



CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Financial Institutions and Markets				
Module Code	UMED8H-30-1	Level	1	Version	1
Owning Faculty	FBL	Field	Economics		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Banking & Finance				
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15	Module Type	Standard
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None	
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements		
Valid From	1 September 2012		Valid to		

CAP Approval Date	23/4/12
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the main functions of the different financial institutions and markets studied (Component A) 2. Understand the ways in which these different financial institutions and markets interact with one another (Component A) 3. Utilise key financial concepts such as risk, return, liquidity, etc. (Component A, component B1) 4. Understand the uses of different types of financial instrument (Component A, component B1) 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the application of relevant financial theories and models (Component A, component B1) 6. Explain and evaluate the implications of financial globalization for firms, individuals and national economies (Component A, B2) 7. Plan, prepare and reflect on their preferred future careers (Component B2)
Syllabus Outline	<p>An indicative outline of topics is listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the financial systems in a developed economy. • Banks and Building Societies: the role of commercial banking in the economy; • The Money & Equity markets: Government bonds; Debentures and Shares. • The central bank's role in providing liquidity to the financial sector. • Insurance and insurance companies; pensions and pension funds. • Institutional investors; collective investment unit and investment trusts. • The Eurocurrency markets; credit ratings and credit rating agencies.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venture capital and private equity; sovereign wealth funds. • Financial globalisation and the impact of sovereign wealth funds. • Employment opportunities in the financial sector and beyond.
Contact Hours/Scheduled Hours	Module delivery will be based on 6 hours of scheduled learning and teaching activities per teaching week. 3 hours a week will be 'whole-group' work, e.g. lectures or external speakers. The other 3 hours will be seminars.
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>Core contact: Lectures & 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.</p> <p>Supporting Employability In conjunction with the UWE Careers Service, at least one session per week (either as a lecture or seminar) will facilitate students to take a self-directed approach to their personal development and career planning.</p> <p>Additional Contact In addition staff will be available during the semester during their office hours (2 hours a week) for face to face meetings. Queries and extended discussions with staff can also be approached virtually through e-mail.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MySkills Study Skills website at http://www.uwe.ac.uk/library/resources/hub/ [Of particular interest will be the pages on 'Being a student at level 1'] http://www.uwe.ac.uk/library/resources/bbs-study-skills/student/level1.htm • Skills4study (s4s) as part of the MySkills resource [Academic reading and note making; Critical thinking; Academic writing; Referencing and plagiarism] • iSkillzone http://iskillzone.uwe.ac.uk [workshops for information retrieval, referencing, evaluation skills and literature reviewing http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/help.aspx] • Learn Higher http://www.learnhigher.ac.uk/Students.html
Reading Strategy	<p>All 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 websites and information gateways. The University Library web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services and to the library catalogue. Many of these 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 directed and expected to undertake reading throughout the module. However, depending upon specific topics addressed over the course of the module, students will be expected to undertake additional reading for</p>

	<p>themselves. A list of indicative textbooks and relevant journals is provided below but students are expected to recognise that these may be starting points only and that they should extend their reading as widely as is necessary to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge.</p> <p>Blackboard – This module is supported by Blackboard, where students will be able to find all necessary module documentation, including guidance on Further Reading within the module handbook/outline. Direct links to information resources will also be provided from within Blackboard</p> <p>UWE Libraries – Engagement with online resources available through the library will be a core requirement of this module. This includes mySkills/iSkills zone, and the Skills4Study resources (see above).</p>
<p>Indicative Reading List</p>	<p>Students will be directed towards useful foundational texts to which they could refer, these include the following.</p> <p>Pilbeam, K. (2010) <i>Finance and Financial Markets</i>, 3rd edition, Palgrave.</p> <p>Howells, P and Bain, K (2009), <i>Financial Markets and Institutions</i>, 5th ed, Pearson.</p> <p>Arnold, G. (2011) <i>Modern Financial Markets and institutions</i>, Pearson.</p> <p>Mishkin, F, Eakins, S (2011) <i>Financial Markets and Institutions</i>, Pearson.</p> <p>In addition, students will be provided with a wide variety of written, audio and video texts that will be taken from journal articles, national and international newspapers and websites. Journal articles will be available electronically, or in the library. Module guides will also reflect the range of reading to be carried out. Students are also strongly recommended to read a daily newspaper with a serious business finance section, such as <i>The Financial Times (FT)</i>, <i>Guardian</i>, <i>Telegraph</i> or <i>Times</i>.</p> <p>Academic and Practitioner Journals http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-financial-economics/ http://cje.oxfordjournals.org/</p> <p>Websites: www.bloomberg.com www.reuters.com www.bankofengland.co.uk www.fsa.gov.uk www.dmo.gov.uk www.obr.gov.uk www.investorchronicle.co.uk</p>
<p>Part 3: Assessment</p>	
<p>Assessment Strategy</p>	<p>Summative assessment</p> <p>There are three different assessments for the module. Two are designed to allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the module's topics and content, and one is designed to enable and encourage students to reflect on their career and development needs.</p> <p>Component A: Consists of a 3 hour examination (conducted under controlled conditions) which will assess students' knowledge of core material and their ability to apply it to real cases.</p> <p>Component B: Component B consists of two elements:</p> <p>Component B1 is a 1,500 word essay/report again designed to assess the students' knowledge of core material and their ability to apply it to real cases. The title and topic will be announced at the beginning of the course to enable</p>

students time to conduct independent research relating to the topic.

Component B2 at the end of the module students are required to submit a career development portfolio including a self-evaluation and identification of development needs with respect to their preferred future (note here that students will be expected to retain this portfolio and reflect on their progress in the second year of the degree). The portfolio is likely to include the following sections:

1. Job history (including voluntary work) and CV
2. Skills audit and evidence
3. Transferable skills audit and evidence
4. Academic transcript and marks to date
5. Action plan and personal targets (career & academic)

Both elements of Component B will be submitted electronically and made available to each student's personal tutor.

Formative Assessment:

1. Students will be offered the opportunity to self-evaluate their knowledge and comprehension of the module's core concepts and topics using question banks drawn from various sources.
2. In addition students will be encouraged to reflect on their academic progress through regular attendance at lectures and seminars, and regular engagement with the prompts and questions found in their Career Development Portfolio.

Identify final assessment component and element	Component A	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	50%	50%
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting	
1. Examination (3 hours)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting	
1. Essay (1,500 words).	80%	
2. Career Development Portfolio	20%	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting	
1. Examination (3 hours)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting	
1. An essay from selected topics of 2,000 words in length.	80%	
2. Career development portfolio	20%	
If a student is permitted an EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.		