

Corporate Finance in Practice (F000906)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 6.0

Study time 180 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025

A (semester 2)

English

Gent

seminar

group work

excursion

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

De Wielemaker, Els

EB22

lecturer-in-charge

Hanssens, Jürgen

EB22

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

Master of Science in Teaching in Economics(main subject Business Economics)
Master of Science in Business Economics (Double Degree)(main subject Corporate Finance)
Master of Science in Business Economics (main subject Corporate Finance)

crdts

offering

6

A

6

A

6

A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Corporate finance project, fieldwork, actual topics

Position of the course

The aim of this course is to prepare the students for a future job within the corporate finance field. The students are brought into contact with financial specialists and the broader finance practice through the various assignments within this course. Students are also exposed to current financial topics.

The fieldwork shows how the techniques discussed in other corporate finance lectures are being applied in daily practice.

The project provides an integration of the techniques and methods discussed in various courses, such as Corporate Finance, Valuation and Risk Management, Advanced Corporate Finance, Advanced Financial Statement Analysis, Cases in Corporate Finance and Research Methods in Corporate Finance. Students identify a financial topic, problem or transaction. They subsequently study the financial topic, problem or transaction by integrating theory with insights from practitioners involved in the specific subject (transaction,...) chosen. The project is conducted in a small team and an active guidance from the department and from professionals in the working field is being provided.

Contents

Partim 1: Field work

Corporate Finance @ Work – Follow a finance professional and gain valuable insights as they share their experiences during their daily job and talk about current financial trends and topics.

1. The student actively follows a financial professional in the working field, during at least 2 days,

2. The student actively prepares for the fieldwork by gathering information on the company and on the financial professional.

3. The student reflects afterwards on the knowledge acquired during the fieldwork with the professional.

The fieldwork is considered as an individual assignment and can take place both in

Belgium and abroad.

The choice for a financial professional has to fit within a suitable profile of the future job of the Corporate Finance student, i.e. financial director (CFO), finance manager, treasurer, credit controller, investor relations manager, investors (such as bankers, business angels, venture capital investors) or the financial consultant. The student has to look him(her)self for a suitable professional, considering his(her) own interests. The procedure for selecting the professional and the expected output are explained by the lecturer at the start of the course.

Partim 2: Project

Corporate Finance Project – Analyse an event, transaction or situation at a company. Deepen your practical knowledge, gain exposure to real business issues and strengthen your networks.

1. The students choose a financial topic, problem or transaction (based on a current theme) which they will study in practice within an organisation.
2. The students analyse a financial topic, problem or transaction based on the academic literature.
3. Next the students analyse a financial topic, problem or transaction based on the practical working method within the company (companies). They are in close contact with relevant professionals within the company (companies).
4. The students integrate and reflect on the basis of their analysis of the scientific literature and working method within the working field.
5. Presentation of the project.

The content of the project is determined by the students themselves. The students work intensely in group on the financial problem (event or topic), thus having to integrate knowledge from the various bachelor and master courses. A profound discussion takes place afterwards with the practitioners involved in the financial topic, problem or transaction. The students should be able to link insights from practice to the academic literature and to reflect critically on the working method in practice and on the assumptions made in the academic literature.

The procedure for selecting a suitable financial topic, problem or transaction and proper reporting is clarified by the lecturer at the start of the course. Feedback moments are provided by the lecturer at critical moments during the process.

Initial competences

Student should have the following credits:

a) Bachelor courses in the field of Accounting and Finance.

The student should have finished with success for the courses: Accounting A/B, Financial Statement Analysis, Analytical bookkeeping and cost accounting, Management Accounting and Corporate Finance.

b) The student should have completed or be in the process of completing specialized finance courses, including advanced financial statement analysis, valuation and risk management, advanced corporate finance, cases in corporate finance, research methods in corporate finance.

Final competences

- 1 To reflect critically on the role of a financial department within a company, financial institution or financial manager.
- 2 To reflect critically on the tasks of the finance professional.
- 3 To reflect critically on the skills of the finance professional.
- 4 To reflect critically on the working method in practice and in the academic literature.
- 5 To reflect critically on one's own abilities and limitations drawn from the fieldwork.
- 6 To adopt a professional attitude in the working field.
- 7 Communicate clearly and properly results in a written and oral way in the working field.
- 8 To work in team.
- 9 To specify the tasks of a financial professional properly.
- 10 To link practical experiences to the skills acquired in the various courses.
- 11 To frame a financial topic, problem or transaction within a company and within scientific literature.
- 12 To analyse working methods from the working field.

- 13 To build networks.
- 14 To integrate various learning contents.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Excursion

Study material

Type: Other

Name: All courses from the bachelor Business Economics and the master Business Economics: main subject Corporate Finance

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Additional information: Documents available on the Ufora platform

References

Course content-related study coaching

Partim 1: Guidance is being provided by the financial professional of the company and by one of the lecturers.

Partim 2: Guidance is being provided by the lecturers.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Professional practice, Participation, Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Part 1: Attitude while interacting with the finance professional, participation, and reporting.

Part 2: Report, peer-assessment, presentation.

All details with respect to evaluation are discussed during the introduction lecture and can be found in the course outline (See Ufora).

Students need to pass both parts to pass the course. When students fail one part and the sum the final scores exceeds 10/20, the final score will be reduced to 9/20.

When students don't take part in one of the evaluations, students fail the course and the final score will be reduced to 7/20.

Calculation of the examination mark

The instructor decides on the final grade.

Facilities for Working Students

They need to be present during the first (introduction)lecture and to make further appointments with the lecturer.