

COURSE OUTLINE

INVESTMENTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	TECHNOLOGY		
DEPARTMENT	FORESTRY, WOOD SCIENCES & DESIGN		
LEVEL	POSTGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	MB113	SEMESTER	1 st
COURSE TITLE	INVESTMENTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES		
ACTIVITIES		WEEKLY HOURS	ECTS
	Lectures	2	6
	TOTAL	2	6
TYPE OF COURSE	OBLIGATORY		
PREREQUISITES	NO		
LANGUAGE OF TEACHING AND EXAMINATION	GREEK		
THE COURSE IS OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	NO		
WEBPAGE COURSE (URL)	https://eclass.uth.gr/courses/GD-LARISSA237/		

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes
<p>The changes that have taken place in economic relations due to globalization, the financial crisis, climate change and the use of cutting-edge technology in the way of financing investments from the money market, as well as in financial instruments, are very important. Financial management and its implementation have come a long way and is constantly evolving.</p> <p>The purpose of the course is to enable the acquisition of advanced theoretical and practical knowledge of financial management and the development of the skills for making correct and effective financial decisions. These decisions add value to an economic unit, while incorrect financial decisions reduce or destroy its value.</p> <p>The purpose of the course will be achieved through the exercises and the study of cases and applications from the economic activity of economic units related to natural resources, in order to connect theory with practice in everyday life.</p> <p>The course is self-contained and no previous knowledge in the fields of accounting, statistics and finance is required.</p> <p>Upon completion of the course students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the basic principles and methods of financial management. • Understand the procedures and methods for evaluating the investment plans of economic units (generally and specifically in relation to natural resources). • They understand the financing needs of economic units. • They analyze the financial statements of economic units. • They perform analysis and evaluation based on the financial indicators resulting from the financial statements. • Analyze an organization's need for long-term and short-term business financing. • Know and apply various forms of financing. • They utilize new technologies in solving relevant problems, applications and exercises. • They draw up the financial planning.
General Skills

(3) COURSE CONTENT

In the theoretical part of the course the student is taught and learns about:

- **Course update.** What is financial management? The basic functions of financial management.
- **Financial statements and cash flows.** The usefulness of financial statements. Interpretation and application of fundamental accounting concepts, assumptions and principles. Evaluation of the company's business actions with the help of financial statements. Analysis of financial indicators – Financial Models.
- **Methods of evaluating investment proposals.** The net present value (NPV). The internal rate of return (IRR) or internal rate of return (IRR). The payback periods. Comparison of KPA with EBA. Efficiency index. Valuation of an investment under conditions of certainty. Valuing an investment under uncertainty.
- **Methods of evaluating investment proposals.** Forecasting financing needs, sales and additional funds required. Exercises - applications.
- **The risk of an investment project.** Sensitivity analysis. Scenario analysis. Breakeven analysis. Monte Carlo simulation. Decision trees.
- **The risk of an investment project.** The particularities of investments related to natural resources. Exercises - applications.
- **Making capital investment decisions.** Additional cash flow. Case Study: Baldwin. Inflation and capital budgeting. Alternative definitions of cash flows. Exercises – Applications.
- **Cash management, models of cash management.** Reasons for holding cash. Procedures for expediting collections and delaying payments. Evaluation of costs. Inventory management model. Cash plan. Applications – exercises.
- **Inventory management.** Costs associated with inventories. Economic order quantity. Point of order. Materials planning and procurement systems. Exercises-applications.
- **Financial leverage analysis.** Introduction. Relationship between leverage and financial risk. Correlation of crisis and financial leverage. Example – Exercise. Correlation of operational - financial leverage with the business. Difference between leverage and margin. Advantages of leverage.
- **Lease. Basic concepts.** Types of leases. Advantages and disadvantages of leasing.
- **Business claims agencies.** What is a business claims agency? Forms of business claims agency. The services offered. Advantages and disadvantages.
- **Indicative exercises with their solutions. Presentation of the work.**

Every one or two weeks assignments are given to practice topics related to the subject of the course, while the final (6th assignment) should be undertaken and prepared by the student (individually) until the end of the MSc semester.

The relevant directions are given, while rich material and instructions are posted on the E-class <https://eclass.uth.gr/courses/GD-LARISSA237/>. The final assignment includes, in addition to paper and electronic submission, a public oral presentation on the chosen topic, on a set date (usually the 12th or 13th week of classes). The presentation lasts 15 minutes and is followed by 5 minutes of questions from the students present. The teacher intervenes - if necessary - for comments, observations, corrections.

Students are graded on the overall performance of their final paper: 70% on the content and writing specifications and 30% on the preparation of the online presentation and its oral support.

These grades count for a total of 40% of the overall grade that students will receive after the final written theory exam.

(4) TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

COURSE DELIVERY METHOD	In class & remotely	
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of PCs, ppt slides, projector • Learning process support through the e-class electronic platform • Interactive Whiteboard • Eight (8) PCs in the Laboratory to exercise students in a questionnaire processing program 	
MANAGEMENT OF TEACHING	Activity	Semester Workload
	Lectures	26
	Six (6) individual assignments related to the subject of the course	54
	Small individual practice tasks	10
	Independent Study	60
	Course Total (25 workload hours per credit unit)	150
STUDENT EVALUATION	<p>The achievement of the learning objectives will be evaluated based on a total of six (6) assignments and the written exam of the lesson.</p> <p>In order to secure a passable grade (at least 5) it is necessary to achieve a passable grade in weighted average of six (6) assignments and the final exam.</p> <p>I. Written final exam (60%) which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short answer questions from all the material of the book and lectures. • Solving exercises related to the subject of the course. <p>II. Successful delivery of six (6) assignments and presentation of the individual final (6th) assignment (40%).</p>	

(5) RECOMMENDED-BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Books:

Berman K., J. Knight and J. Case. 2008. Χρηματοοικονομική Νοημοσύνη. Τι πραγματικά φανερώνουν οι αριθμοί. HARVARD BUSINESS, Εκδόσεις Κριτική.

Harrison-Horngren-Thomas. 2015. Χρηματοοικονομική Λογιστική σελ. 914. Εκδόσεις BROKEN HILL Publishers Ltd, Αθήνα.

Ross S., R. Westerfield and J. Jaffe. 2017. Χρηματοοικονομική των Επιχειρήσεων. Εκδόσεις Πασχαλίδη.

Weston J.F. and E.F. Brigham. 1986. Βασικές αρχές της Χρηματοοικονομικής Διαχείρισης και Πολιτικής. Εκδόσεις Παπαζήση, Αθήνα.

Βασιλείου Δ. και Ν. Ηρειώτης Ν. 2008. Χρηματοοικονομική Διοίκηση, Θεωρία και Πρακτική. Εκδόσεις Rosili, Αθήνα.

Καραθανάση Γ. 1996. Βασικές Αρχές Χρηματοοικονομικής Διοίκησης και Χρηματιστηριακές αγορές. Εκδόσεις Μπένου, ΑΘΗΝΑ.

Κέφης Β. και Π. Παπαζαχαρίου Π. 2009. Το επιχειρηματικό όραμα σε Business Plan. Εκδόσεις Κριτική. Αθήνα.

Τζωάννου Γ.Ι. 1996. Χρηματοδοτική διοίκηση. Εκδόσεις .Κ&Π. Σμπιλιας ΑΕΒΕ, Αθήνα.

Τσακλάγκανος Α. 2005. Χρηματοδότηση και Αξιολόγηση επενδύσεων. Εκδόσεις Α/φοί Κυριακίδη ΑΕ, Θεσσαλονίκη.

- Suggested Bibliography – Academic articles related to the course from the following scientific journals:

- *Journal of Finance* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15406261>
- *The Review of Financial Studies* <https://academic.oup.com/rfs>
- *Journal of Financial Economics* <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-financial-economics>
- *Journal of Accounting and Economics* <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-accounting-and-economics>
- *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis* <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/journal-of-financial-andquantitative-analysis>
- *Journal of Banking and Finance* <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-banking-and-finance>
- *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15384616>
- *Journal of International Money and Finance* <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-international-money-and-finance>
- *Journal of Business Finance & Accounting* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/14685957>
- *Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/1467646x>