

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	Finance		
Module Code	25-7M25-00S/C/S0N		
Level	7		
Credit Points	15		
Indicative Assessment Tasks & Percentage Weightings	50% Coursework 50% Exam		
Pre-Requisite Modules (if applicable)	None		
Delivered according to Standard Academic Calendar	Long: 2 semesters	Short: 1 semester	Other delivery pattern:
YES	NO	YES	NO

1 MODULE AIMS

This module enables you to develop your knowledge, understanding and ability to apply financial management theories, concepts and techniques, forming an important basis for understanding the complex nature of business decisions and strategy.

It is important for managers within organisations to be able to apply appropriate financial techniques as part of the strategic decision making process. They must also be able to develop and apply appropriate performance control and measurement systems to the strategic management process. Performance control and measurement needs to recognise both financial and non-financial measures of performance and be balanced in its approach.

The aims of the module are to develop the ability to

- a) evaluate financial statements,
- b) apply various financial techniques for the effective strategic management of organisations and
- c) identify and utilise financial and non financial measures of performance as part of the control process.

These aims are primarily linked to the programme learning outcomes of the analytical thinker. The module will also emphasises the inter-related nature of the decision making process. For example links will be made to marketing and information management.

2 MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES BY THE END OF THE MODULE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO

1. understand basic financial terminology;
2. understand the content and structure of financial statements;
3. apply appropriate analytical techniques to published financial statements and critically analyse and interpret the findings;
4. understand the difference between profit and cash as a measure of performance;
5. critically evaluate how financial decision making, control and performance measurement link with strategy;
6. identify and critically evaluate financial and non-financial measures of performance;
7. apply and critically evaluate appropriate financial tools within the strategic decision making process;
8. apply and critically evaluate appropriate financial control models for an organisation.

3 INDICATIVE LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES

Lectures will be used to cover the technical financial management concepts and techniques. Seminars will be used to analyse case studies and apply various financial management techniques to the decision making process. The objective of the seminars will be to develop your ability and confidence in applying numerical techniques to a range of management problems. You will be encouraged to recognise and understand the subjective nature of financial information.

For summative assessment, you will be assessed by an assignment and an exam.

You will be provided with feedback on your progress in achieving the desired learning outcomes throughout the module via normal seminar and workshop activities. On completion of the summative assessment you will be provided with detailed written feedback.

The module links to research into financial performance, but also develops skills in carrying out research using financial reports.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY AND METHODS

Task No.	<u>TASK DESCRIPTION</u>	SI Code	Task Weighting %	Word Count / Duration	In-module retrieval available
1	Coursework	CW	50%	2500 words	No
2	Exam	EX	50%	2 hours	No

4 INDICATIVE MODULE CONTENTS / TOPICS

- Financial statements - Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Cash Flow statement;
- ratio analysis and cash flow analysis - used to critically evaluate the performance of an organisation and its competitors;
- profit or cash, understanding the difference;
- cost control and management, overheads and activity based costing;
- budgetary planning and control, the use of activity based budgets;
- financial decision making, short and long term;
- financial modelling and pricing;
- making the link between financial decision making, performance measurement systems and strategy;
- measures of financial performance - return on investment, residual income, shareholder value added, and other alternative measures.

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MODULE

- **FURTHER / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THIS MODULE, INCLUDING ASSESSMENT CRITERIA DETAILING HOW YOUR PERFORMANCE IN THE MODULE WILL BE MEASURED, HOW YOU WILL RECEIVE FEEDBACK, DETAILS OF LEARNING RESOURCES AND KEY READINGS.**
- **THIS INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IN**
 - the module handbook
 - the module blackboard site
- **NOTE THAT THIS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE FROM YEAR TO YEAR**

FINAL TASK

According to the Assessment Strategy shown in the Module Descriptor, which task will be the LAST TASK to be taken or handed-in? (Give task number as shown in the Assessment Strategy)	Task No. 2
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MODULE REFERRAL STRATEGY

Task for Task (as shown for initial assessment strategy)	Y
Single Referral Package for All Referred Students	N

REVISIONS

Date	Reason
July 2012	Assessment Framework review