



Module Specification

Contemporary Issues in Banking and Finance

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Contemporary Issues in Banking and Finance

Module code: UMEDFT-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Business & Law

Department: FBL Dept of Accounting Economics & Finance

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Not in use for Modules

Field: Economics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: Principles and Practice of Banking 2023-24

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline syllabus: An indicative outline of topics and themes on this module includes:

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

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.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

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>

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.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Compare, contrast, and assess the theories, evidence, procedures, and practices required for the effective governance and risk management of financial institutions incorporating multiple economics and financial approaches.

MO2 Critically review the complexities of the globally integrated financial systems and financial structures of different countries.

MO3 Apply critical thinking skills to develop informed arguments and propose evidence-based solutions in defined contexts.

MO4 Work effectively as a member of a team and present in a professional manner.

MO5 Reflect critically on the ethical dilemmas and challenges in the practice of contemporary finance, including the issues of social injustice and the transition to a sustainable economic future for all.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 66 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umedft-30-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umedft-30-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: 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 actioned upon.

Task 1 consists of an online examination. It will assess students' knowledge of core material and their ability to apply it to real world scenarios.

Tasks 2 and 3 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, students will also be asked to reflect upon ethical dilemmas and challenges in the practice of contemporary banking.

Task 4 Group Presentation (5%) (20mins)

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.

Task 5 Debate (5%)

Students will take part in one assessed debate on a current policy-relevant topic. Two teams will be required to take opposing sides on a topic provided in advance. The teams take turns in a structured format to raise points in favour of their side of the argument or to rebut points raised by the opposing side.

Assessment components:**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Presentation - group presentation

Weighting: 5 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO3

Project (First Sit)

Description: Written Project 2 (2000 words)

Weighting: 20 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Project (First Sit)

Description: Written Project 1 (2000 words)

Weighting: 20 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Examination (Online) (First Sit)

Description: Online Examination (Maximum 2500 words) undertaken in a 24 hour window

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Debate

Weighting: 5 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

Project (Resit)

Description: Written project 1 (2000 words)

Weighting: 20 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Project (Resit)

Description: Written project 2 (2000 words)

Weighting: 20 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Examination (Online) (Resit)

Description: Online Examination (Maximum 2500 words) undertaken in a 48 hour window

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Group presentation (groups of one permitted where necessary)

Weighting: 5 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Debate

Weighting: 5 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested:

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Banking and Finance [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Banking and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Banking and Finance [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2020-21

Banking and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons)
2020-21

Banking and Finance [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Banking and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20