Summer School Programme

COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

Course title: Accounting for Decision Makers Summer School
Academic Course Director: Jeremy Fernando
Category: Finance
Code: AFSSC
Direct contact hours: 45 hours
Academic level: Equivalent to an undergraduate course
Suggested credit level: 3 - 4 US credits / 7.5 ECTS’s*

*A student’s home institution will determine how much credit is awarded.

COURSE AIMS

The aim of this course is to develop certain accounting related skills, by explaining the techniques of financial accounting and management accounting, and examining their relevance to the broader issues of financial decision-making and management control in organizations.

The course gives students a basic insight into the way that business performance is measured, and how business decisions can be structured and analysed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Knowledge Objectives

This is an introductory course. Students are expected to develop a basic, but not detailed knowledge of:

- Balance sheets and profit & loss accounts
- The valuation of assets and liabilities
- Financial ratios and how these can be used to analyse performance of the company as a whole
- Cash flow statements
- Cost concepts and costing systems
- Analytical techniques available for economic decisions in business enterprises and other informational requirements
- Budgeting and performance measurement at the operational level

Skills Objectives

The course will facilitate the student development of:

- Interpretative skills in relation to accounting information including a critical attitude to its value and limitations
- Computational and analytical skills in relation to the use of accounting data to facilitate decisions concerning the operation of, and investment in, production systems, and the design and production of products or services

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the module student will be able to:

- Identify the major issues raised by financial and costing accounting data
- Take an effective involvement in business operations

TEACHING SCHEDULE

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<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>4 x 3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
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<td>6 x 2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examination</td>
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<td>1 x 1.5 hours</td>
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Guest speakers and academic excursions complete the programme. Students will be expected to attend these as well as complete over 50 hours of independent study.

TEACHING METHODS

The course will be delivered by a mix of face-to-face lectures and workshops. Materials will be made available through the Business School’s bespoke online learning environment, the Hub.

Workshops will use case studies, structured discussions and in-class exercises to demonstrate the application of concepts delivered in lectures.

ASSESSMENT

- MCQ quizzes – (30% of final mark)
- 1 final individual examination – (70% of final mark)

Imperial College London will issue an official transcript with a final overall numerical mark – a breakdown of results will not be provided.

READING LIST

Key Textbooks

- Jones, M., 2013, Accounting, Wiley, third edition*

* Please, note that the third edition is substantially different from the previous editions, in particular because it includes international accounting standards, which are relevant to this course.
Supplementary Texts

You may need to broaden your reading by referring to other publications - the following texts are recommended:

- Dyson, J R Accounting for Non-accounting Students (8th edition), Financial Times Prentice Hall

PASTORAL SUPPORT

A full welcome and orientation will be provided at the beginning of the programme.

The Business School will provide dedicated pastoral care with highly experienced faculty. Summer School Ambassadors will also play a key role in welcoming and engaging with the students.

*Imperial College London reserves the right to change or alter the courses offered without notice.*