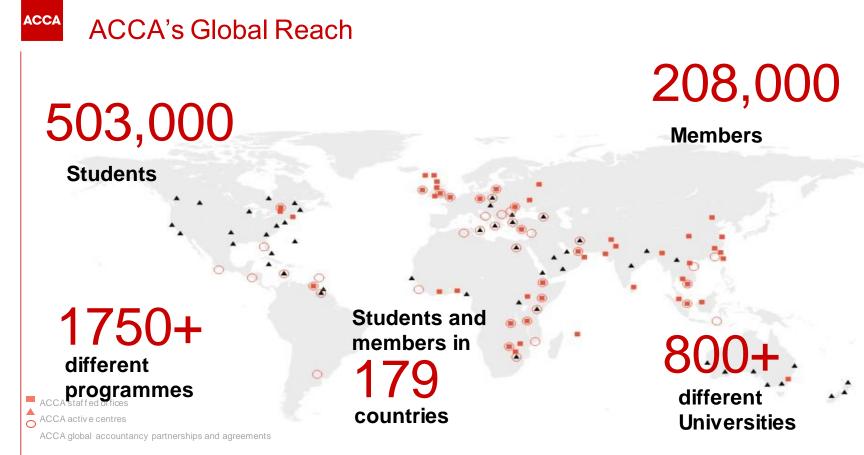
## **Exemption Accreditation**

Julie Hepburn Head of Quality and Recognition ACCA

Think Ahead



Think Ahead

## ACCA Qualification – the future



ACCA

# ACCA's Exemption policy highlights



- Globally consistent & transparent policy
- No exemptions from Strategic Professional level
- Comparable learning experience
- Comparable knowledge & skills
- Regulatory obligations

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# Benefits of accrediting institutions for exemptions

#### For universities & colleges

- Programmes more attractive to potential students
- Increased prospects and employability for graduates
- Recognition from ACCA (exemption calculator, accredited programme logo & certificate)

### For ACCA

- Sustainable pipeline of quality students
- Increases students' chances of employment and conversion to membership
- Enhanced relationships with institutions



# Getting exemptions right – why it matters

## Exam progression:

- Starting point matches knowledge & skills from previous study
- Minimises duplication of effort
- Maximises success in ACCA exams
- Need to be aware of the gap between academic and professional study

# Regulatory impact:

- Compliance with IFAC International Education Standards
- Statutory recognition in UK & Ireland
- Educational recognition across other global markets
- Policies for awarding exemptions must be transparent and consistently applied

## Exemptions for accredited institutions

ipl	oma (Knowledge)	Non- accredited	Partial / fully accredited	
<b>F1</b>	Accountant in Business (AB)	✓	$\checkmark$	
<b>F2</b>	Management Accounting (MA)	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	
F3	Financial Accounting (FA)	✓	$\checkmark$	
	anced Diploma (Skills)			
dv F4	anced Diploma (Skills) Corporate and Business Law (CL)			
F4	Corporate and Business Law (CL)			
F4 F5	Corporate and Business Law (CL) Performance Management (PM)		$\checkmark$	
F4 F5 F6	Corporate and Business Law (CL) Performance Management (PM) Taxation (TX)			

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# Exemptions for non-accredited institutions

#### Diploma (Knowledge)

- F1 Accountant in Business (AB)
- F2 Management Accounting (MA)
- F3 Financial Accounting (FA)

#### Advanced Diploma (Skills)

- F4 Corporate and Business Law (CL)
- **F5** Performance Management (PM)
- **F6** Taxation (TX)
- **F7** Financial Reporting (FR)
- **F8** Audit and Assurance (AA)
- F9 Financial Management (FM)

Non-		
accredited		
✓		
$\checkmark$		
$\checkmark$		



- Recognised to award qualifications nationally (by Ministry of Education or equivalent)
- Qualification type (i.e. Bachelor degree, diploma etc.)
- Qualification subject area (i.e. Accounting, Finance, Business, etc.)
- Over 10,500 colleges & universities recognised globally

# Exemptions for non-accredited institutions

Level	Accounting Major	Accounting Joint / Minor	Finance	General Business & Management	Law	Non Relevant	MBA
Level 3	F1 – F4	F1 – F3	F1 – F3	F1	F4	Registration	F1 – F3
Level 2	F1 – F4	F1 – F3	F1 – F3	F1	F4	Registration	n/a
Level 1	F1 – F3	F1	F1	F1	Registration	Registration	n/a
Entry Level	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration

- Level 3: Fully complete UK Bachelor degree
- Level 2: two years of UK Bachelor degree (DipHE)
- Level 1: one year of UK Bachelor degree (CertHE)
- Entry Level: UK university matriculation

## Exemptions for accredited institutions

Dipl	oma (Knowledge)	Partial / fully accredited
F1	Accountant in Business (AB)	$\checkmark$
<b>F2</b>	Management Accounting (MA)	✓
<b>F3</b>	Financial Accounting (FA)	✓
Adva	anced Diploma (Skills)	
<b>F4</b>	Corporate and Business Law (CL)	$\checkmark$
<b>F5</b>	Performance Management (PM)	$\checkmark$
<b>F6</b>	Taxation (TX)	$\checkmark$
<b>F7</b>	Financial Reporting (FR)	$\checkmark$
<b>F8</b>	Audit and Assurance (AA)	$\checkmark$
F9	Financial Management (FM)	$\checkmark$

- Approx. 1,750 accredited programmes
- 800 colleges / universities in 73 countries

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## Exemptions for accredited institutions

Exemption Level	Can be assessed for		
Level 3	Additional papers up to and including paper F9		
Level 2	Additional papers up to and including paper <b>F6</b>		
Level 1	Additional papers up to and including paper F3		
Entry Level	Not applicable (eligible for registration only)		

ACCA's Fundamentals Level exams are considered to be **equivalent to an accounting degree** in many global markets

# Accredited programmes - requirements

#### Syllabus

Do students have the same knowledge as an ACCA student?

- Minimum 80% comparable syllabus content per ACCA paper
- Syllabus content can be split across multiple courses
- Detailed syllabus information is needed to draw comparison

#### Assessment strategy

Has knowledge been tested in a similar way to an ACCA student?

- Assessment methods minimum 50% written examination
- Exam duration equal to relevant ACCA paper
- Comparable style and standard of exam questions (taxonomy, practice vs theory, syllabus coverage, exam structure, mark allocation)
- Exam requirements can also be split across multiple courses

## Supporting documentation - syllabus detail

#### MAIN CAPABILITIES

On successful completion of this paper, candidates should be able to:

- A Explain and apply cost accounting techniques
- B Select and appropriately apply decision-making techniques to facilitate business decisions and promote efficient and effective use of scarce business resources, appreciating the risks and uncertainty inherent in business and controlling those risks
- C Identify and apply appropriate budgeting techniques and methods for planning and control
- D Use standard costing systems to measure and control business performance and to identify remedial action
- E Identify and discuss performance management information and measurement systems and assess the performance of an organisation from both a financial and nonfinancial viewpoint, appreciating the problems of controlling divisionalised businesses and the importance of allowing for external aspects

#### DETAILED SYLLABUS

- A Specialist cost and management accounting B techniques 1.
- 1. Activity-based costing
- 2. Target costing
- 3. Life-cycle costing
- 4. Throughput accounting
- 5. Environmental accounting
- C Budgeting and control
- 1 Budgetary systems
- 2. Types of budget
- 3. Quantitative analysis in budgeting
- 4 Standard costing
- 5 Material mix and yield variances
- 6 Sales mix and quantity variances
- Planning and operational variances
- 8 Performance analysis and Behavioural aspects 7.

3.	Limiting factors
4.	Pricing decisions
5.	Make-or-buy and other short-term decisions

**Decision-making techniques** 

Relevant cost analysis

Cost volume analysis

2.

- Dealing with risk and uncertainty in decisionmaking
- D Performance measurement and control
- Performance management information systems
- 2. Sources of management information
- 3. Management reports
- Performance analysis in private sector organisations
- 5. Divisional performance and transfer pricing
- Performance analysis in not-for-profit organisations and the public sector
  - External considerations and behavioural aspects

## Supporting documentation – syllabus detail

#### Audit & Assurance

Programme:	BSc (Hons) Professional Accounting	
Syllabus:	This module will attempt to provide an ar auditor's role at the same time as providi processes, rules and regulations. The mod of assurance and how the auditor can hell help in understanding a variety of subject there is far more to audit than just fraud. This module covers the following: • Principles of assurance engagements	ng an introduction to the auditor's dule will also look at the wider role lp contribute to society's need for t matters. Students will learn that
	<ul> <li>Regulatory framework</li> <li>Corporate Governance</li> <li>Professional ethics</li> <li>Accepting engagements</li> <li>Planning</li> <li>Understanding the entity and its env</li> <li>Risk assessment</li> <li>Audit approach</li> <li>Internal controls</li> <li>Audit Evidence</li> <li>Audit completion</li> <li>Reporting.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>D. Audit evidence</li> <li>1. Financial statement assertions and audit evidence</li> <li>2. Audit procedures</li> <li>3. Audit sampling and other means of testing</li> <li>4. The audit of specific items</li> <li>5. Computer-assisted audit techniques</li> <li>6. The work of others</li> <li>7 Not-for-profit organisations</li> </ul>

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## Supporting documentation – syllabus detail

· ·	<b>-</b>	F2F			Non SLT			
	Торіс	L	т	Р	0	F2F	SLI	
в	Audit Planning and Analytical Procedures							1
	Planning							
	<ul> <li>Accept client and perform initial audit</li> </ul>							
	planning							
	<ul> <li>Understand the client's business and industry</li> </ul>	4				7	11	
	Assess client business risk							
	Perform preliminary analytical							
	procedure	_						
	<ul> <li>Summary of purposes of audit planning -</li> </ul>							
9	Material and Risk							
	Materiality							
	<ul> <li>Set preliminary judgement about</li> </ul>							
	materiality							
	<ul> <li>Allocate preliminary judgement about</li> </ul>							
	materiality to segment (tolerance misstatement)							
	Estimate misstatement and compare	6				11	17	
	with preliminary judgement							
	<ul> <li>Types of risk</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>Assessing acceptable audit risk</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>Assessing inherent risk</li> </ul>							
	<ul> <li>Relationship of risk and evidence and</li> </ul>							
10	factors influencing risks Internal Control and Control Risk							
10	Internal Control and Control Risk     Internal control objectives							
	Management and auditor							
	responsibilities related to internal control							
	Components of internal control							
	<ul> <li>Obtain and documents understanding of</li> </ul>	5				9	14	
	internal control							
	<ul> <li>Assess control risk</li> </ul>							
	Tests of control							
	<ul> <li>Decide planned detection risks and</li> </ul>							
I	design substantive procedure		I	I		I	I	I

#### B. Planning and risk assessment

- Detaining and accepting audit engagements
- Objective and general principles
- Assessing audit risks
  - 4. Understanding the entity and its environment
  - 5. Fraud, laws and regulations
  - 6. Audit planning and documentation

# Supporting documentation – assessment strategy

#### ACCA question types:

Objective test (multiple choice / task)

Constructed response (long)

ACCA paper	OT/MCQ%		
F1 – F4	70%		
F5	60%		
F6	60%		
F7	60%		
F8	30%		
F9	60%		

Exams should not exceed the above limits (% can be calculated across multiple courses / exams)

# Supporting documentation - examinations

#### Required

- A 50% contribution to students' final grade
- Rubrics breakdown of compulsory questions
- Mark allocation for each question
- Time the students are allowed for each examination
- Mix of theoretical & practical Multiple Choice Questions
- Mix of theoretical & practical long-style questions
- A comparable level of 'background information' within long-style questions
- Coverage of Core Syllabus areas

#### Not Acceptable

- Any of the 'Required' areas not being met
- Open book exams
  - Except in certain circumstances
- Plagiarised examination papers
  - Any content taken from ACCA past papers or materials.

# Accredited programmes – outcomes

### Outcome letter:

- Overview of exemptions awarded
- Confirmation of accreditation period

BSc Accounting			
Papers F1 – F4	On completion		
Paper F6	On the basis of ACC 4209 TAXATION & TA MANAGEMENT PLUS ACC4103 NIGERIAN TAXATION		
Paper F9	On the basis of ACC 4106 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLUS BFN 3209 BUSINESS FINANCE II		

This programme will hold accreditation for a period of 5 years, for graduates from 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2021.

- Guidance on exemptions <u>not</u> awarded will be provided in a separate Detailed Report document
- Accredited programme certificate & logo issued

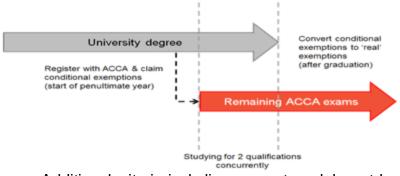
# Accreditation period:

- applies to a specific range of graduation years
- does not cover past graduation years
- normally awarded for a maximum of 5 graduation years (may be shorter in some circumstances)
- full re-assessment after 5 years to ensure continued alignment with ACCA's syllabus & assessment strategy
- may be subject to periodic analysis of student performance

# Partnership models for accredited institutions

#### Conditional exemptions

 Students sit first ACCA exams concurrently with university exams



 Additional criteria including support model must be in place

### Embedded (bound) programmes

- University programme designed & taught to match full ACCA syllabus
- Frequently used as a 'bolt-on' to exemption accreditation – students receive some exemptions, and first ACCA exams are embedded

### Parallel programmes

- University programme supplemented with ACCA tuition (may be supported by ALP)
- Can be used for full ACCA Qualification or in conjunction with exemptions (accredited or non-accredited award)

Accredited, embedded or parallel?						
ACCA syllabus match	University (internal) assessment	ACCA exam	Model			
<b>80% minimum</b> University's own syllabus, maybe aligned to ACCA syllabus	<b>Yes</b> University develops and delivers own assessments; maybe aligned to ACCA requirements	Νο	Exemption accreditation			
<b>100%</b> Delivered as part of degree programme	<b>Yes</b> University develops & delivers assessments to meet own award requirements	<b>Yes</b> May also contribute to university degree marks	<b>Embedded (bound)</b> Can work in combination with non-accredite exemptions or exemption accreditation (including conditional exemptions)			
<b>100%</b> Delivered separatelyfrom degree programme	<b>No</b> mock exams may be delivered but no summative assessment	<b>Yes</b> Does not contribute to university degree marks	<b>Parallel</b> Can work in combination with non-accredite exemptions or exemption accreditation (including conditional exemptions)			



For more information visit accaglobal.com

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