

BA Hons Accounting and Finance

MODULE INTRODUCTION, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Semester 3

ACCUCA1: ACCOUNTING 1



This module is the first module on accounting and finance degree programs and provides the stepping stone for further study of accounting and finance. We look at different organisation types from sole traders to partnerships and limited companies and examine their legal, tax and accounting characteristics. You will learn the basic language of accounting and use this knowledge to prepare basic income and financial position statements. We introduce the various sources of finance available to businesses and analyse firm performance using ratio analysis based on accounting information.

The module assumes no prior knowledge of accounting and begins with an introduction to the subject, its purpose, role and limitations. The only prerequisite for the module is a pass in Mathematics at Standard grade or equivalent.

FINUCM1: MATHEMATICS FOR BUSINESS



The module will cover basic numerical, mathematical and statistical skills. This will allow students to move on to years 2, 3 and 4 with greater confidence in their skills in these areas. The module will present appropriate numerical and statistical methods. The module will show how to interpret graphical and numerical results. The module will cover many aspects of numerical skills (both mathematical and statistical). There will be two hours of lectures and one practical class each week. Students will be expected to complete exercises in independent study time. The practical class will allow students to do further examples with advice.

MGTU9S1 THE GLOBAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT



Organisations are entities made up of different elements which are interconnected with the external environment. This environment includes a diverse range of influences e.g. economic, demographic, social, political, legal, technological etc. which impact business activity in a variety of ways. This module is designed to provide a foundation for Stirling Management School students to better understand the ways in which the external business environment both evolves and affects the process of transformation (from input to output to consumption) and explores how resources are managed and developed.

Semester 4

ACCUCA2: ACCOUNTING II

The aim of the module is to introduce students to the role of management accounting in providing management with information for decision-making, planning and control.

After completing the module, students should be able to discuss management functions relevant to accountants, discuss marketing mix and market access and distribution, explain costs and cost behaviour, apply production overheads, determine the break-even point of a product or group of products, identify and apply relevant costs for decision making purposes, explain the budgetary process, prepare a cash budget, analyse and explain budget variances

In the process of achieving the above outcomes, students will develop skills in analysing and solving problems. Skills in working as part of a group will be developed through tutorial participation.

MGTU9S2: THE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE – AN INTRODUCTION

This module focuses on challenges predominantly understood as and related to the complexity of management job. It outlines and set the importance of these five key organisational functions: Operations, Marketing, HRM, Finance and Information and Information and Communication Technologies. In order to develop and lead competitive, adaptive, ethical and sustainable businesses; and to formulate appropriate strategies and actions; managers must understand the different demands and constraints associated with the interactions of these different core functions, which both influence and challenge management.

By studying this module, students will gain an appreciation of the reality of management, with particular focus on managing: operations, marketing and communication activities, people, finances and information, learning and knowledge. In this way students will gain understanding of organisations as complex and evolving systems. In addition, this module will focus on development of important management skills such as team working, communication and presentation skills, which are sought after by today's employers.

ECNUC15: INTRODUCTORY ECONOMICS

This module covers both microeconomics (the operation of individual markets and the behaviour of firms) and macroeconomics (the determination of national income, unemployment, inflation and government policies to control the economy). The module is designed to meet the requirements for professional accreditation of the B.Acc. programmes.

Semester 5

FINUCQE: QUANTITATIVE METHODS FOR BUSINESS DECISIONS

The course is intended to give students a basis for the analysis and interpretation of quantitative information, an understanding of the basic ideas underlying statistical methods at an introductory level & an understanding of certain mathematical tools of business decision making

The course is for students who want an introductory course in statistics / quantitative methods relating to business, or who need such a course to meet professional accounting body requirements.

ACCUCAE: ACCOUNTING INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT

To facilitate future employment in an accounting/business setting, this module aims to provide knowledge of advanced double entry book-keeping skills. In light of the current economic conditions it is important to have an awareness of how to prevent and detect errors, deliberate or otherwise, within an accounting information system designed around double entry bookkeeping.

A further aim is to provide an understanding of some of these controls and concepts and to develop the double-entry book-keeping skills by introducing an accounting information system incorporating appropriate controls. It promotes an awareness of ethics, of employability skills and develops computer skills in spreadsheets and accounting packages.

FINUCCF CORPORATE FINANCE

The course provides an introduction to the theory and practice of finance. In particular, it provides an understanding of the basic concepts underlying two major areas of business finance: the financing decision and the investment decision.

Semester 6

ACCUCA4: EXTERNAL REPORTING

To enable students to understand the purpose and practice of the regulation of financial reporting, to prepare company financial statements including cash flow statements for external publication, to examine the provisions of selected accounting standards.

FINUCF4: FINANCE II

FINU9F4 is an advanced semester, level 9 module that carries a credit value of 20. Students who study this module will be able to evaluate a firm's corporate financing decisions and gain an understanding of how finance is raised through the capital markets. Together with the unit FINU9F3 this course aims to provide students with an introduction to the basic skills and concepts required for the study of finance and for their application to financial management.

ACCUCMS: APPLIED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING

The main aim of the module is to introduce students to advanced management accounting techniques and apply these in case study situations. Computer-based application of the techniques will form an integral part of the module, with emphasis being given to the interpretations and conclusions that can be drawn from the analyses.

Semester 7

ACCUCAA: ADVANCED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING



The module builds upon ACCU9A4 External Reporting and aims to develop knowledge and understanding about controversial issues in financial accounting and reporting. It also aims to help students develop the ability to formulate a reasoned opinion on the relative merits of alternative solutions to such controversial issues.

FINUCFS: SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT



The module builds upon the material covered in Finance I and Finance II. However, it looks at financial securities from the point of view of an investor, rather than an issuer. Therefore, it explores, in greater detail, certain topics that are introduced in Personal Financial Planning. The aim is to provide an overview of the main types of securities traded on the World's capital markets, providing detailed analysis of equity products, derivatives and bonds. Popular trading strategies are examined including an introduction to short selling and pair trades that may be used by hedge funds, or other institutional and private investors.

The importance of benchmark indices and robust performance measurement techniques for evaluating the performance of investment managers are also demonstrated. Ample attention is paid to the valuation of forward, futures and options contracts. This includes the application of the well-known Black-Scholes option pricing model. Students are given the chance to grapple with the key issues facing the investment industry in a written group assignment and presentation. Tutorial and self-study exercises draw on material in the Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA®) candidate curriculum, giving students an opportunity to sample professional examination questions.

FINUCFB: INTERNATIONAL FINANCE



Introduction

By the end of the module students should be able to understand the mechanics of the foreign exchange market and how exchange rates are quoted. It helps to understand the factors that cause exchange rates to move and how spot and forward exchange rates are related to interest rates and inflation rates. Module cover a critical perspective to different theories/hypotheses on exchange rate movement, differences between the major derivative instruments and identify the types of foreign exchange risk and interest rate risk that they may be used to hedge

against. Students will be able to appreciate the types of foreign exchange risk and international aspect of asset pricing.

Semester 8

FINUCSS: FINANCIAL ANALYSIS



The module will enable students to develop skills in the interpretation and use of financial statements. For example, to aid in the decision to whether to buy, hold, or sell a particular firm's stock. Focussing on company valuation it includes a project The module will benefit students who are interested in pursuing careers as investment managers, stock brokers, bankers, accountants or consultants.

ACCU9CA: CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE ISSUES



The aim of this module is to provide students with an opportunity to complete a piece of independent work on an accounting or finance topic of their choice, thereby providing a facility for them to enhance higher-order skills of learning and communication in the final year of their studies, together with the amplification of analysis, synthesis and evaluation skills, and to aid their ability to bridge theory with practice in dealing with lengthy and complex problems.

ACCUCA6: AUDITING



The module is designed to equip students with a thorough understanding of the theory of external auditing and with an understanding of audit practice commensurate with the requirements of the auditing papers set by ICAS (Test of competence, Principles of Auditing and Reporting paper) and ACCA (Paper F8, Audit and Assurance).