

4. International Financial Management

Module Number: TBA	Module Title: International Financial Management	
Module Status: Elective		
Semester: 1	Level: M (7)	Credits: 15
Module Leader: Tim O’Hanrahan & Tony Finn		
Direct/Assisted Learning Hours: 40	Lectures: 24 Seminars/Workshops: 16	Independent Student Learning: 110
Assessment Mode & Weighting: Class Participation: 10%; Individual Coursework 30% & End of module examination: 60%		
Pre-requisites: None Concurrent Module: None Post-requisites: Research Dissertation Project Advisory Constraints: None		

1. Rationale:

International financial services and banking is a highly competitive sector of modern business. It operates in a very complex and dynamic environment with changes occurring rapidly in client requirements, technology, competition and regulation. Financial managers, traders, analysts and those wishing to pursue a career in this field have to make rapid and sometimes far reaching decisions. Therefore a unique opportunity to study advanced theory and practice relating to financial services and to develop the skills and practices necessary to survive in this complex environment must be considered an essential asset.

2. Aims:

- To provide students with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to operate effectively in international finance.
- To allow students to make financial decisions in a fast moving international environment.
- To provide a source of highly skilled graduates to the financial services industry.
- To prepare students for high level positions in industry, commerce and banking.

3. Objectives:

- Explain the role of financial management in a modern international business.
- Describe the international financial environment and appreciate its role in corporate financial decision making.

- To understand the operation and application of international currency markets including debt and derivative instruments.
- To provide students with an understanding of corporate finance and investment decisions in an international environment.
- To provide students with the necessary quantitative and analytical skills.

4. Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this module students should have:

- An understanding of the principles, concepts and practices of modern international financial management. **(L1)**
- An understanding of the influence of the macroeconomic environment on financial management **(L2)**
- Knowledge of the corporate treasury function in an international environment **(L3)**
- An understanding of the capital budgeting of projects **(L4)**
- An understanding of Capital Structure of an International Organisation **(L5)**
- An understanding of the application of forwards, futures, swaps and options. **(L6)**
- The ability to apply quantitative techniques to practical decision making situations. **(L7)**
- The ability to develop and apply concepts and techniques to international investments decisions. **(L8)**
- An understanding of the different types of financial instruments. **(L9)**

5. Teaching Methodology:

This will take the form of lectures, seminars, tutorials, case work, self study with time allocated to occasional guest speakers from the world of international financial services. Students will be required to undertake extensive self study and access a range of texts, journals and periodicals. Evidence of such wider reading will be reflected in the final award.

6. Indicative content:

- The International Financial Environment. An examination of international financial markets, institutions and instruments.
- Exchange Rate Determination. A review of exchange rate systems, exchange rate risk and its management.

- Balance Sheet Management: Risk management including forwards, futures, swaps and options.
- Short Term Asset Management: Methods of international payments, sources of short term finance, optimising cash flows, investing excess cash balances.
- International Capital Budgeting: Strategic decision making, project appraisal, capital structure and international cost of capital.
- Long Term Asset Management: Long term sources of finance, tax considerations
- International Banking Environment: Bank and Financial Services management, regulation and legislation.

7. Assessment:

Assessment will be as follows:

- **Class Participation** **10%**
- **Individual Coursework** **30%**
(Learning Outcomes: L7; L8; L9)
- **End of module examination** **60%**
(Learning Outcomes: L1 – L9)

Projects/ Assignment Length: 3000 words (min.) – 5000 words (max.)

Examination Length: 3 hours

8. Reading Lists:

Alan C. Shapiro, “Multinational Financial Management”, 7th.Edition.

Kirt C. Butler, “Multinational Finance”, 3rd.Edition

Crum, Brigham and Houston, “Fundamentals of International Finance”, 1st Edition.

Jeff Madura, “International Financial Management”. 8th Edition

Jeff Madura, “Financial Markets and Institutions”

Yarbrough and Yarbrough, “The World Economy- Macroeconomics and Finance”, 7th Edition

Robert A. Strong, “Derivatives: An introduction.” 2nd.Edition

Periodicals, journals and other sources.

Financial Times

Economist

Central Bank Reports

Journals of Accountancy Bodies

Selected Weblinks

Journal of Finance

www.afajof.org/jofihome.shtml

Financial Analysts Journal

www.aimr.com/aimr/pubs/faj/fajhome.html

Central Bank of Ireland

www.centralbank.ie

Financial Times

www.ft.com

The Economist

www.economist.com

Standard & Poor's

www.standardpoor.com

Washington University

www.econwpa.wustl.edu/wpawelcome.html

