

Module code	FIN608	Level	6
Module title	Corporate Finance, Mergers, and Acquisitions	Credit value	20
Common/Core/ Elective	Core	ECTS Credits	10
		Notional learning hours	200
Courses on which the module is taught	BA (Hons) Business and Finance	Teaching Period	Spring

1. Module description

The first part of the module will enable you to master the techniques used in corporate finance and apply them in some real-world situations. You will determine what long-term investments should a firm undertake (capital budgeting decision). You will analyse how should cash be raised for the required investments (financing decision). You will then examine how a firm could manage its day-to-day cash and financial decisions (short term financial planning). Finally, you will explore the options on how a firm should return cash to its shareholders (the dividend decision).

The second part of the module will focus on Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) a worldwide phenomenon that calls for policy decisions at the highest level. It is one of the areas that brings together the insight of many different fields like corporate finance, economics, accounting, regulation, and management. You will learn how they work in practice and the skills to apply the theories to the real-world M&A problems. You will learn to independently investigate and explore the connections among the different areas to evaluate the potential synergies of a deal and its value both for buyers and sellers.

2. Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, you will be able to:

Collaboration (MLO 01)

Collaborate and build networks to analyse real-world investment and M&A events.

Decision-making (MLO 04)

Formulate informed decisions on corporate investments, financing and other vital corporate decisions, using critical and reflexive thinking

Digital Data and Tools (MLO 06)

Utilise digital tools and financial databases to appraise corporate finance and M&A problems.

Discipline Knowledge (MLO 07)

Critique and synthesize theories and concepts in the fields of corporate finance and M&A.

3. Learning and teaching methods

This module adopts an active learning approach where you will learn by earning by doing. Classes approach the learning of corporate finance and M&A in an active way as every week the covered topic is examined with live current data and examples from the financial

markets. You will be trained with technical skills enabling you to use specialist financial databases allowing you to have access to reliable current financial data and information. The teaching and learning is centred toward encouraging your participation and dynamic engagement.

Each week you will participate in a variety of activities, such as individual and collaborative work relevant to the weekly topic. These involve theoretical and practical explanations, case studies, analysis and solution of real-life, as well as toy, examples, and acquisition of data and information with digital tools to evaluate multifaceted corporate decisions. The weekly teaching is also aligned with the assessments and formative feedback activities. Through this approach you will learn knowledge and skills that are key to solving problems in workplace situations

Learning hours	
Directed learning	48 hours
Workshops/classes	48
Guided/Self-guided learning	152 hours
Total	200 hours

4. Assessment, formative feedback and relative weightings

Assessment 1: Report

Weight (%): 40%

Word Count or Equivalent: 2500 words

You will analyse a company to analyse using tools and knowledge learned in the corporate finance part of the module. You will produce a detailed analysis on issues such as Corporate Governance, Risk, Capital Structure Choices and Dividend Policy. You should critique and synthesize theories and concepts related to the company at hand.

Assessment 2: Presentation (Group Assessment)

Weight (%): 60%

Word Count or Equivalent: 20 minutes

In small groups, you will value the companies assigned in the first assessment and investigate the strategic meaning of a potential M&A deal, its process and its features. You will analyse and assign a monetary value to the expected synergies. You will present the results and your conclusions as to whether it is a good deal and for whom and you will formulate alternative solutions. Each group will have an opportunity to peer-review, after the submission, the spreadsheet design and calculations of another group, based on the official solution.

Each summative assessment will be preceded by an opportunity of formative assessment accompanied by formative feedback.

Mapping of assessment tasks for the module				
Assessment tasks	MLO1	MLO4	MLO6	MLO7
Report		x	x	x
Group Presentation	x	x	x	

5. Indicative resources

Weston, J., Mitchell M., and Mulgerin, J. (2013) "Takeovers, Restructuring and Corporate Governance." 4th ed, Prentice Hall, ISBN-13: 9781292020860

Sudarsanam, S. (2010) "Creating Value from Mergers and Acquisitions." 2nd ed, Canada: Pearson Education, ISBN-13: 9780273715399

Weston, J., (2002) "Cases in Dynamic Finance, Mergers and Restructuring." Pearson Education, ISBN 0-13-060663-4

Koller, T., Goedhart, M., Wessels, D., (2015) "Valuation" 6th ed., McKinsey & C., ISBN 978-1-118-87373-1

Arzac, E. R., (2008) "Valuation for Mergers, Buyouts, and Restructuring" 2nd ed., Wiley Finance, ISBN 978-0-470-12889-3

More papers, notes and documents relevant to each week's topics will be posted on Blackboard during the term.