FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

IES

PROGRAM INFORMATION
BACHELOR IN ECONOMICS AND FINANCE (BEF)

The Bachelor's degree in Economics and Finance (BEF) is a three-year program taught in English for students with a complete secondary education. The program aims to give students a thorough grounding in both theoretical and applied economics and finance. We put an emphasis on developing abstract analytical reasoning, which allows our graduates to solve complex economic problems in various settings. The applicants must have a solid background in mathematics and good command of English. The courses are taught both by the faculty of the Institute of Economic Studies (IES) and by external professionals from the central bank, commercial banks, and business analysts. Upon completion of the program graduates are more than well prepared for further studies at any other recognized university. Furthermore, our graduates typically assume challenging positions in banking, consulting, investment funds, and in public administration.

Duration	3 years
Language	English
Tuition	3000 EUR / semester
Program website	https://fsv.cuni.cz/en/bef
Institute website	http://ies.fsv.cuni.cz
E-mail	admissions@fsv.cuni.cz

Foto: IES FSV UK

Core Courses

Mandatory courses introduce the students to microeconomics, macro-economics, and provide students with nontrivial tools of mathematical analysis and statistics. Mandatory courses are intended to give a broad overview of major topics in economics and finance, and to provide a solid background for further studies of specialized elective courses. Bachelor thesis seminars prepare students for the thesis topic selection and provide a guide for thesis writing. Students are required to collect 90 ECTS credits for core courses.

Core Courses:
- Principles of Economics I and II
- Microeconomics I and II
- Macroeconomics I and II
- Introductory Mathematics I
- Mathematics I and II
- Introductory Statistics
- Statistics
- Econometrics I
- Introductory Banking
- Financial Economics
- Bachelor Thesis Seminar I and II

Field Elective Courses

Elective courses cover a wide range of specific areas in economics and finance, which allows the students to specialize in the field of their interest. The topics include finance and banking (e.g. introductory banking, financial accounting, international finance, public finance), management (e.g. strategic management, financial management), economic policy (e.g. economic policy, global financial crisis), political economy and philosophy, international trade and European economic integration. We also offer courses in complementary areas (e.g. history of economic thought, game theory and introduction to sociology). Students are required to collect at least 63 ECTS credits for elective courses.

Off–Field Elective Courses

Off-field elective courses can be taken at any department of Charles University or at any partner university. Students may take 27 ECTS credits outside of the Institute of Economic Studies. These credits can also be used to follow Czech language classes offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Application Prerequisites

As the program exposes students to topics in mathematical economics, mathematical statistics and finance, applicants are required to have an excellent background in high school mathematics (cf. criteria). Prior knowledge of economics or finance is an advantage but it is not required. In addition, applicants should have a good command of English corresponding to at least the B2 level under the CEFR system and they should be capable of reading economics and mathematics textbooks without difficulties.

Admission Criteria

The BEF program is open only to applicants who have already completed (or are about to complete) their secondary education. There is no formal entrance test and we evaluate the complete application package provided by the applicant. We welcome applicants with strong motivation and a consistent past performance track record. Applicants must be able to demonstrate sufficient competence in mathematics and in English. To evaluate the mathematical abilities of applicants, we require one of the following documents:

- Predicted or final score in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB) Group 5 – Mathematics;
  - applicants with their IB assessment prior November 2020: a predicted or final score of Mathematical Studies SL, Mathematics SL, Mathematics HL, or Further Mathematics HL will be assessed. The required minimum from the overall predicted or final IB score is 32 points;
  - applicants with their IB assessment after November 2020: a predicted or final core of Mathematics: applications and interpretation SL, Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL, Mathematics: analysis and approaches SL, Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL will be assessed. The required minimum from the overall predicted or final IB score is 32 points;
- Grade from A level Mathematics in the General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A Levels) not including General Studies, Critical Thinking, Thinking Skills, Knowledge and Enquiry, Global Perspectives and Research or Project Work. We are happy to consider applicants with the combination of A Level Mathematics and A or AS Level Further Mathematics. Please, indicate whether or not the applicant's school or college offers Further Mathematics classes. The required minimum A Level is ABB. Applicants taking four subjects will not be at an advantage compared to those taking three. GCSEs or equivalent qualifications may be taken into account but will not be considered without A Levels;
- Score in the College Scholastics Ability Test (CSAT, Suneung) subject Mathematics;
- Score in the National Higher Education Entrance Examination (Gaokao) subject Mathematics. We are happy to consider applications from both Science/Engineering and Art/Humanities tracks. The entry requirements for 2021 intakes will be based on the 2020 Gaokao Cut Off Scores published by the Department of Education in China. The Gaokao examination report must be issued from the examination authority in the corresponding province.
- Score in the SAT section Mathematics, or in SAT Subject Test in Mathematics Level 1, or in SAT Subject Test in Mathematics Level 2.
- Score in the ACT Composite Test section Mathematics.
- Score in the SCIO Mathematics Test.
- Final exam score in Mathematics at ÚJOP, Charles University, Poděbrady.

For SCIO, SAT and ACT, only test results from the year in which admission takes place or from the previous two calendar years can be accepted. An alternative to these tests is to have passed the course JEB122 Introductory Mathematics at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University.
For the SAT please use our institutional code 7280 if you prefer your results to be sent directly to us.

Applicants with English as the first language or who completed at least two years of their high school studies with English as the main language of instruction do not need to provide evidence of their level of English. Other applicants should provide one of the following results:
- IELTS Academic – minimum required overall band score of 6.5, with band score 6.0 or above in all four components;
- TOEFL Internet Based Test (IBT) – minimum required overall score of 90, with 20 or above in all four test sections;
- The European Language Certificate – TELC English C1 or C2;
- Cambridge ESOL FCE – minimum Cambridge English Scale Score of 180 (Grade A);
- Cambridge ESOL CAE – minimum Cambridge English Scale Score of 180 (Grades A, B or C);
- Cambridge ESOL CPE receiving a certificate.

For IELTS, TOEFL and TELC, only test results from the year in which admission takes place or from the previous two calendar years can be accepted. Other tests, including the following, are not considered acceptable: Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC), SAT Critical Reading and Writing (Old SAT), SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (New SAT), ACT English and Reading, National Higher Education Entrance Examination (Gaokao) English subject. For TOEFL please use our institutional code 6633 if you prefer your results to be sent directly to us.

Scholarships

Students can apply for a number of scholarships. We also offer fee reductions for students with excellent study records. The terms of individual scholarship types differ; they typically partially or fully cover the tuition fee and sometimes provide a monthly stipend to cover basic living expenses. More information can be found on the program website.

Graduation Requirements

Besides completing 180 ECTS credits in the pre-defined structure, students must also defend their Bachelor's thesis. Every student chooses a supervisor who will guide him/her through the thesis writing process. Two compulsory Bachelor's thesis seminars are offered to help students with academic writing skills.

Tuition Fee

The tuition fee covers the cost of instruction, examinations, as well as access to libraries and computer laboratories. It does not cover the cost of textbooks and other teaching materials, nor living expenses such as accommodation, meals, etc. The university provides assistance for students interested in affordable student accommodation. The tuition fee for the BEF program is € 6,000 per year, payable at the beginning of each term.