

## **MSC ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE (ACCA EMBEDDED)**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6011

**TITLE:** Corporate Finance

**CREDITS:** 3

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The modern corporation faces fierce competition not only in the product markets but the capital markets as well. The modern corporations must compete relentlessly with a plethora of competitors for the available pool of capital. The ability to consistently create value for investors is critical if a firm is to attract and retain the capital it needs to survive and prosper. This course describes the corporation and its operating environment, the manner in which corporate boards and management evaluate investment opportunities, arrangements for financing such investments and the development of financial risk management strategies. As such, the course provides students with an analytical framework for determining the intrinsic value of a corporation and to assess the effectiveness of corporate management in maximizing that value.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6028

**TITLE:** Strategic Business Reporting

**CREDITS:** 3

#### **DESCRIPTION**

This course will seek to explore, apply and evaluate the concepts, principles and practices involved in the preparation and interpretation of corporate reports in diverse contexts. Students will assess financial reporting from both the perspective of the preparer and from the perspective of various stakeholders such as finance providers. Moreover, this course will develop students' understanding of the IASB's Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting, and it will enable students to use the Framework as a basis for judgment in applying International Financial Reporting Standards in corporate reports. The course will also address current developments in financial reporting and the implications of any potential changes

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6029

**TITLE:** Strategic Business Leader

**CREDITS:** 3

#### **DESCRIPTION**

This course will focus on leadership within the organisation through the examination of factors such as qualities of leadership, leadership and organisational culture as well as professionalism and ethical responsibilities. Additionally, the course will analyse various aspects of governance including agency, stakeholder analysis and social responsibility, and public sector governance. In this course, students will be introduced to the importance of strategy and risk management, and the role that technology and data analytics play in today's business world. Moreover, the course will cover topics such as organisational control and audit, financial decision making in the organisation, and innovation and change management.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6030

**TITLE:** Advanced Financial Management

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This course will assess a number of factors in advanced financial management including: the role and responsibility of senior executives/advisors, financial strategy formulation, ethical governance issues, management of international trade and finance, strategic business and financial planning for multinationals. Furthermore, the course will cover topics such as: discounted cash flow techniques, application of option pricing theory in investment decisions, international investment and financing decisions, acquisitions and mergers, financial reconstruction, and the role of the treasury function in multinationals.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6031

**TITLE:** Advanced Performance Management

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This course will equip students with knowledge and skills they need to devise and execute plans of action for the control and management of performance in an organisation. Moreover, this course will introduce students to key issues and applied methodologies related to strategic management accounting such as performance management, information management, and financial risk assessment. Topics to be covered include performance management and control of the organization, the impact of risk and uncertainty on performance management, performance management information systems, strategic performance measures, and strategic performance issues in complex business structures.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6032

**TITLE:** Advanced Audit and Assurance

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This course will focus on the legal and regulatory environment within auditing including topics such as money laundering and professional and ethical considerations. It will focus the on processes and procedures involved in practice management including quality control, and the acceptance and retention of professional engagements. This course will explore financial statement auditing including planning and documenting evidence in addition to evidence evaluation and review and reporting on an audit of historical information. Furthermore, topics such as due diligence, forensic auditing, and current issues and developments will be discussed.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6033

**TITLE:** Advanced Taxation

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This course builds on the basic knowledge of core taxes, while introducing students to stamp taxes. This course will examine topics such as income tax, corporation tax, capital gains tax and inheritance tax on a more advanced level. Furthermore, the course will examine other international aspects of taxation, the taxation of trusts and additional exemptions and reliefs. It will enable students to interpret and analyse information provided and communicate these findings in a manner appropriate to the intended audience.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6034

**TITLE:** Research Project

**CREDITS:** 6

**DESCRIPTION**

This course involves the development of business research skills and their application to real world accounting/finance related issues. Students will apply research skills to the collection and analysis of data within a simulated accounting/finance related scenario. This will require students to identify and analyse data and information in relation to business challenges, researching alternative solutions, and applying a judgement based on assessment of the evidence. Students will be provided with guidance and advice throughout the entire research process.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6035

**TITLE:** International Tax

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

International taxation is one of the most exciting and fastest growing areas of tax practice. This course examines the tax and business issues faced by businesses seeking to expand operations across international boundaries. The course focuses on US, UK and Canadian tax legislation and considers the US tax treatment of businesses investing abroad and the US taxation of inbound foreign investment.

**COURSE CODE:** FINA 6001

**TITLE:** Behavioural Finance

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

Behavioral Finance is an area that combines both behavioral and cognitive psychological theory with conventional finance principles in order to better understand how individuals make financial decisions. This course will provide an in-depth overview of the efficient market hypothesis and will consider alternative models in decision making, specifically the Prospect Theory. The psychological biases that arise in decision making will also be examined, as well as the role of herding and the limits to arbitrage. Additionally, the course will explain how behavioral theories can be used to explain market anomalies.

**COURSE CODE:** FINA 6002

**TITLE:** Financial Analysis and Modelling

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

Financial Analysis and Modelling is designed provide an understanding of how businesses assess and forecast their financial performance. As such, the emphasis of this course is on the practical application of finance theory and on the provision of the knowledge, tools and techniques needed to implement various financial models. Some of the topics that will be covered include, but are not limited to, simple regression, multiple regression, VAR, ARCH and GARCH techniques and the techniques of determining the existence of unit roots. By the end of this course, students will be able to develop simple financial models that can be applied to analyse and solve financial problems.

**COURSE CODE:** FINA 6003

**TITLE:** Entrepreneurial Finance

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This course will introduce students to the methods used to assess business plans as well as the methods used to identify and value business ventures and growth opportunities. It will also focus on the acquisition of financial resources and it will examine a myriad of instruments (e.g. venture capital) used by entrepreneurial firms to fund business ventures. Moreover, students will learn how the financing process of a new venture works from the inception of the idea to harvesting investments. Students will also engage in practical application of material through negotiations, development of business plans and evaluation of real-world business ventures.

**COURSE CODE:** FINA 6004

**TITLE:** Financial Econometrics

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

Financial analysis utilizes econometrics and statistical methods to the problems encountered in financial markets and the financial industry in general. Financial institutions as well as regulatory agencies all use the tools of financial econometrics to make financial decisions, which involve the analysis of vast amounts of data on asset returns, volatilities, and other financial variables in both long and high frequency domains. The ability to analyse agent's behaviours and financial market reactions requires knowledge of time series properties as well as appropriate estimation methods. This course aims at extending students' knowledge in financial analysis and equip them with methods and techniques that allow them professionally to analyse financial aspects relevant to financial institutions, markets and industry.

**COURSE CODE:** FINA 6100

**TITLE:** Advanced Financial Engineering

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

Financial engineering utilizes mathematical and statistical methods to the problems encountered in finance. Financial institutions (e.g. investment banks, commercial banks and insurance companies) as well as regulatory agencies all utilize the tools of financial engineering. Students will be introduced to the tools used in financial engineering, which should help them to drive innovation and efficiency in their business or industry.

**COURSE CODE:** FINA 6130

**TITLE:** Advanced Corporate Finance

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

Building on the concepts presented in ACCT 6011 Corporate Finance, this course will enable students to develop the necessary knowledge of more advanced and specialized decision situations in the areas of corporate investment and financing. Specifically, it will enable students to apply knowledge about the cost of capital and asset valuation and develop valuation techniques such as ratios as used in acquisitions or mergers. This course will also evaluate cases on capital investments and the design of optimal capital structures. Most importantly, the relevance of the tools and concepts presented in this course to finance and other related sectors, will be discussed.

**COURSE CODE:** IMGT 6212

**TITLE:** International Finance

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to the international markets in which firms operate by facilitating a comprehensive understanding of the important international economic factors that affect multinational organisations. Furthermore, this course will focus on three focal, related macroeconomics issues in open economies: exchange rates, capital flows and financial crises. This approach will enable students to critically evaluate relevant economic theories, models and empirical works in the aforementioned areas of international finance. Additionally, students will be able to apply these analytical tools to better understand the economic developments and policy issues in the global markets. This course will address topics such as: exchange rate determination in open economy models, the nature of foreign exchange risk, exchange rate volatility, international investment, balance of payments, international business cycles transmission in general equilibrium models, exporter dynamics, short and long run adjustments of trade flows, determinants of international capital flows, and multinational production..

**COURSE CODE:** MGMT 6901

**TITLE:** Research Methods for Business

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION**

This Research Methods for Business and Social Sciences course will expose graduate students of different Social Sciences disciplines to the fundamental principles of research. It will integrate relevant material and topics from other courses in the programme, so that students can have the opportunity to apply statistical methods and techniques within a domain most relevant to their areas of study. Content areas will include: how to write research questions, literature reviews, data collection and analysis, and report writing. The course will be delivered using student-centered approaches that will focus on the application of relevant concepts and principles to practical business situations. It is intended to equip students with knowledge, skills and competencies necessary for good decision making in a competitive environment.

**COURSE CODE:** ACCT 6991

**TITLE:** Ethics and Professional Skills Workshop

**CREDITS:** Not for Credit

**DESCRIPTION**

This Ethics and Professional Skills workshop will assess students' ethical and professional decision making and behaviour through a series of real-world business scenarios. Each topic discussed in the workshop is designed to equip students with the skills set needed to function as finance professionals, particularly through the development of problem-solving skills, digital skills as well as communication and negotiation skills.