

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: AF 4450 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE	
<p style="text-align: right;">UK LEVEL: 6 UK CREDITS: 15 US CREDITS: 3/0/3</p> <p>(New course, Fall 2021)</p>	
PREREQUISITES:	AF 2007 Financial Accounting AF 3116 Management Accounting FN 2128 Principles of Finance AF 3104 Financial Reporting I
CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	Students conduct research on issues in the field of accounting and finance. Emphasis on events and trends affecting the work that accounting and finance professionals do and practice.
RATIONALE:	This is the capstone project for the Accounting and Finance pathway. The foundation for this module lies in recognising that graduates need appreciation of broader contemporary issues in accounting and finance and the wider business environment. Students are expected to conduct research and engage in academic debate and discourse by presenting academically informed reflection on scientific work.
LEARNING OUTCOMES:	<p>As a result of taking this module, the student should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss critically theoretical perspectives in accounting and finance. 2. Identify and analyse challenges and opportunities in business, which pertain to the accounting and finance profession. 3. Select appropriate research methods to conduct research in the field of accounting and finance. 4. Assess the validity of research findings and conclusions based on the context of the research conducted.
METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:	<p>In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Classes consist of lectures, class discussion, and individual project supervision. ➤ Office Hours: Students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their instructor, where they can ask questions and go over lecture material. ➤ Use of blackboard, where instructors post lecture notes, assignment instructions, timely announcements, as well as additional resources.
ASSESSMENT:	Summative Assessment:

	<table border="1" data-bbox="643 239 1433 375"> <tr> <td>Individual research project comprising time management milestones and checklist (4,500 – 5,500 words) 90%; Presentation 10%.</td><td>100%</td></tr> </table> <p>Formative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="643 478 1433 516"> <tr> <td>Project drafts</td><td>0%</td></tr> </table> <p>The formative assessment aims to prepare students for the summative assessment.</p> <p>The summative assessment tests Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4.</p> <p>Students choose their own field of interest individually but work under the guidance of the instructor.</p> <p>All human research related activities must comply with the American College of Greece (ACG) Institutional Review Board (IRB) policies and procedures. If the field research of the project involves human subjects, students are required to submit a proposal to the ad hoc Ethics Committee of the School of Business and Economics. The proposal must comply with the guidelines provided by the IRB. The proposal must be approved by the supervisor before it is submitted to the ad hoc Ethics Committee of the School of Business and Economics.</p>	Individual research project comprising time management milestones and checklist (4,500 – 5,500 words) 90%; Presentation 10%.	100%	Project drafts	0%
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<p>INDICATIVE READING:</p>	<p>REQUIRED READING:</p> <p>Given the nature of this module which involves the writing of a research project, no prescribed readings can be given. The reading list will be determined around published and working papers in the field of accounting and finance with an emphasis to bridge the gap between academia and practice and thus equip students with knowledge to discuss and contribute to topical issues within the profession.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooper, H. M. (1998) <i>Synthesizing Research: A Guide for Literature Reviews</i>, London, Sage. • Hart, C. (2001) <i>Doing a Literature Review</i>. Thousand Oaks, Calif., Sage. • Blaire, L. (2016) <i>Writing a Graduate Thesis or Dissertation</i>, Rotterdam, Brill/Sense. EBook. • Creswell, J.W. (2013) <i>Qualitative Inquiry & Research Design</i>, 3rd edn. California: Sage Publications • Fallon, M. (2016) <i>Writing up quantitative research in the social and behavioural science</i>, Rotterdam Brill/Sense EBook 				

INDICATIVE MATERIAL: (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)	N/A
COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:	Effective written and oral communication skills using appropriate academic terminology
SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:	MS-Office 365 applications
WWW RESOURCES:	Students are expected to use databases available through the ACG library and the STR.
INDICATIVE CONTENT:	<p>Indicative topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability and Environmental Accounting • Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) • Technology Challenges in Accounting and Finance • Impact of information and communications technology and Big Data on the accounting profession • Accounting Standards (Application in an uncertain environment) • Risk Management in Finance • Challenges in Audit • Effect of Audit on Emergence of Narrative Reporting • Performance Management Systems • Mergers and Acquisitions • Graduate Employability: Future Directions and Debate