



Module Specification

Global Finance and Banking

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Global Finance and Banking

Module code: UMETAJ-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Business School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Economics

Module type:

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The module introduces economics students to traditional and alternative theories of finance to conduct in-depth analysis on financial markets and institutions and appreciate the role of financial sector in economic development. Neo-classical view of finance will be contrasted and compared with critical finance theory to develop a holistic and critical understanding of finance. A wide range of case studies from developed and emerging market economies will be employed to highlight key regional differences in international banking and the evolution of international

financial system. Technological advancements with material impact on banking and finance will be discussed to ensure the currency of students' understanding on topics such as green finance, open banking, and crypto finance.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module is part of the finance stream. The material applies microeconomic and macroeconomic analysis that students have gained at level 4 and 5 to financial phenomena. For example, students apply microeconomic analysis to problems of asset price formation and use macroeconomic tools to analyse how credit cycles and business cycles interact. Financial institutions are explored in detail, and particular attention is given to international banking and to the monetary system. Case studies are used to explore the significance of institutional detail for the behaviour of financial phenomena and the power of policies to intervene in financial processes.

The module is pluralist, drawing on a range of ideas across neoclassical, behavioural and Minskian approaches to finance. For example, the teaching of stock valuation will start with standard pricing models such as capital asset pricing model so that students have the skills to conduct fundamental analysis. Then they will be introduced to the limitations of arbitrage and resultant asset bubbles before learning about behavioural finance models formally. The final topic empowers students to critically compare and evaluate each approach as applied to important topics, for example development finance, green finance, crypto finance.

Outline syllabus: The indicative content of the module is listed below.

Topic 1 Economics of International Financial Markets

Interest rates, bond pricing, Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), Dividend Discount Model (DDM), Efficient Market Hypothesis, exchange rate determination, risk management using financial derivatives.

Topic 2 Financial Institutions (including the global banks)

Comparative financial institutions; Evolution and operation of international financial and monetary system, global banking, global markets.

Topic 3 Critical Perspectives on Contemporary Issues

Limits to arbitrage and behavioural perspectives; macroeconomic perspectives – Minsky, critical finance; power and stability in the global financial and monetary

system; choice of exchange rate regime, capital mobility and monetary policy; green finance; crypto finance.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Module delivery will comprise a combination of lectures and workshops, which together will include a variety of learning activities including real-time case study explorations and group discussion in addition to the presentation and practise of key theory.

The workshops initiate students into the 3P (Prepare, Participate and Practise) approach to learning. Before attending the workshops, students will need to prepare. This will involve reviewing the previous week's lecture material; making use of office hours and/or emailing the lecturer if there was something they didn't understand; doing the reading attached to that lecture; looking further into aspects of the material they personally found interesting, including finding real world examples to introduce into class discussion. During the workshops students will be expected to participate. This will mean engaging in group exercises in research and debate on extension topics, and in preparation for future topics. Students will also practise material already covered, completing exercises written by lecturers. Completion of the exercises will prepare students for the assignments. Students will have several opportunities to engage in professional simulations prior to submitting their summative assessment piece.

Staff will be available during their office hours for individual meetings. Queries and extended discussions with staff can also be approached virtually through e-mail and through the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment). Extensive use will be made of the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) for weekly guided independent study work.

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

MO1 Apply the principles of economics to analyse the determination of asset prices with an international perspective.

MO2 Evaluate the evolution of the international financial system and how its structure affects monetary policy.

MO3 Critically apply financial approaches to important contemporary policy issues.

MO4 Effectively communicate the results of critical financial analysis in professional scenarios, to influence investment decision-making.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module assesses technical competencies and applications of finance theories through a professional practice report while critical understanding and evaluation of finance and banking policies and innovations are assessed through an online examination.

Task 1: Professional Practice Report (50%)

A 1500 word professional practice report assessing the knowledge and skills in conducting fundamental analysis of a selection of financial securities.

Task 2: Examination (50%)

An online examination with a combination of discussion questions covering topics on a wide range of contemporary issues in international banking and finance. Duration - 3 hours in a 24-hour window.

Formative feedback is provided in tutorials and office hours in both semesters.

Assessment tasks:

Professional Practice Report (First Sit)

Description: A 1500-word professional practice report assessing the knowledge and skills in conducting fundamental analysis of a selection of financial securities.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Examination (Online) (First Sit)

Description: Online exam (3 hours within a 24-hour window). The exam is designed to assess students' knowledge and skills on a wide range of topics related to international banking and finance. There will be a list of discussion questions for students to choose from.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Professional Practice Report (Resit)

Description: A 1500-word professional practice report assessing the knowledge and skills in conducting fundamental analysis of a selection of financial securities.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Examination (Online) (Resit)

Description: Online examination (3 hours within a 24-hour period). Like the examination in the main run, the resit examination includes a combination of discussion questions on a wide range of topics.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Economics {Foundation}[Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Economics {Dual} [Taylors] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Economics [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26