

208 Business finance

This module will provide students with an understanding of how businesses operate and how accounting and finance functions support businesses in achieving their objectives.

Through the module students will learn how to identify the general objectives of businesses and the functions and tasks that businesses perform in order to meet their objectives and how to specify the nature, characteristics, advantages and disadvantages of different forms of business and organisational structure.

Students will critically evaluate the purpose of financial information produced by businesses, specify how accounting and finance functions support business operations, and identify sources and methods of financing for businesses and individuals. Students will continue to explore the role of the accountancy profession and why the work of the profession is important as well as identifying the role that governance plays in the management of a business and specifying how a business can promote corporate governance, sustainability, corporate responsibility and an ethical culture.

Intended module learning outcomes

On completion of this module, the student should be able to:

1. Assess the general objectives of businesses and the functions and tasks that businesses perform in order to meet their objectives.
2. Specify the nature, characteristics, benefits and limitations of different forms of business and organisational structure.
3. Analyse financial information produced by businesses, specify how accounting and finance functions support business operations and identify sources and methods of finances for businesses and individuals.
4. Assess the role of the accountancy profession in enabling businesses to account for their performance.
5. Evaluate the role that governance plays in the management of a business and specify how a business can promote governance, sustainability, corporate responsibility and an ethical culture.
6. Apply concepts and philosophies of organisational behaviour to a given business situation.

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Indicative content

1. Coverage of an organisation's vision, mission statements and strategic objectives for planning, control and implementation for management and the use of business models.
2. Business functional areas in an organisation to support the achievement of management objectives for the organisation.
3. An understanding of organisational structures within business entities.
4. Identifying the components of risk management and processes.
5. An understanding of the various sources of finance available to organisations.
6. Coverage of the structure of the profession and the role of the professional accountant with regard to their responsibility, competency, ethical principles and the public interest.
7. An understanding of the role of corporate governance and ethics in organisations.
8. Looking at the economic and macro environment and the external regulations that affect organisations.

Required reading

ICAEW (2018) *Business technology and finance, study manual 2018*. 12th ed., London: ICAEW.

Recommended reading

Campbell, D., & Craig, T. (2005) *Organisations and the business environment*. 2nd ed., Abingdon: Routledge.

Gillespie, A. (2013) *Business economics*. 2nd ed., Oxford: Oxford University Press.

McPhail, K., & Walters, D. (2009) *An introduction: accounting and business ethics*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Scheme of work

Once you have registered and paid for a module you will receive the scheme of work detailing the weekly schedule study plan.

Assessment

The learning outcomes for this module will be assessed as follows:

1½ hour's multiple choice time-constrained closed-book test.

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