

Module specification

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Module Code	ONL715
Module Title	Small Business Finance
Level	7
Credit value	15
Faculty	Wrexham Business School
HECoS Code	100107
Cost Code	GABP
Pre-requisite module	NA

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
MBA Finance (Online)	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	15 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	15 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	135 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	150 hrs

Module aims

This module aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of management accounting techniques for small businesses and introduce students to the use of management accounting information in the effective management (planning, organising, actuating and controlling) of small businesses.

Module Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Explain the nature of costs in small businesses and employ a range of costing techniques to account for materials, labour and overheads.
2	Produce a range of financial budgets for small businesses and critically discuss the benefits and relevance of budget preparation in decision making processes.
3	Explain the costing techniques of absorption and marginal costing and recognise the effects on inventory and profits
4	Interpret and present financial information in a variety of forms for making effective (informed) decisions.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

You must present critical discussion and analysis of academic theory and literature to successfully meet the learning outcomes.

Assessment 1: Essay – absorption and marginal costing methods

You are to present a written essay based on the case study provided for assignment 1 (found on canvas assignment page). The case study will ask you to calculate the selling price required to give a profit margin of ten percent using the Absorption Costing Method. You will then need to consider the selling price and pricing strategy. Word count is 800 words.

Assessment 2: Portfolio

This assessment is in two parts:

Part 1 - Financial ratios, vertical analysis and horizontal analysis case study

Using the annual report(s) of a company of your choice you will be asked to complete a range of written tasks including (indicative) the calculation of the company's financial ratios, an evaluation of the company's performance, and a critical analysis of strategic recommendations.

Part 2 – Case Study Analysis

Conduct a written analysis of a case study provided by the lecturer, exploring economic order quantity and centralised processing units. You will then apply this through a theory of finance (e.g. net present value, financial ratios, risk and return), to interpret and present financial information in a variety of forms.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1	Written Assignment	800	40%	N/A
2	2, 3	Portfolio	1,200	60%	N/A

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The overall learning and teaching strategy is one of guided independent study, in the form of distance learning requiring ongoing student engagement. On-line material will provide the foundation of the learning resources, requiring the students to log-in and engage on a regular basis throughout the eight-week period of the module.

There will be a mix of recorded lectures and supporting notes/slides, containing embedded digital content and self-checks for students to complete as they work through the material and undertake the assessment tasks. The use of a range digital tools via the virtual learning environment together with additional sources of reading will also be utilised to accommodate learning styles. There is access to a help-line for additional support and chat facilities through Canvas for messaging and responding.

Welsh Elements

Every student has the right to submit written work or examinations in Welsh. All Welsh speaking students have the right to a Welsh speaking tutor. Elements of the Welsh language and culture will be embedded throughout the module where possible.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Introduction to small business finance
Cost analysis
Budgeting skills
The use of financial information
Financial decision making
Manage working capital
Investment decision making

Indicative Bibliography

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads:

McLaney, E.J. (2017), *Business Finance*. 11th edition ed. Harlow, England: Pearson.

Other indicative reading:

Mohammed, K. (2022), 'Access of Technology as a Mediator on Access to Finance to Drive Business Innovation in Small to Medium-Sized Enterprises', *Studies in Business and Economics (Romania)*, Vol.17, No.1, pp. 91–111. DOI: 10.2478/sbe-2022-0007.

Rita, M.R. and Wahyudi, S. (2019), 'Entrepreneurial Finance: Financing Antecedents and SMEs Performance', *Journal of Economics, Business & Accountancy Ventura (Online)*, Vol.21, No.3, pp. 303–313. DOI: 10.14414/jebav.v21i3.1497.

Zvarikova, K., Dvorský, J., Belás, J.J. and Metzker, Z. (2024), 'Model of Sustainability of SMEs in V4 Countries', *Journal of Business Economics and Management (JBEM)*, Vol.25, No.2, pp. 226–245. DOI: 10.3846/jbem.2024.20729.

Administrative Information

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Initial approval date	12/07/2019
With effect from date	23/09/2019
Date and details of revision	10/06/2020 Admin change to syllabus format and textbook. 02/26 Administrative correction to Learning strategy and removal of formative assessment. 06/26 Revalidation
Version number	4