CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Quantitative Research Methods					
Module Code	UMEDBK-15-M		Level	M	Version	1.1
Owning Faculty	FBL		Field	Economics		
Contributes towards	MSc Finance					
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5	Module Type	Project	
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements			
First CAP Approval Date	26/7/12		Valid from	1 September 2012		
Revision CAP Approval Date	26 March 2015		Revised with effect from	September 2015		

Review Date	1 September 2018

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: • Engage in basic quantitative and qualitative research (A1,A2) • Appreciate, compare and contrast the key techniques of qualitative and quantitative analysis (A1,A2) • Understand and critically evaluate the relationship between theory, research approach and method(A1,A2) • Critically review the key literature in the relevant area (A2) • Employ and critically appraise a limited range of statistical and econometric research technique (A1,A2) • Engage in the planning of a structured independent research project and be able to communicate and write up the results of that project (A2) • Construct and test hypotheses pertinent to a given research question (A2) • Perform basic statistical and econometric analyses using standard statistical packages (A1,A2) • Understand and take into full account the ethical context of a research project (A2) • Explore and analyse financial data within a statistical package (A1)
Syllabus Outline	• Introduction to research methods in finance • The ethical context of research • Developing a research proposal and planning a research project • Literature and database search and literature review • An introduction to qualitative research methods

	• Essential statistics for quantitative research • Developing and testing research hypotheses • Univariate and multivariate linear regression models • Time-series models and panel data • Limited dependent variables • Event studies
Contact Hours/Scheduled Hours	Students will receive 3 hours of scheduled contact per week, one 2 hour lectorial and a 1 hour workshop.
Teaching and Learning Methods	The aim of the module is to provide students with the research training sufficient to produce a quality quantitative *Finance Dissertation*. It provides students with an introduction to a range of techniques. Students will be introduced first to the broader research methods required to complete a Master dissertation. The module then focuses on the quantitative techniques required to underpin the *Finance Dissertation*, though also briefly reviews some basic qualitative research techniques. The teaching style gives emphasis to the application of quantitative techniques from a 'user perspective'. 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. **Scheduled learning** includes lectures, practical classes and workshops **Independent learning** includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion
Key Information Sets Information	**Key Information Set - Module data**

Key Information Set - Module data

Number of credits for this module				15	

Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	
150	36	114	0	150	✅

The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a -

Coursework: Written report

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 of this module description:

		Total assessment of the module:		
		Written exam assessment percentage		0%
		Coursework assessment percentage		100%
		Practical exam assessment percentage		0%
				100%

Reading Strategy	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. There is no core text as such, as the module draws upon a range of research methods fields. However, if students wish to purchase a generic text on research methods, • Saunders, M. Lewis, P. and Thornhill, A. (2012) Research Methods for Business Students 6th edition, Pearson: Harlow is recommended . For an excellent reference on quantitative techniques • Hill, R.C. Griffiths, W.E. and Lim, G.C. (2012) Principles of Econometrics 4th edition, John Wiley is recommended. Students will be provided with access to and guidance on the use of various data sources and encouraged to make full use of them. 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 and to help them prepare for the in-course assessment. To this end, extensive use will be made of Blackboard, additionally, students will also be encouraged to utilise the Library study skills website.
Indicative Reading List	*The following list is offered to provide validation panels/accrediting bodies with an indication of the type and level of information students may be expected to consult. As such, its currency may wane during the life span of the module specification. However, as indicated above, CURRENT advice on readings will be available via other more frequently updated mechanisms.* • Brooks, C. (2014) Introductory Econometrics for Finance 3rd edition, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge • Griffiths, W.E. Hill, R.C. and Lim, G.C. 2012, Using Eviews for Principles of Econometrics 4th edition, John Wiley: Chichester • Ryan, R.J., Scapens, R.W., and Theobald, M., (2002) Research Methods and Methodology in Finance and Accounting, 2nd edition, Thomson Learning: London • Bryman, A. and Bell, E., (2002) Business Research Methods, 2nd edition, Oxford University Press: Oxford

Part 3: Assessment	
Assessment Strategy	The student is assessed in a formative manner in the tutorial setting where they will tackle various issues in the field of applied quantitative finance research methods and engage in some basic empirical research tasks. In terms of summative assessment, there are two tasks required. The first task requires students to use financial data and carry out relevant

	quantitative analyses and discuss the outputs in the quantitative analysis report (1,500 words). The second task requires students to produce a research proposal for a topic of their choice and on an area of finance which may be the topic they will pursue for their Finance Dissertation (1,500 words).

Identify final assessment component and element	**Component A, Element 2**	

% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	**A:** **100%**	**B:**

First Sit	

Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Quantitative report (1,500 words)	60%
2. Production of a research proposal (1,500 words)	40%
Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. N/A	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. Quantitative report (1,500 words)	60%
2. Production of a research proposal (1,500 words)	40%
Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. N/A	

If a student is permitted a retake of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.