

AAT Professional Diploma in Accounting

Level 4

Briefing Pack for external bodies

2016-17



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1. The University AAT Level 4 Programme

1.1. About the AAT Programme

The University's AAT Level 4, Diploma in Accounting programme is centrally funded through the Finance Division and is open to members of staff in a University accounting role.

You may also apply if you work in one of the University colleges, the University Press or Cambridge Assessment, although funding will be requested from your employer who may have their own criteria for joining the programme.

AAT are launching a new syllabus (AQ2016) which will be taught from 1 September 2016. All students on the University programme will be enrolled on the AQ2016 syllabus and the course will cover all the new requirements including the new synoptic assessment.

1.2. Benefits

This AAT study package gives each student more than simply AAT tuition. There are additional benefits:

- High quality teaching from First Intuition
- Impartial support to students and to their line managers from a member of the Finance Division Training team.
- Discounted rates when compared to standard public programmes.

1.3. Overview

A day-release programme provided by a third party provider (First Intuition), running from September 2016 – July 2017 that provides a total of 24 classroom days, and 6 half-days for exams. This is supplemented by approximately 6-9 hours of home study per week.

At this level students will study 6 units which are assessed by means of a computer based assessment (CBA) and/or synoptic assessment:

Unit title	End of unit assessment	Included in synoptic assessment
Financial Statements of Limited Companies	✓	✓
Management Accounting: Budgeting	✓	✓
Management Accounting: Decision and Control	✓	✓
Accounting Systems and Control	No end of unit assessment	✓
Personal Tax	✓	Not included in synoptic
Credit Management	✓	Not included in synoptic

This level consolidates and builds upon the process covered at Level 3. There is more emphasis on analysis. The financial accounting element focuses on published financial statements and the accounting standards, which need to be adhered to when preparing them.

Depending on the number of participants, First Intuition will either run a bespoke day release group or place students on the public day release programme. The course content will be the same either way but the dates would be different.

1.4. Grading

Students will be awarded an overall qualification grade (Distinction, Merit, and Pass). Students who do not achieve the qualification will not receive a qualification certificate, and will be shown as unclassified; this is indicated below for illustrative purposes only.

Grade Definition	Percentage Threshold
Distinction	90 – 100%
Merit	80 – 89%
Pass	70 – 79%
Unclassified	0 – 69% (or failure to pass one or more assessments)

Assessment	Contribution to qualification grade
Financial Statements of Limited Companies	15%
Management Accounting: Budgeting	15%
Management Accounting: Decision and Control	15%
Personal Tax	10%
Credit Management	10%
Synoptic Assessment	35%

1.5. Results

For computer-marked assessments, provisional results will be available straight after the assessment. Final results will be confirmed within 10 working days. Results for assessments that are wholly or partially human-marked are delivered within timescales advertised on the AAT website.

Students will be advised on what percentage of the marks available they achieved in their assessments which will then be used to calculate their grade for the qualification (Pass, Merit or Distinction).

AAT's feedback service provides a simple summary of students' performance in each assessment. The feedback statement confirms their overall result and includes a breakdown of performance by task. Feedback statements are automatically generated and are designed to help students identify their strengths and any topic areas requiring further study. The student is presented with a short descriptor against each task to describe their performance against the topics assessed in that task. There are five feedback descriptors. Each descriptor provides an indication of how the student has performed in that task, and includes generic advice on how to proceed with their studies or continuing professional development (CPD).

2. The Level 4 Study Units and Timetable

2.1. Study time

In addition to the classroom days, students will be expected to put in an additional 6-9 hours a week of course work and background reading. All students must think carefully about prioritising their studies when managing their work/life balance. The table below is based upon the AAT's recommended guided learning hours.

Unit Name	Topics	AAT Assessment method	Classroom Hours	Estimated Home study Hours
Management Accounting: Budgeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare forecasts of income and expenditure • Prepare budgets • Demonstrate how budgeting can improve organisational performance • Report budgetary information to management in a clear and appropriate format 	Unit and Synoptic	28	32
Management Accounting: Decision and Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse a range of costing techniques to support the management accounting function of an organisation • Calculate and use standard costing to improve performance • Demonstrate a range of statistical techniques to analyse business information • Use appropriate financial and non-financial performance techniques to aid decision making • Evaluate a range of cost management techniques to enhance value and aid decision making 	Unit and Synoptic	28	62
Financial Statements of Limited Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an understanding of the reporting frameworks and ethical principles that underpin financial reporting • Demonstrate an understanding of the key features of a published set of financial statements • Draft statutory financial statements for a limited company • Draft consolidated financial statements • Interpret financial statements using ratio analysis 	Unit and Synoptic	42	48

Unit Name	Topics	AAT Assessment method	Classroom Hours	Estimated Home study Hours
Accounting Systems and Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an understanding of the role and responsibilities of the accounting function within an organisation. • Evaluate internal control systems • Evaluate an organisation's accounting system and underpinning procedures • Analyse recommendations made to improve an organisation's accounting system 	Synoptic	21	39
Personal Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse the theories, principles and rules that underpin taxation systems • Calculate a UK taxpayer's total income • Calculate income tax and National Insurance (NI) contributions payable by a UK taxpayer • Account for capital gains tax • Discuss the basics of inheritance tax 	Unit	28	32
Credit Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse relevant legislation and contract law that has an impact on the credit control environment • Critically analyse information from a variety of sources to assess credit risk and grant credit in compliance with organisational policies and procedures • Evaluate a range of techniques to collect debts • Critically evaluate credit control in line with organisational policies and procedures • Present advice and recommendations to management on the credit control system 	Unit	21	39
TOTALS			168	252

2.3. Level 4 day release timetable for 2016-17 – Bespoke course

The Level 4 programme will be day release study, 9:30am to 4:30pm over the period August 2016 to July 2017. The tuition will be provided by First Intuition at their premises in the centre of Cambridge.

If we have enough participants First Intuition will run a bespoke group for University staff. If this is not possible, participants will be incorporated into their public day release programme.

The dates below are assuming that we have a bespoke day release group.

If this is not possible due to numbers, then the dates will be different

Please check the dates carefully.

Year	Date	Level 4	Duration	Tutor	Location	
2016	Tues 30 Aug	Management Accounting: Budgeting	1 day	Alex Griffiths	First Intuition	
	Mon 05 Sept	Management Accounting: Budgeting	1 day	Alex Griffiths	First Intuition	
	Mon 12 Sept	Management Accounting: Budgeting	1 day	Alex Griffiths	First Intuition	
	Mon 19 Sept	Management Accounting: Budgeting	1 day	Alex Griffiths	First Intuition	
	Mon 03 Oct	Management Accounting: Budgeting (Mock Submission)				
	Mon 10 Oct	Management Accounting: Budgeting (Exam)				First Intuition
	Fri 11 Nov	Management Accounting: Decision and Control	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Fri 18 Nov	Management Accounting: Decision and Control	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Mon 28 Nov	Management Accounting: Decision and Control	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Mon 05 Dec	Management Accounting: Decision and Control	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Mon 12 Dec	Management Accounting: Decision and Control (Mock Submission)				
	Thurs 22 Dec	Management Accounting: Decision and Control (Exam)				First Intuition

Year	Date	Level 4	Duration	Tutor	Location	
2017	Thurs 05 Jan	Financial Statements of Limited Companies	1 day	Ben Bullman	First Intuition	
	Thurs 12 Jan	Financial Statements of Limited Companies	1 day	Ben Bullman	First Intuition	
	Thurs 19 Jan	Financial Statements of Limited Companies	1 day	Ben Bullman	First Intuition	
	Thurs 26 Jan	Financial Statements of Limited Companies	1 day	Ben Bullman	First Intuition	
	Thurs 02 Feb	Financial Statements of Limited Companies	1 day	Ben Bullman	First Intuition	
	Thurs 09 Feb	Financial Statements of Limited Companies	1 day	Ben Bullman	First Intuition	
	Mon 20 Feb	Financial Statements of Limited Companies (Mock Submission)				
	Thurs 28 Feb	Financial Statements of Limited Companies (Exam)				First Intuition
	Mon 06 Mar	Synoptic	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Tues 07 Mar	Synoptic	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Fir 17 Mar	Synoptic	1 day	Amy Forrest	First Intuition	
	Thurs 30 Mar	Synoptic (Exam)				First Intuition
	Wed 12 Apr	Personal Tax	1 day	Ali Ryder	First Intuition	
	Wed 19 Apr	Personal Tax	1 day	Ali Ryder	First Intuition	
	Wed 26 Apr	Personal Tax	1 day	Ali Ryder	First Intuition	
	Wed 03 May	Personal Tax	1 day	Ali Ryder	First Intuition	
	Fri 12 May	Personal Tax (Mock Submission)				
	Mon 22 May	Financial Statements (Exam)				First Intuition
	Tues 30 May	Credit Management	1 day	Giles Cox	First Intuition	
	Tues 06 June	Credit Management	1 day	Giles Cox	First Intuition	
	Tues 13 June	Credit Management	1 day	Giles Cox	First Intuition	
Mon 26 June	Credit Management (Mock Submission)					
Mon 10 July	Credit Management (Exam)				First Intuition	

There may be the option to attend one of the public programme day or evening classes in the event that one of the bespoke classes is missed.

This must be agreed with both First Intuition and Helen Parker

2.4. Level 4 day release timetable for 2016-17 – Public course

The dates below are for the public programme. These dates will apply if we do not have enough numbers for the bespoke group option

Course	Dates
Management Accounting: Budgeting	1, 8, 15, 22 Sept
Management Accounting: Decision and Control	27 Oct, 3, 10, 17 Nov
Financial Statements of Limited Companies	Spring/Summer 2017
Synoptic	Spring/Summer 2017
Personal Tax	Spring/Summer 2017
Credit Management	Spring/Summer 2017

2.5. Completing Level 4

As would be expected, this level is more intense than Level 3. More emphasis will be placed on students completing work outside of the classroom. This is particularly important when preparing for the synoptic assessment.

In the event of failing an examination the Finance Trainer will discuss options for re-sitting with the student.

In the event of a resit, First Intuition will invoice the student directly for the cost of the exam plus administration fee. This is currently £58 but could be subject to change if AAT change the exam cost during the year.

3. Venues

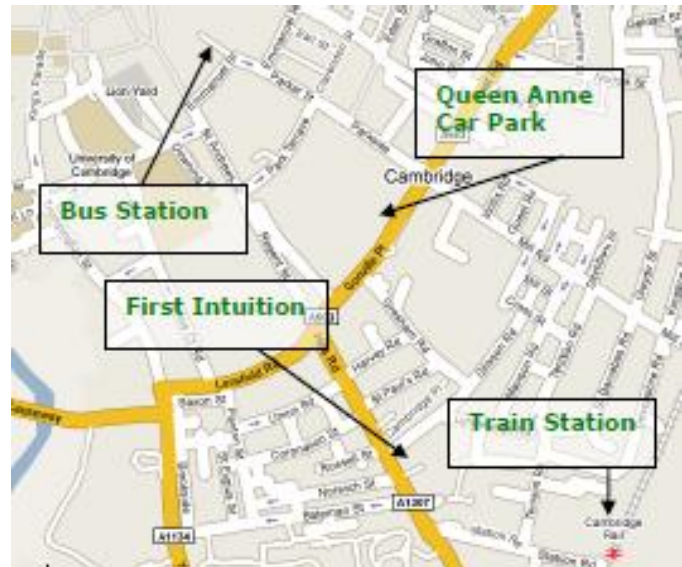
3.1. First Intuition

All teaching and exams will be based at First Intuition

First Intuition
35 Hills Road
Cambridge
CB2 1NT

Email: cambridge@firstintuition.co.uk

Tel 01223 360405
Fax 0560 342 6852



3.2. Getting to First Intuition

By Bus

- From the main bus station on Emmanuel Street.
- Walk along Emmanuel Street towards Bay L (which is next to Nat West) Turn left and walk to the main road (St Andrews Street, which eventually turns into Regent Street and then Hills Road).
- When you reach Hills Road, you will see First Intuition on your left, by the turning into Glisson Road.

By Train

- From Cambridge Railway station walk out of the main entrance and along to the end of Station Road.
- Turn left onto Hills Road and walk towards the town centre. First Intuition can be found on the right hand side, just before the right turn into Glisson Road.
- It is approximately a 5 minute walk from the station.

By Car

The nearest car park is the Train Station car park on Station Road. The post code for Sat Nav is CB12 2JW.

Another nearby car park is the Queen Anne Car Park on Gonville Place. The post code for sat nav is CB1 1ND

Parking on Glisson Road is free on Sundays and evenings after 6pm

By Park and Ride

Use of the Park and Ride car parks is recommended, it is a good service with buses leaving approximately every 10 minutes.

- From the East – Park and Ride from Newmarket Road (A1303) off A14 at the Burwell Junction
- From the West – Park and Ride from Cowley Road off A14 at Cambridge Science Park/A10 junction, or from Maddingley Road (A1303) off junction 13 of M11
- From the South – Park and Ride from Trumpington on the A1309 off Junction 11 of M11 or from Maddingley Road (A13,03) off Junction 13 of M11

Once at the Emmanuel Street Bus Station follow directions for “By Bus” above.

By Bike

First Intuition’s building has hooks on the side for students to chain bikes to so they can left on site securely.

3.3. Lunchtimes and refreshments

Hot drinks are available for free from a vending machines and cold water is provided at the front of classes. There is a common room students can use during lunch and food and drink is permitted in classrooms. There is a Tesco and Co-Op on the doorstep together with several sandwich shops where food can be purchased at lunch times.

Computers are available in the common room with internet access and a private study room for students is usually available – just contact one of the Tutors.

3.4. Accessibility

For those with mobility issues there is no disabled parking on site but by using your blue badge students can park on the street just outside the centre where it is usually parking metered. If students are in a wheelchair then a ramp can be arranged to overcome the step into the building. The class can be taught on the ground floor where there is a disabled toilet.

As standard class notes are printed on white paper but if students need them in a different colour or size font we can print these if notice is given in advance. Additional requirements for examinations will be co-ordinated with the AAT but again large format and/or different colours can be used.

Please speak to Helen Parker on email helen.parker@admin.cam.ac.uk or telephone on (7)66627 to discuss your individual requirements both before the programme starts and at any point if your circumstances change.

Please note that your requirements will not prevent you from joining the programme.

4. Tutors

The University's Level 4 programme is to be provided by local training provider First Intuition.

First Intuition was founded in 2007 and have since helped thousands of students to pass their AAT, ACCA, CIMA and ICAEW exams. Key achievements:

- ACCA Platinum learning provider
- CIMA Learning Quality partner
- PQ Magazine College of the Year 2010, 2012 and 2014
- Exceptional pass rates and numerous prizewinners
- LSCA partner for ICAEW blended learning

Your tutors have many years experience and will be available throughout the course with one-to-one support and be contactable by email outside of classroom hours.

Have a look at First Intuition's web site to find out more about your individual tutors

<http://www.firstintuition.co.uk/study-centres/cambridge.html>

5. Resources

5.1. Study texts

All study material is supplied and will be distributed over the duration of the course as each study module begins. For each module you will receive:

- First Intuition course and lecture notes
- Access to online material and practice questions

You are not required to use additional textbooks to cover the syllabus but if you think it might help your studies then we suggest you discuss this with the tutors. Alternative texts may describe methods and techniques in different ways and this does not always help with understanding of the syllabus and preparation for the exams.

5.2. Other equipment

Make sure you are equipped with the following stationery which is also recommended to comply with exam regulations where appropriate.

Students must present photo identification, such as driving license or passport when sitting the exam.

Lever-arch ring binder dividers/plastic punched wallets	To organise your files
A4 pad of paper	For note taking and exercises
Pens Highlighter pens Ruler	All AAT forms must be completed in black ink
Clear plastic case	To carry your stationery for the examinations
Calculator	<p>That includes a percentage and a square root button, but must not be a “mini-computer” or data storage device (a phone is not recommended as you will not be allowed to use this in the exam)</p> <p>You will need access to a computer with internet access and ideally word processing and spreadsheet software. If this is an issue please contact Helen Parker as we may be able assist you with gaining access to computer facilities.</p>
Access to a computer	<p><i>Eligible staff can download Microsoft Office programs to their personal devices thanks to a new agreement between the University and Microsoft. [Click here for details. Staff can find out if they are eligible for the software on the University Information Services (UIS) website, where they can also find instructions on how to download the software]</i></p>

6. Monitoring and support

6.1. Monitoring Attendance

Finance Training will be recording the day release attendance of all students and any absences will be reported back to line managers. If you know that you are unable to attend a particular session please speak to your tutor in advance to plan studies for topics that are covered in your absence.

We also strongly advise you to plan holidays carefully to minimise the number of classroom sessions that you miss. During the academic year we expect you to prioritise your AAT studies to maximise your chances of passing the exams and achieving the required standards for tutor assessed work.

Please report sickness or unplanned absence to the First Intuition and to the Finance Training Team on either 01223 (7)66631 or (7)66627.

6.2. Progress

Termly progress reports for your institution

Your key tutor will write a brief summary of your progress each Term. This will be based on results of tests and feedback from you and your tutors. This will also be shared with your line manager.

Assessment Results

Details of individuals' successes in CBAs and the management report will also be kept by the Finance Training Manager and shared with individual's line managers as part of the progress report.

6.3. Help and advice

If you experience any difficulties with the course then you are encouraged to speak to the tutors at the earliest opportunity. You may also email them and they will respond within two working days.

Over the years we have plenty of experience of the typical struggles and the unforeseen domestic emergencies that people may encounter whilst trying to study. Please do not hesitate to contact Helen Parker in these circumstances.

The University will be monitoring the programme on a regular basis and you will have opportunities to give anonymous feedback through our online survey tool. Helen Parker in the Training Team will be on-hand if you wish to discuss any concerns or require additional advice at any time.

Helen Parker	helen.paker@admin.cam.ac.uk
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<i>(Finance Trainer)</i>	01223 (7)66627
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7. Costs

7.1. Tuition and exam fees

The cost of the Level 3 programme is **£2,200** which is payable by the individual or their line manager. You will need to speak to your line manager with regard to their requirements for funding your studies.

This fee includes the tuition costs, materials and assessment fees.

7.2. AAT membership

New AAT members will also have to pay the admission fee (currently £41)

Application for, and payment of, the student membership of AAT is the responsibility of the student. The current student membership fee is £88

You must be registered as a student before you are able to access the study resources on the AAT site, or sit any of the exams.

7.3. Conditions of enrolment

Please note, when you sign the enrolment form and begin the course, you are agreeing to the terms and conditions set out in the application form. Your institution may also have their own conditions for acceptance onto the programme.

8. Applying for the University AAT Level 4 Programme

8.1. Eligibility

To be eligible for a place on the programme, you will need to be a permanent member of staff in the University and meet the following criteria:

- Be supported by your line manager; firstly to release you for the study days during the year and secondly to confirm that your studies are appropriate and beneficial to you and your institution.
- Prospective students must have completed AAT Level 3 (or equivalent)
- You are expected to make a personal commitment to complete the level within the academic year (including all computer based exams)
- You must commit to studying sufficiently in your own time in line with the classroom schedule.
- You must also agree to the terms and conditions attached to University funding and support.
- We will review all applications and will endeavour to meet all applicants personally. In the event of the course being oversubscribed, decisions will be made based on business needs.

8.3. To Apply

- Discuss with your line manager and ask them to complete section 5 of the Application form. (Appendix B)
- Establish with your line manager who will pay the fees of £2,200 and indicate as appropriate on section 7 of the form.
- Include your AAT statement of Achievement summarising your prior qualifications or documentation of any alternative accounting qualifications and experience.
- Return the completed Finance Training funding/Application form by at the latest **Thursday 4th August** to:

Margaret Peck
Finance Training,
Finance Division, Greenwich House
Madingley Rise, Madingley Road
Cambridge
CB3 0TX

9. Appendices

Appendix A – Unit Overview

Management Accounting: Budgeting

This unit is about the use of budgeting for planning, coordinating and authorising the activities of an organisation and for controlling costs. The unit provides skills and knowledge to improve the performance of an organisation by setting targets, constructing achievable plans and monitoring results.

Students will develop a range of skills within the context of planning and control. These include management accounting, statistical analysis, written communication and variance analysis. The application of standard costing and its links to budgeting is also included, although the topic is covered in detail in the Management Accounting: Decision and Control unit.

Students will also develop their business awareness as part of this unit. In particular, they will gain an elementary understanding of production planning (efficiency, adjusting for changing inventory levels, material control, staff planning, plant scheduling) and aspects of marketing (competition, promotion, product life cycle and so on). In this context, performance measures are used to set targets and monitor performance. These are not high-level financial indicators such as return on net assets, as learned in other units, but detailed measures relevant to specific budgets. As an example, average hourly labour rate would be relevant to the control of a direct labour cost budget.

Budgeting could be described as the art of the possible. Budgets are constructed from forecasts and plans. Forecasts relate to external factors, over which management may have very little influence, while plans relate to the organisation's activities and must be managed.

Management Accounting: Decision and Control

This unit is one of the mandatory Professional level units. It takes students from Advanced level costing principles and prepares them to be valuable members of a management accounting finance team. This unit was formerly known as Financial Performance.

A student who has successfully completed this unit, together with the Professional level unit, Management Accounting: Budgeting, should be a useful member of a management accounting team. Working with little supervision, the student could be expected to liaise with key business unit managers and/or budget holders in order to: prepare a basic budget and/or standard cost budget; create budgetary reports, control reports and standard costing control reports; and prepare key performance indicators and workings to aid management decision making.

This unit teaches students management accounting principles and concepts. Students will understand the nature and importance of different concepts such as cost behaviour, cost analysis, standard costing and contribution theory. They will know when each technique should be used to aid the planning and decision making of an organisation and the subsequent analysis for control purposes.

They will learn the key performance indicators that should be used to aid the performance monitoring of an organisation and the techniques for assessing changes to an organisation (what-if analysis). The student will build a toolbox of techniques, understand the nature of these techniques and know when each technique should be used.

Financial Statements of Limited Companies

This unit is concerned with the drafting, analysis and interpretation of financial statements of limited companies. This builds on the Foundation and Advanced levels, where the emphasis of the financial accounting units is on identifying and recording transactions in accounts and ledgers following the principles of double-entry bookkeeping, and drafting the financial statements of unincorporated organisations from the accounts and records prepared.

On successful completion of this unit, a student could be expected to be able to draft the financial statements of single limited companies and groups of companies with little supervision. A student could also analyse and interpret financial statements of limited companies by means of ratio analysis for the purposes of assisting outside user groups in their decision making, thereby fulfilling a useful role within an accounting team.

The unit provides students with the skills and knowledge for drafting the financial statements of single limited companies and consolidated financial statements for groups of companies. It ensures that students will have a proficient level of knowledge and understanding of international accounting standards, which they will be able to apply when drafting the financial statements, and will have a sound appreciation of the regulatory and conceptual frameworks that underpin the preparation of limited company financial statements.

Finally, the unit will equip students with the tools and techniques that will enable them to analyse and interpret financial statements effectively.

Accounting Systems and Controls

This unit aims to enable students to demonstrate their understanding of the role of the accounting function in an organisation and the importance of internal controls in minimising the risk of loss. Students will undertake an evaluation of an accounting system to identify weaknesses and assess the impact of those weaknesses on the operation of the organisation.

Students will then make recommendations to address the weaknesses, having regard for the costs and benefits, the sustainability and the impact of those recommendations on users of the accounting system. This unit enables students to consolidate and apply the knowledge and understanding that they have gained from the mandatory Professional level units of Financial Statements of Limited Companies, Management Accounting: Budgeting and Management Accounting: Decision and Control to the analysis of an accounting system.

When organisations have a planned change in policy, there will be a transition period, which will present its own challenges. Students need to be able to review a planned change in policy, identify potential problem areas while one system is being changed to another, and make suitable recommendations to ensure that the integrity of the accounting system is maintained.

The accounting system affects all areas of an organisation and should be capable of producing information to assist management with decision making, monitoring and control, as well as producing financial information to meet statutory obligations. In this unit, students will demonstrate their analytical and problem-solving skills, exercising judgement to make informed

Personal Tax

This unit is about the key aspects of taxation that affect UK taxpayers. It covers income tax, National Insurance (NI), capital gains tax and inheritance tax.

This unit provides students with the underpinning theory on taxation, such as what makes for a fair and equitable taxation system. Students then explore three core areas of income that contribute to a taxpayer's income tax liability: employment income, income from investments and income from property. Deductions and reliefs that apply to this income are then covered, so that students can compute the net income tax payable or reclaimable for a UK taxpayer.

The unit covers NI as applicable to employment income, together with the key principles that are part of capital gains tax and inheritance tax.

Students are also expected to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of how UK taxpayers can minimise their tax liability legally. For example, investing in a new individual savings account (NISA) will ensure that interest on the investment will be exempt from tax, whereas an investment in a building society will usually give rise to a tax implication. The ethical issues that surround this complex area will also be considered.

Taking all areas together, students will gain knowledge and understanding of all key areas of UK tax that can affect an individual UK taxpayer.

Credit Management

This unit is about understanding and applying the principles of effective credit control in an organisation. Students will require an understanding of the principles of credit control in the context of relevant legislation, contract law, best practice, professional ethics and organisational policies. Students will also be able to describe remedies for breach of contract, as well as the terms and conditions of contracts with customers. Students will gain knowledge of sources of information and techniques used to assess credit risks in compliance with organisational policies, data protection legislation and professional ethics. Knowledge and application of performance measures relating to liquidity, profitability and gearing will be fundamental to this unit.

Legal procedures and methods for collecting debts, as well as financial techniques used in granting and monitoring credit and debtors, will need to be understood and demonstrated. An understanding of different types of discounts will also be required.

Students will apply their skills to monitoring and evaluating credit control in compliance with organisational policies and, in particular, will learn the importance of liquidity management. Knowledge of bankruptcies and insolvencies will be required, as well as of the mechanisms of invoice discounting, factoring and credit insurance.

Students will be expected to demonstrate their ability to present advice and recommendations in line with organisational policies in a professional manner, including for write-offs and provisions. The financial impact of decisions taken and recommendations given will be essential skills required of the student.

Appendix B – Application for the Level 4 programme 2016-17 (external candidates)

Please return the completed form to:

**Margaret Peck, Finance Training, Greenwich House, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road,
Cambridge.**

The Finance Team may contact you and your line manager to discuss the application for funding, the study requirements and the commitment of all parties to the proposed study. Finance Training will formally notify the candidate and their manager of acceptance onto the programme.

1. Applicant

Title..... First Name.....

Surname.....

Institution

Work telephone numberWork email

Job title and grade

Date of joining UniversityTime in current post.....

2. Details of training to be undertaken

Course title **AAT – Level 4, Diploma in Accounting**

Training provider/venue: **First Intuition – Hills Road**

Type of attendance and duration...**24 full days plus 6 half-days.**

Cost of the study programme: **£2,200**

Have you undertaken any other accountancy/bookkeeping study before?.....

If yes, please describe what and when.....

.....

.....

4. Agreement by the applicant

Please read carefully all the information in this section before signing below.

- The training and qualification must be directly relevant to the applicant’s current role.
- There must be institutional support for the training.
- The applicant must reapply for any subsequent course/qualification.
- The course cost covers course fees and exam registration. It does not cover additional books or materials, travel, resit exam fees or other expenses.
- To be accepted the applicant must agree:
 - (a) to attend all necessary sessions and to report any absences to his/her institution.
 - (b) that the training provider may provide information to the line manager on his/her attendance and progress – and a summary of progress will be provided to the institution signatory named in section 5 below
 - (c) to provide proof of the relevant qualifications and/or past results to support this application if requested by Finance Training.
 - (d) to take part in an evaluation process of the training package and complete feedback about the quality of training provision
 - (e) to contact Finance Training as early as possible to discuss any concerns about the course or his/her progress

I accept the conditions set out above.

Applicant Signature..... Date.....

To be completed by the Line Manager or Institutional Staff Development Co-ordinator.

5. Supporting statement, please include how this training will benefit the applicant and the Institution.

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