Bachelor of Business (Honours) (Banking and Finance) (BS63)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 009038B
Course duration (full-time): 1 year (2 semesters)
Course duration (part-time): 2 years (4 semesters)
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: CSP $4,430 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: $10,250 (indicative) per semester
Total credit points: 96
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Assistant Dean (Research)
Discipline coordinator: Associate Professor Adam Clements
Campus: Gardens Point

Why choose this course?
Expand your breadth and depth of knowledge in the disciplines of economics and finance, and over and above your degree by completing a fourth specialist year of Honours.

Overview
The School of Economics and Finance has a strong record of research in economics, finance and econometrics.

An Honours year will substantially enhance proficiency in your chosen discipline and career advancement is more rapid for Honours graduates.

Employers normally consider an Honours degree as the minimum qualification for a professional economist (this is true for both Federal and State Treasuries, the Reserve Bank and many public enterprises). In addition, financial institutions such as the major trading banks and merchant banks employ Honours graduates in finance.

Initial salary rates for Honours graduates are higher than those for ordinary degree graduates and job tasks tend to be more varied, interesting and research orientated.

Possession of an Honours degree is necessary for entrance to and assists in obtaining scholarships and other forms of financial support to undertake higher research degrees (such as the PhD).

The emphasis of the year is on depth of knowledge and small class teaching.

In addition, Honours students are expected to attend and actively participate in the strong seminar series run by the School.

Meeting minimum entry requirements does not guarantee entry into this course. Admission to the Honours program will depend on the availability of supervision, infrastructure and other required resources.

Overview
If applicants have shown high achievement in an undergraduate degree, the Honours program allows advanced studies in a chosen field. The capacity to conduct rigorous independent research will develop, and the advanced coursework integrates conceptual and practical knowledge within a discipline. Applicants can study within the fields of Accountancy, Advertising, Banking & Finance, Economics, Human Resource Management, International Business, Management, Marketing, Public Relations. The Faculty will provide students with up to $600 for approved research related expenses associated with the preparation of a thesis under the Faculty's Postgraduate Research Student Support Scheme. Schools may also provide additional fund.

Course design
Students must complete four coursework units (48 credit points) and a dissertation (48 credit points), as per the programs of study described under the individual majors.

Unit prerequisite requirements are deemed to have been satisfied upon admission to this course. Where elective units may be undertaken, students should check prerequisite requirements in the unit synopsis section of the QUT Handbook and obtain approval from the Subject Area Coordinator prior to enrolment.

Entry requirements (domestic and international students)
A Bachelor of Business from QUT that includes a major in the area of intended Honours level study or a qualification deemed equivalent. Students must have achieved a grade-point average (GPA) of 5.5 or better on a 7-point scale in the three years of undergraduate study or other qualifications and experience which is considered by the Executive Dean of Faculty to qualify for admission. Students would normally apply for admission to Honours at the end of the final year of their pass degree, or within 18 months of completing the pass degree.

English language requirements (international students)
In addition to the above academic entry requirements, international students must meet the following English language proficiency levels for entry into the Faculty's postgraduate coursework courses:

- IELTS: overall sub-band score of 6.5 with no sub-band below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 575 (paper-based) or 230 (computerised) (if TOEFL permitted by visa requirements).

Prerequisites
Although not compulsory, all QUT Bachelor of Business students who are considering an Honours year are recommended to complete EFB333 Introductory Econometrics as part of their undergraduate degree.

Available full-time only
Please note that the majors in Banking and Finance; and Economics are not available part-time.

Important course specific enrolment advice
To obtain further information about the policies and procedures relating to this course, please refer to the Faculty Postgraduate Guidelines.

Other useful information can be found on the Student Services website.

Further information
For further information on this course contact Honours Discipline Coordinator Associate Professor Adam Clements on a.clements@qut.edu.au or Administration Officer Michelle Smith on michelle.smith@qut.edu.au

The Honours Discipline Coordinator is responsible for the administration of the course, including admissions, scholarships and determining the result for the year as a whole. If you have any questions about the course or any comments, the Honours Discipline Coordinator is your primary contact.

Abbreviation
BBusHons(Bkf)

Course Structure (full-time)

Banking and Finance

(Not available for mid-year entry due to unit availability, not available part-time)

Students must complete three prescribed units (36 credit points), one elective (12 credit points), and a dissertation (48 credit points).

Compulsory Units:
- EFN504 Finance Honours
- EFN505 Financial Risk Management
- EFN508 Econometric Methods

Plus one Elective unit:

The elective unit for this Honours program may be taken from any postgraduate unit offered by the School of Accountancy or by the School of Economics and Finance subject to the approval of the School Research Coordinator or Head of School.

Dissertation

BSN501-1 Dissertation
BSN501-2 Dissertation
BSN501-3 Dissertation
BSN501-4 Dissertation

While enrolled in part one of the Dissertation (BSN501-1) students are required to present a seminar detailing their research proposal.

Potential Careers:
Banker, Banking and Finance Professional, Financial Advisor/Analyst, Financial Project Manager, Funds Manager, Stockbroker.

UNIT SYNOPSES

BSN501 DISSERTATION
Students undertake a study of an issue as the culmination of their honours program. The dissertation must have a well-developed conceptual foundation and include a primary research component.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1, 2010 SEM-2 and 2010 SUM

BSN501 DISSERTATION
Students undertake a study of an issue as the culmination of their honours program. The dissertation must have a well-developed conceptual foundation and include a primary research component.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

BSN501 DISSERTATION
Students undertake a study of an issue as the culmination of their honours program. The dissertation must have a well-developed conceptual foundation and include a primary research component.

Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2
BSN501 DISSERTATION
Students undertake a study of an issue as the culmination of their honours program. The dissertation must have a well-developed conceptual foundation and include a primary research component.
Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

EFN504 FINANCE HONOURS
This unit provides an advanced coverage of the theory of financial management, building on work done in the undergraduate course with reference to empirical evidence where available; topics include: capital markets, investment decisions, market equilibrium, the capital asset pricing model, arbitrage pricing theory, capital structure, dividend policy, efficient capital markets. The unit provides a theoretical basis allowing for evaluating policy problems in the area of financial management, a prerequisite for further specialisation in this area.
Equivalents: EFN511  Other requisites: Unit Coordinator Approval and undergraduate degree with a major in Economics or Finance required to enrol  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

EFN505 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT
The unit covers the main areas of modern risk management. The focus is on measuring and managing risks in financial institutions. Particular attention is paid to developing understanding of the analytical techniques employed in the construction of hedging strategies and the interrelations between the main areas of risk management. The unit emphasises empirical applications and assessment of risk management techniques. Topics covered include the current state of prudential regulation of financial institutions, measurement and management of market risks, hedging strategies with derivatives and managing interest rate and exchange rate risks.
Prerequisites: EFN415  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

EFN508 ECONOMETRIC METHODS
This unit provides a comprehensive grounding in the econometric methods necessary for conducting research using such methods. Recent contributions to the econometric literature are studied.
Antirequisites: BSN506  Other requisites: Unit Coordinator Approval and undergraduate degree with a major in Economics or Finance required to enrol  Credit points: 12  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1