@knutsfordacademy.org.uk Business and Finance Tutor