



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Contemporary Issues in Banking and Finance		
Module Code	UMEDFT-30-3	Level	Level 6
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Business & Law	Field	Economics
Department	FBL Dept of Accounting Economics & Finance		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	Principles and Practice of Banking 2020-21		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Outline Syllabus: An indicative outline of topics and themes on this module includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversification of banking activities Management of risks in banking Global regulation of banks Differences in banking structures in key economies: UK, USA, Japan and EU Structural differences between developed and emerging banking sectors Competitive issues in banking Bank failures Causes, consequences, and regulatory responses to recent financial crises

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The eurozone banking union

Relevant case studies

Career opportunities in the financial industry and beyond.

The module is designed to be flexible and therefore the indicative topics merely reflect issues that are current at present.

Teaching and Learning Methods: Core Contact: Lectures and Seminars

Lectures will focus on core material, with a particular focus on theory and its application. They may also involve specialist expert speakers, including those working in the financial sector. Most seminars will focus on investigating and practising the lecture material. Students will prepare answers in advance or in the seminar, either working individually or in small groups. Help, explanations and answers will be given in the workshop and/or through Blackboard. Interactive lectures and discussion-based seminars facilitate critical thinking and help to develop good presentation skills.

Supporting Employability:

The module provides content which may prove highly valuable for students in their later careers. Knowledge and understanding of contemporary issues in modern financial intermediation, as well as research skills developed in connection with the preparation of assessed individual coursework contribute to transferable skills. The module also requires debate and presentation, further enhancing employability skills. In conjunction with the UWE Careers Service, students will be encouraged to take a self-directed approach to their personal development and career planning. This may further be supported by invited guest speakers from the financial industry.

Additional Contact:

In addition staff will be available during the semester during their office hours for face to face meetings. Queries and extended discussions with staff can also be approached virtually through e-mail.

Other Support (on-line):

Extensive use will be made of Blackboard for weekly guided independent study work; to support students' learning; to facilitate interactions between students e.g. for group project work and to provide feedback with quizzes and forums.

Students will also be directed towards the University Library online Study Skills resources for the development of skills appropriate to the level and style of the module. In addition a number of e-learning resources will also be used:

The Study Skills website at <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/studysupport/studyskills.aspx>

Workshops for information retrieval and referencing.

Learn Higher

Also, of particular importance for learning will be online resources from the websites of major central banks and bank regulatory bodies such as the Bank of England, European Central Bank, the Federal Reserve Bank and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) of the US, and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

www.bankofengland.co.uk

www.ecb.europa.eu

www.federalreserve.gov/

<http://www.fdic.gov/>

<http://www.bis.org/index.htm>

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Other useful online learning resources include various dedicated important business, banking, finance and economics websites and data sources such as:

www.bloomberg.com

Bankscope, the Economist and the Financial Times, available from the UWE library web pages.

This is a long and thin module, implying it will run across two semesters. The module delivery will be based on 3 hours of scheduled learning and teaching activities per teaching week. 1 hour a week will be 'whole-group' work, e.g. lectures and/or external speakers. The other 2 hours will be seminars.

Part 3: Assessment

Summative Assessment

This module uses a mixture of formative and summative assessments. They are designed to allow students to demonstrate their competence in dealing with various advanced topics in the area of banking and finance contained in the module programme. Formative assessment takes various forms and will occur in interactive lectures as well as discussion-based seminars; it may also include peer feedback on informal activities. Summative assessment will be multi-faceted. It is designed to provide a balance between controlled conditions (end of year examination), and non-controlled assessment methods (e.g. essays). The examination will be based on the topics addressed and will reward, in particular, critical analysis and application. The two essays provide an opportunity for students to develop and display a deeper understanding of the module content through further reading; they will also give an opportunity for timely formative feedback, which can be auctioned upon.

Component A:

Component A consists of an online examination. It will assess students' knowledge of core material and their ability to apply it to real world scenarios.

Component B:

Component B1 and B2 are two separate essays designed to assess the students' understanding of the complex and dynamic nature of contemporary banking and their ability to apply acquired knowledge and analytical skills in new and unfamiliar contexts. Independent work on assessed essays helps to develop writing skills which will be of use when writing reports of different nature for various audiences and purposes. In particular, to promote reflective thinking on career planning, students will also be asked to reflect upon ethical dilemmas and challenges in the practice of contemporary banking in B1.

Component B3 Group Presentation

Attaining and practising presentation skills is an important part of the learning process and helps to prepare students for future employment. All students are required to give one presentation. Presentations will be based on a list of pre-announced papers. Each presentation group will give a presentation summarising and critically analysing one paper. Students not presenting will be required to complete a feedback form. These forms provide a useful peer-review feedback mechanism.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Project - Component B		20 %	Written Project 2 (2000 words)
Project - Component B		20 %	Written Project 1 (2000 words)
Presentation - Component B		10 %	Presentation - group presentation , individually marked, submitted online

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Examination (Online) - Component A	✓	50 %	Online Examination (Maximum 2500 words) undertaken in a 24 hour window
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Project - Component B		25 %	Written project 1 (2000 words)
Project - Component B		25 %	Written project 2 (2000 words)
Examination (Online) - Component A	✓	50 %	Online Examination (Maximum 2500 words) undertaken in a 48 hour window

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods																			
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Module Learning Outcomes</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Reference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Critically evaluate the role of banks in the economic process in terms of their functioning and operation</td> <td>MO1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Demonstrate an understanding of the theory and practice of modern banking in major industrialised countries</td> <td>MO2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Discuss key financial risks faced by banks and critically analyse different approaches to risk management</td> <td>MO3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Analyse the causes of financial sector underdevelopment in emerging markets and contrast structural differences between developed and emerging financial markets.</td> <td>MO4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Critically analyse the impact of globalisation and free movement of capital on financial sector development and the real economic activity</td> <td>MO5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Explain the expansion of banks into non-banking financial services, including derivatives products, and critically evaluate consequences of this expansion in the context of current global financial crisis</td> <td>MO6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Analyse the causes of bank failures and explain importance of micro and macro prudential regulation in their mitigation</td> <td>MO7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reflect critically on the ethical dilemmas and challenges in the practice of contemporary banking, and develop personal resilience and reflexive self-awareness skills to achieve career goals</td> <td>MO8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Learning Outcomes	Reference	Critically evaluate the role of banks in the economic process in terms of their functioning and operation	MO1	Demonstrate an understanding of the theory and practice of modern banking in major industrialised countries	MO2	Discuss key financial risks faced by banks and critically analyse different approaches to risk management	MO3	Analyse the causes of financial sector underdevelopment in emerging markets and contrast structural differences between developed and emerging financial markets.	MO4	Critically analyse the impact of globalisation and free movement of capital on financial sector development and the real economic activity	MO5	Explain the expansion of banks into non-banking financial services, including derivatives products, and critically evaluate consequences of this expansion in the context of current global financial crisis	MO6	Analyse the causes of bank failures and explain importance of micro and macro prudential regulation in their mitigation	MO7	Reflect critically on the ethical dilemmas and challenges in the practice of contemporary banking, and develop personal resilience and reflexive self-awareness skills to achieve career goals	MO8
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Reading List	<p><i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i></p> <p>https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umedft-30-3.html</p>
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Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Banking and Finance {Top-Up} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Banking and Finance [Sep][FT][NEU][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19

Banking and Finance [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19