

# Certificate in Financial Studies

## Course Outline

Level: 3

Syllabus: London Institute of Banking and Finance

Duration of Course: 1/2 years

Course Venue: The John Frost School

The Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS) has been designed to provide students with a challenging qualification covering the core disciplines of financial capability. Learners are encouraged to become responsible borrowers, sensible savers, and have an appreciation of the need for financial planning throughout their life. This will be achieved by teaching them to apply appropriate solutions from the varied choices available within the evolving and competitive financial services marketplace. Learners will develop an understanding of the wider financial services industry and explore the key developments affecting consumers in recent years.

## Entry Requirements

Students should have at least five GCSE passes, preferably with Maths and English at grade C or above. Students which have successfully achieved grade C or above in GCSE or equivalent level Business Studies would also be suitable.

## What will I study?

On completion of this qualification students will be able to:

- appreciate the benefits that can be derived from financial services products, and how these can contribute to achieving their personal aspirations.
- develop an awareness of risk and reward, and the obligations associated with different financial solutions.
- understand the concept of 'money' in all its forms, and how the value is subject to time and circumstance.
- understand the scope of the financial services industry and how it impacts upon the individual.
- appreciate how different external factors impact upon the individual directly, and indirectly.
- compare and contrast a range of financial solutions and draw reasoned, informed and sound financial judgements in particular contexts.

## How will I be assessed?

The two units of the Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS) have identical assessment structures, as described below.

### Objective test:

Unit Title	Assessment Structure			Weighting
	Part A Paper based or the <i>ifs e-test</i> <sup>TM</sup> electronic testing system	Part B Paper based <b>ONLY</b>	Resits	
Unit 1 Financial Capability for the Immediate and Short Term (FCIS)	35 multiple choice examination (35 marks – 45 minute exam)	Written examination based on pre-released case study information requiring essay responses to 5 questions (60 marks – 105 minute exam). Spelling, punctuation and grammar to be assessed (5 marks)	Resit available free of charge for each part of each examination (A & B) *Sittings must be requested by centres	50%
Unit 2 Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term (FCML)	Multiple choice examination (35 questions – 45 minute exam)	Written examination based on pre-released case study information (65 marks – 105 minute exam). Spelling, punctuation and grammar to be assessed (5/65 marks)		50%

## Career Opportunities and Progression

- Level Three IFS Qualifications
- University
- Working Related Training
- Employment in a Finance Related Industry