



ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Dissertation - Financial Management				
Module Code	UMAC48-50-M	Level	M	Version	5
UWE Credit Rating	50	ECTS Credit Rating	25	WBL module?	No
Owning Faculty	FBL	Field	Accounting and Finance		
Department	Accounting, Economics and Finance	Module Type	Dissertation		
Contributes towards	MSc Accounting and Financial Management				
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None	
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	na	
First CAP Approval Date	26 March 2015		Valid from	September 2015	
Revision CAP Approval Date			Revised with effect from		

Review Date	September 2021
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and execute a significant piece of independent research in the financial management field • Undertake a critical literature review, identify a conceptual model to underpin the work, develop a research design and select appropriate data collection method(s). • Defend choices of research methods on the basis of reliability, validity, generalisability, applicability of findings and resource requirements; • Apply the knowledge, critical thinking, and problem solving skills and techniques that have been acquired during the preceding studies to an area of personal interest; or organisational relevance; • Carry out a competent and rigorous quantitative and/or qualitative analysis of data to synthesise new knowledge and insights in the research context • Evaluate the analytical and practical significance of research findings • Produce a written document that demonstrates clarity of thinking and logical argument in making practical conclusions and recommendations • Manage the research process over a prolonged period of time (i.e. demonstrate practical project management and organisational skills.
Syllabus Outline	It is the student's responsibility to identify the topic for their research. The topic should

	<p>be within the scope of the discipline of Accounting and Financial Management, broadly defined; that is the dissertation should have some connection with one of the multiple forms of the theory or practice of Accounting and Financial Management. Students will receive guidance in refining their area of interest into an appropriate underlying research question to be answered, or hypothesis to be tested.</p>																									
Contact Hours	<p>Students are advised to have at least 3 meetings with their respective supervisors when working on the dissertation.</p>																									
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>The module will provide students with the opportunity to produce a substantial piece of individual research which is relevant to practitioners and/or researchers in the field of accounting and financial management. This might involve the testing of hypotheses, developing theory, or the provision of logically supported practitioner recommendations. Students will be encouraged to use the full range of data sources and analysis tools provided for Accounting and Finance postgraduate students.</p> <p>The research skills necessary to undertake the dissertation will be provided in the <i>Research Methods</i> module.</p> <p>The student will determine his or her own learning pattern. Each student will be guided by a suitably qualified supervisor. Once a student has been allocated a supervisor, he/she will agree upon a dissertation type and topic with their supervisor. There will then be periodic contact with that supervisor, during which time the student will report on the development of the research proposal into a formal plan of research, the review of existing literature and other information sources, data acquisition and analysis, and the development of discussions and a conclusion (or recommendations).</p> <p>Students will be actively encouraged to make themselves familiar with the study skills web pages and in particular to read widely around the subject matter. Active use will be made of the Blackboard facilities.</p>																									
Key Information Sets Information	<p>Key Information Sets (KIS) are produced at programme level for all programmes that this module contributes to, which is a requirement set by HESA/HEFCE. KIS are comparable sets of standardised information about undergraduate courses allowing prospective students to compare and contrast between programmes they are interested in applying for.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1335 1362 1742"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Key Information Set - Module data</th> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5">Number of credits for this module</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4"></td> <td style="border: 2px solid black; text-align: center;">50</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Hours to be allocated</th> <th>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</th> <th>Independent study hours</th> <th>Placement study hours</th> <th>Allocated Hours</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a -</p> <p>Written Exam: Unseen written exam, open book written exam, In-class test Coursework: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project Practical Exam: Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam</p> <p>Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section</p>	Key Information Set - Module data					Number of credits for this module									50	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	500	0	500	0	500
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	<p>of this module description:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total assessment of the module:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Written exam assessment percentage</td> <td></td> <td>0%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td></td> <td>100%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practical exam assessment percentage</td> <td></td> <td>0%</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table>	Total assessment of the module:				Written exam assessment percentage		0%		Coursework assessment percentage		100%		Practical exam assessment percentage		0%					100%
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Reading Strategy	<p>Students will be encouraged to make full use of the print and electronic resources available to them through membership of the University. These include a range of electronic journals and a wide variety of resources available through web sites and information gateways. The University Library's web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services, and to the library catalogue. Many resources can be accessed remotely. Students will be presented with opportunities within the curriculum to develop their information retrieval and evaluation skills in order to identify such resources effectively.</p> <p>Students will be provided with access to various data sources and encouraged to make full use of them.</p> <p>Because of the diversity of topics and research methods, there is no core text. However, if students wish to purchase a generic research methods text, an indicative list is provided in the Research Methods module (UMAC3Y-10-M).</p> <p>Students will be expected to utilise a range of reading and other materials to undertake further independent research to extend their familiarity and appreciation of the subject. To this end, extensive use will be made of Blackboard, additionally, students will also be encouraged to utilise the study skills web pages</p>																				
Indicative Reading List	Not applicable																				

Part 3: Assessment	
Assessment Strategy	<p>Students are assessed in a summative manner on their performance in the 12,000 – 15,000 word dissertation submitted. Formative feedback will be provided through supervisor meetings at various stages in the dissertation process.</p> <p>Students are required to produce a dissertation proposal as part of their assessment in the corresponding Research Methods module (UMAC3Y-10-M) where they are assessed at an early stage in the research process with regard to their research planning skills in preparation for the final project completion.</p>

Identify final assessment component and element	Component A		
		A:	B:

	100%
First Sit	
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. 12,000 – 15,000 word individual project	100%
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Resubmission of revised 12,000 – 15,000 word individual project	100%
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
<p>If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the University Regulations and Procedures, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.</p>	