

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Academic School / Department:</b>	Richmond Business School
<b>Programme:</b>	Masters in Business Administration
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	7
<b>Course Title:</b>	Financial Management
<b>Course Code:</b>	FNN 7102
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Salvatore d'Orsa
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	200
Lectures:	39
Tutorials:	6
Independent / Guided Learning:	155
<b>Semester:</b>	Fall
<b>Credits:</b>	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to develop the students' ability to manage a company's finances. Students will analyse and evaluate the financial performance of organisations. This is based on financial statements and market performance indicators. For this, students will be exposed to methodological approaches concerning the preparation and interpretation of financial statements. This is further supported by an in depth investigation of financial theories and their application to actual scenarios requiring financial decision-making.

**Prerequisites:**

N/A

**Aims and Objectives:**

Students will be able to identify how to obtain financial data both internally and externally and engage in financial appraisal analysis. Students will acquire the ability to apply analytical tools to a range of financial documents and formulate conclusions about the company's financial performance. The course intends to equip students with the ability to produce a financial budget within the corporate constraints and achieving targets within the regulatory requirements of accounting practice. Furthermore, an evaluation of financial proposals will allow students to make valuable decisions concerning the strategic objectives of the organisation.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A1, A2, A5  
B1, B2, B3, B4  
C3, C4  
D1, D2, D3, D4

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

**Knowledge and Understanding**

- To be able to analyse critically corporate financial statements, and evaluate corporate performance.
- To develop a robust understanding of the nature and role of financial decision-making, including application of key valuation techniques.
- To understand key performance indicators.
- To analyse, explain and plan financial decisions under a range of different scenarios.

**Cognitive skills**

- To learn the language and jargon of finance and be able to converse fluently.
- To recognise the role of financial systems and institutions as the background to financial decision-making.
- To understand the various risks involved in financial decision-making, and be able to assess the potential returns.
- Being able to understand and recognise the continually evolving nature of the financial system and accounting standards.

**Subject specific, practical and professional skills**

- Quantitative and numeric skills including the modelling of data, its interpretation, extrapolation and presentation.
- Integration of empirical data within a textual-based report.
- To be able to compare and contrast key financial theories in the context of a changing financial environment.
- To apply key financial management tools, both to hedge risk and inform the making of other key decisions, both tactical and strategic.

**General/transferrable skills**

- Effective communication skills via a range of media.
- Ability to develop strong analytical skills through listening, discussion and reflection.

**Indicative Content:**

- Preparing, reading and interpreting financial statements.
- Evaluating financial performance, including margin and ratio analysis.
- Financial planning and forecasting.
- Description and valuation of financial instruments (debt, equity, derivatives).
- Financial markets overview.
- Evaluating investment opportunities as part of the capital budgeting.
- Assessing the impact of financial leverage.
- Modern portfolio theory.
- Company valuation.
- Introduction to international financial management.

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

**Teaching Methodology:**

Through lectures, discussions and individual and group assignments, the course emphasises problem-solving and the application of theory to real world practice.

**Bibliography:**

See syllabus for complete reading list.

**Indicative Text(s):**

**Required Texts:**

- Higgins, Robert C. (2015) *Analysis for Financial Management*. 11th edition. London: McGraw-Hill.

**Recommended Reading:**

- Arnold, G., Lewis, G. (2018) *Corporate Financial Management*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, London: Pearson.
- Bodie, Z., Merton, R.C. (1999), *Finance*, New York: Pearson
- Brealey, R. A, Myers, S. C. , Allen F. (2014), *Principles of Corporate Finance*. 11th Edition. London: McGraw-Hill.

***Journals***

***Websites***

- Bloomberg ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com))
- The Financial Times ([www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com))
- The Economist ([www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com))
- The Wall Street Journal ([www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com))
- The World Bank ([www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org))
- EDGAR database ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov))

**Change Log for this CSD:**

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
Updating of template	Dean's action – 25/4/2014	
Updating & Redrafting of Aims and Objectives.	Dean's Action 12.8.15	
Change to course description.	Dean's Action 12.8.15	
Course description, Aims and Objectives, learning outcomes, indicative content		