




BSc Applied Accounting – briefing for members




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Who are we





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Welcome

Purpose of the session...(next hour)

- Explain the requirements of the BSc Applied Accounting
- Explain the role of the mentor
- Consider how members might approach the Skills and Learning statement
- Explain importance of academic integrity


Lots of opportunities for questions


Eligibility rules

- Have **passed** the three ACCA Applied Skills **examinations** Financial Reporting (was F7), Audit and Assurance (was F8) and Financial Management (was F9)
- Have **passed, or gained exemption from**, the other six papers at the Knowledge Level and Skills Level (**no conditional exemptions**)

Membership of ACCA as a result of membership of other bodies does not meet the eligibility criteria





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Eligibility rules

- Have **completed** the ACCA Ethics and Professional Skills module (or the previous Professional Ethics module)
- Be in good standing (up-to-date with your CPD requirement & financial matters)

OBU will check these details (directly with ACCA) once you have submitted a Research and Analysis project

Research and analysis project what is it?

Research and Analysis project




→

Research Report

Skills and Learning Statement

Some of the research report topics have changed.

Skills and learning statement questions have changed.

Research and Analysis project

RR + SLS + Average ACCA mark (examinations 4 - 9) = Degree Classification

Grade A, B, C or Fail Pass or Fail

If you are successful in RR, but not in SLS, then you only resubmit SLS.

If you are successful in SLS, but not in RR, then you only resubmit RR (unless an Academic Conduct Officer directs otherwise).

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Research Report Topic Selection

Research report must be based upon one of the 20 specified topics

Why 20? – cover the whole ACCA syllabus
Lots of interesting areas
Budgets, legislation, new technology, costing techniques, motivation of employees, corporate governance, risk management, mergers and acquisitions

Full list – Information pack

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Summary of Research Report (RR) requirements

Write a business related Research Report (up to 7,500 words) on a single organisation

- Demonstrate **understanding and application of accounting and business knowledge and techniques**
- Demonstrate ability to **analyse and evaluate financial and non-financial information**
- Demonstrate graduate **academic skills** including referencing of information sources.

Academic work – need to use academic theory & data or sources of information

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Choosing models / theories

Think about your topic – what area are you working in

Management Accounting – budgeting (topic 1), costing (topic 10), management info systems (topic 9)

Risk, governance, CSR – internal audit (topic 11), risk management (topic 16), corporate governance (topic 17), CSR (topic 20)

Business Strategy – marketing (topic 18), Investment decisions (topic 14)

Identify a model, framework or theory from ACCA studies

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Resources – models theories

Free, open access, materials used in Kaplan study texts

<https://kfknowledgebank.kaplan.co.uk/home>

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Analysis and evaluation what is it?

Higher level skills

Graduate skills

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How do models help with research?

Research question / organisation / issue

Model

Theoretical position

DATA

Analysis & Evaluation

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What do we mean by Analysis?

How? How did this occur?
How does it work – in theory? - in practice / context?
How does one factor affect another? Or,
How do the parts fit into the whole?

Why? Why did this occur?
Why was that done?
Why this argument / theory / suggestion / solution?
Why not some thing else?

What if? What are the alternatives?
What if this or that factor were considered?

Exploration of how the things relate to each other

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Adapted from 'Critical Thinking', Learning Development, Plymouth University (2010)

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What do we mean by Evaluation?

So what? What does this mean?
Why is this significant?
What are the implications?

What next? How and where else can it be applied?
What can be learnt from it?
What needs doing now?

Implications Solutions
Conclusions
Recommendations

Adapted from 'Critical Thinking', Learning Development, Plymouth University (2010)

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Mentors - guidance on RAP journey

- All students undertaking the RAP work with a registered mentor.
- The mentor is not a supervisor but guides you through the process. A mentor is not a writing service.
- A mentor is NOT an employee of Oxford Brookes University. Mentors operate as private consultants to students and can charge for their services.

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Registered Mentor

The Mentor should be one of the following:

- An ACCA Member or member of other recognised body recognised and approved by Oxford Brookes
- Employer / line manager
- Tutor at Learning Provider (College or University)

On-line mentors are available (Platinum learning providers, such as Kaplan, offer mentoring for the BSc Applied Accounting)

<https://kaplan.co.uk/courses/acca/oxford-brookes-degree>

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Mentors – what they do

As a minimum, three 30 minute meetings. Opportunity for you to develop your interpersonal skills in a professional setting.

The first meeting (possibly a group meeting) considers topic, research aim and objectives, information sources, data collection, project plan,

The second meeting (individual) considers information found, initial results, analysis and evaluation of the information

In the final meeting the student presents the findings of their research.

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Mentors – what they don't do

Write the RAP for you! Mentoring is not a writing service.

If a mentor offers to write your RAP, they are acting outside of Oxford Brookes guidance.

If you submit work that has been written for you, you are cheating (committing fraud) and will be investigated by the academic conduct team

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Skills and learning statement

Write at most 2,000 words addressing the following two questions:

Q1 How have you developed, personally and professionally, as a result of undertaking the Research and Analysis Project?

Q2 How will the experience of the RAP help you in the future?

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Models of Experiential learning

Kolb (1984)



Kolb, D (1984) *Experiential Learning: experience as the source of learning and development*. Englewood Cliffs, Prentice Hall

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The reflective cycle Gibbs (1998)



Gibbs G (1998) *Learning by Doing: A guide to teaching and learning methods*. Further Education Unit, Oxford Polytechnic, Oxford

Q1 How have you learnt?

Q1 How have you developed, personally and professionally, as a result of undertaking the Research and Analysis Project?

Consider

- what new skills you acquired and how you developed them
- the challenges you faced and how you overcame them

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Q2 What does this mean for the future ?

Q2 How will the experience of the RAP help you in the future?

Consider how this experience

- might influence your future plans in the short and longer term

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Academic integrity (ethical behaviour)

Oxford Brookes University expects all its students to act with integrity. This means that the work you submit, must be all your own work. The work is not your own if you have:

- Copied another student's work
- Used a prepared version (a template) of the research report, skills and learning statement, spreadsheet, presentation or list of references
- Asked, or allowed your ,mentor to write or edit any of your research report, spreadsheet or presentation
- Bought a pre-written RAP or paid someone to write the RAP for you

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Referencing and paraphrasing

Must submit your own work
When you use the ideas of others – acknowledge this by

REFERENCING

Reference in your writing (in-text citation) and then in the reference list (submitted as a separate document).

Guidance on



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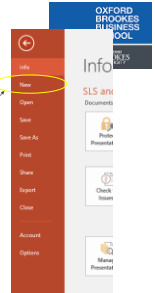
Academic integrity

Your presentation – must be your own work.

Do **NOT** use a template (even if provided by your mentor)

Do **NOT** amend or copy another student's work

Start by opening a 'New' power point file



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OBU Web pages www.brookes.ac.uk/acca



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Research and Analysis Project (RAP) resources



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Articles & materials from Student Accountant

Webinars and materials

Register for upcoming webinars

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THANK YOU

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
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