Financial analysis and decision making  B294

Presentation pattern: April to September

Module description

The aim of this module is to introduce students to financial and investment decision making and risk management within organisations.

It will enable students to understand:

- the role financial decision making plays within organisations
- the way organisations allocate financial capital
- the tools and techniques used in making long-term investment decisions
- business valuation processes
- risk estimation and management in a highly competitive and uncertain market environment.

Upon completion of the module, students will be able to apply some of the techniques/tools acquired during the course for planning their personal finances.

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- Either a first degree in Finance and Accounting, OR a non-Business degree plus a post graduate qualification in a Finance related subject, OR a professional qualification in Finance or Accounting from a Chartered body. Candidates with a professional qualification or a post graduate qualification in a relevant area (e.g. MSc Accounting and Finance) will be given additional weighting;

- Recent evidence (in the last three years) of experience of teaching finance or accounting and decision making or working in a finance related role at middle or senior management level;

- Recent evidence (in the last three years) of experience in teaching and/or coaching adults (substantial coaching, facilitation and training experience in the workplace will be considered as an alternative to formal teaching, although additional weighting will be given to candidates with HE teaching experience at undergraduate level)

- Experience in using synchronous and asynchronous online media in a teaching and learning environment (candidates using commercial workplace equivalents will be considered, although greater weighting will be given to candidates with teaching experience through Adobe Connect, BlackBoard, Collaborate or other HEI bespoke equivalents)

- Academic credibility in areas of accounting and finance that relate to B294. B294 introduces the process of financial decision making and the role financial managers play in helping organisational strategies succeed; the main sources of finance available for organisations; quantitative techniques that are the building blocks of the financial literature on risk and discount rate estimations; weighted average cost of capital; investment appraisal techniques, equity, bond and real estate valuation and
risk management, including discussion on the most commonly used derivative instruments.

- Evidence in supporting students to achieve learning outcomes, particularly study skills identified for: academic writing, numerical literacy, digital literacy and critical thinking.

- Knowledge of current issues and developments in financial analysis and decision making.

Additional information

Candidates should address in particular:

- The ability to work with students from diverse educational, cultural and work backgrounds.
- Availability and accessibility to students.
- Good written and oral communication skills.

You will be expected to:

- Run online tutorials
- Facilitate online forums and work with Adobe Connect (Staff development will be available for candidates, as appropriate).

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

| Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module: | 30 |
| Number of assignments submitted by the student: | 2 |
| Method of submission for assignments: | 2 |
| Level of ICT requirements: | 2 |
| Number of students likely to be in a standard group: | 20 |
| Salary band: | 4 |
| Estimated number of hours per teaching week: | 6 |