FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University

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	7,000 EUR/ year
Web	https://fsv.cuni.cz/en/bef
E-mail	admissions@fsv.cuni.cz

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.

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Compulsory Courses

Compulsory courses introduce the students to microeconomics, macroeconomics, 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 97 ECTS credits for core courses.

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

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), economic policy (e.g. economic policy, global financial crisis), strategic management, international trade and European economic integration. We also offer courses in complementary areas (e.g. history of economic thought, game theory and political economy, introduction to sociology).

Optional Courses

Off-field elective courses can be taken at any department of Charles University or at any partner university. Students may take 20 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.

Graduation Requirements

Besides collecting 180 ECTS credits in the pre-defined structure, students must also pass the state exam which consists of defending the Bachelor's Thesis and of general discussion. Every student chooses a supervisor who will guide him/her through the thesis writing process. Two compulsory Bachelor's thesis seminars are offered to improve students' academic writing skills.

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.

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. A minimum overall predicted or final IB score of 32 is required;
    - applicants with their IB assessment after November 2020: a predicted or final score of Mathematics: applications and interpretation SL, Mathematics: applications and interpretation HL, Mathematics: analysis and approaches SL, Mathematics: analysis and approaches HL will be assessed. A minimum overall predicted or final IB score of 32 is required;
- 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 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 AP Calculus AB exam, or in AP Calculus BC exam.
- Score in the SCIO Mathematics Test.
- Final exam score in Mathematics from ÚJOP, Charles University, Poděbrady.

For SCIO, SAT and ACT, only test results from the year of the intake or from the previous three calendar years can be accepted. For the SAT please use our institutional code 7280 if you prefer your results to be sent directly to us.

An alternative to all listed tests or exams is to have passed the course JEB122 Introductory Mathematics at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University.

To prove **sufficient proficiency in English**, applicants should provide a certificate from one of following standardized tests:

- IELTS Academic - the minimum required overall band score of 6.5, with band score 6.0 or above in all four components;
- TOEFL Internet-Based Test (iBT) & TOEFL iBT Home Edition - the minimum required overall score of 83, with a minimum scaled score in the four sections: reading 21, writing 22, listening 20, speaking 20;
- Cambridge ESOL FCE - minimum Cambridge English Scale Score of 180;
- Cambridge ESOL CAE and CPE receiving a certificate;
- LanguageCert ESOL - Communicator with High Pass, Expert or Mastery

Foto: IES FSV UK

For TOEFL please use our institutional code 6633 if you prefer your results to be sent directly to us.

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.

A standardized English test is not required from applicants who:
- are native English speakers;
- have studied in English at the secondary school level for at least two years;
- have studied in English at the university level for at least one year;

When a score from an English-language test is not presented, the applicants should provide a certificate of their use of English during their prior studies to support their claim. The certificate should contain contact information (an email address and a telephone number) to a person (a programme director, or a school principal) who can confirm the scope of the use of the English language in the program.

All documents which are not originally in Czech, Slovak or English must be officially translated into English.

The submitted documents are evaluated by the Admission Committee. Specifically, the Committee assigns admission points in the range of 0 to 45 for Mathematics, 0 to 45 points for English and 0 to 10 points for the General profile of the applicant, based on the results of the respective tests, CV and the Motivation letter (a.k.a. cover letter, personal statement). The distribution of admission points for all the options of proving Mathematical abilities and knowledge of English will be determined using the latest publicly available statistical distributions of grades and scores in March 2023. The point limit for accepting applicants is set by the Dean with respect to the number of applicants and the capacity of the programme.

Scholarships

Students can apply for a number of scholarships. We also offer fee reductions for applicants and 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.

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 Euro 7,000 per year, payable at the beginning of each term.