

SEVERN BUSINESS COLLEGE

SBC Level 6 Graduate Diploma in Financial Management

Course Handbook

Qualification
SBC Level 6 Graduate Diploma in Financial Management

Level
5

Total Qualification Time
1200

Credit Value
120

Aim of the Course
The Level 6 Graduate Diploma in Financial Management is designed to develop learners' understanding of financial principles, strategies, and analytical tools used in complex business environments. It provides advanced knowledge of financial planning, risk management, investment analysis, and strategic decision-making to prepare learners for senior management roles in finance and related fields.
Learners will gain the ability to interpret and apply financial information critically, evaluate investment opportunities, and manage financial performance effectively within an organization. The course combines theoretical knowledge with practical applications, ensuring graduates are well-equipped for professional and academic progression.

Assessment
Assessment is through practical assignments, with no exams - to more accurately reflect the real working environment.

Course Structure

SBC Level 6 Graduate Diploma in Financial Management			
Unit number	**Units**	**Unit level**	**Unit credit**
1	Corporate Financial Strategy	6	20
2	Financial Reporting and Analysis	6	20
3	Strategic Investment Management	6	20
4	Risk Management and Corporate Governance	6	20
5	International Finance	6	20
6	Financial Risk and Performance Management	6	20

Assessment Grades

Grade	Marking Criteria
Pass	All learning outcomes are achieved. All assessment criteria are met.
Fail	All learning outcomes are not achieved. All assessment criteria are not met.
No Marks	Plagiarism

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Corporate Financial Strategy

Level
6

Learning Time Hours
200

Credit Value
20

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria
In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria determine the standard required to achieve the unit.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Understand the role of financial strategy in achieving corporate objectives.	1.1 Explain the purpose of financial strategy in business. 1.2 Evaluate how financial strategy supports organizational growth. 1.3 Analyse the relationship between financial strategy and shareholder value.

	1.4 Assess the impact of corporate governance on financial strategy.
2. Be able to evaluate financial decision-making processes.	2.1 Identify key factors influencing strategic financial decisions. 2.2 Assess techniques used to evaluate long-term investment projects. 2.3 Analyse risk and return in corporate financial decisions. 2.4 Recommend strategies for optimizing capital structure.
3. Understand sources of finance and their implications.	3.1 Differentiate between internal and external sources of finance. 3.2 Evaluate the cost of various sources of capital. 3.3 Discuss the implications of short- and long-term financing decisions. 3.4 Assess how financing choices affect shareholder value.
4. Be able to design a financial strategy for an organization.	4.1 Conduct a financial analysis to support strategic planning. 4.2 Develop strategic financial objectives. 4.3 Propose funding options aligned with corporate goals. 4.4 Justify the proposed financial strategy.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Financial Reporting and Analysis

Level
6

Learning Time Hours
200

Credit Value
20

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria
In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria determine the standard required to achieve the unit.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Understand the framework of financial reporting.	1.1 Explain the objectives of financial reporting. 1.2 Describe the conceptual framework underpinning financial reporting. 1.3 Analyse the role of international accounting standards (IFRS). 1.4 Evaluate ethical issues in financial reporting.
2. Be able to prepare financial statements for different business entities.	2.1 Prepare consolidated financial statements. 2.2 Account for changes in equity and reserves. 2.3 Present cash flow statements using direct and indirect methods. 2.4 Ensure compliance with relevant accounting standards.
3. Be able to interpret and analyse financial statements.	3.1 Apply ratio analysis to assess performance. 3.2 Interpret liquidity, profitability, and solvency ratios. 3.3 Evaluate financial trends over time. 3.4 Recommend strategies for financial improvement.
4. Understand the limitations of financial analysis.	4.1 Discuss the limitations of ratio and trend analysis. 4.2 Evaluate the effects of accounting policies on comparability. 4.3 Assess the influence of inflation and non-financial factors. 4.4 Suggest ways to enhance the reliability of financial reports.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Strategic Investment Management

Level
6

Learning Time Hours
200

Credit Value
20

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria
In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria determine the standard required to achieve the unit.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Understand the principles of investment management.	1.1 Define investment objectives and constraints. 1.2 Explain the characteristics of various investment vehicles. 1.3 Discuss the role of capital markets in investment management. 1.4 Evaluate the relationship between risk and return.
2. Be able to evaluate investment opportunities.	2.1 Apply discounted cash flow (DCF) techniques. 2.2 Assess investment projects using NPV and IRR methods. 2.3 Evaluate portfolio performance using relevant models. 2.4 Recommend optimal investment decisions.
3. Understand portfolio management strategies.	3.1 Explain modern portfolio theory. 3.2 Evaluate diversification and asset allocation strategies. 3.3 Analyse the performance of investment portfolios. 3.4 Discuss behavioral influences on investment decisions.
4. Be able to manage investment risk.	4.1 Identify different types of investment risk. 4.2 Apply quantitative techniques for measuring risk. 4.3 Develop risk mitigation strategies. 4.4 Evaluate the effectiveness of risk management practices.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Risk Management and Corporate Governance

Level
6

Learning Time Hours
200

Credit Value
20

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria
In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria determine the standard required to achieve the unit.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Understand the principles of corporate governance.	1.1 Define corporate governance and its importance. 1.2 Evaluate the role of boards and committees in governance. 1.3 Discuss regulatory frameworks for governance. 1.4 Analyse ethical and social responsibility considerations.
2. Understand the nature of financial risk.	2.1 Identify key categories of financial risk. 2.2 Evaluate the impact of financial risk on business performance. 2.3 Analyse risk interrelationships within the business environment. 2.4 Assess the cost-benefit of risk control measures.
3.Be able to assess and manage risk.	3.1 Apply risk assessment techniques. 3.2 Develop a risk management policy. 3.3 Implement risk monitoring systems. 3.4 Evaluate the effectiveness of risk management practices.
4. Understand the relationship between governance and risk management.	4.1 Discuss how governance influences risk culture. 4.2 Evaluate the role of internal audit in risk control. 4.3 Analyse case studies of governance failures. 4.4 Recommend improvements in governance structures.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
International Finance

Level
6

Learning Time Hours
200

Credit Value
20

Unit aim
The aim of this unit is to enable learners to understand cyber security and the consequences and implications of inadequate cyber security. They will understand the key terminology and the motivations of good and bad actors. They will also investigate the advantages and disadvantages of security by design.

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria
In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria determine the standard required to achieve the unit.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Understand the international financial environment.	1.1 Explain the structure of international financial markets. 1.2 Discuss exchange rate systems and their effects. 1.3 Analyse balance of payments and capital flows. 1.4 Evaluate the impact of globalization on finance.
2. Be able to assess foreign exchange risk.	2.1 Identify types of foreign exchange exposure. 2.2 Evaluate methods of managing exchange rate risk. 2.3 Apply hedging techniques using derivatives. 2.4 Assess the effectiveness of foreign exchange risk management.
3. Understand international financing and investment decisions.	3.1 Evaluate sources of international finance. 3.2 Analyse the financial implications of foreign investments. 3.3 Apply capital budgeting techniques in an international context. 3.4 Recommend strategies for global capital structure optimization.
4. Understand the role of multinational corporations (MNCs) in global finance.	4.1 Explain the financial operations of MNCs. 4.2 Evaluate transfer pricing and tax implications. 4.3 Discuss the role of international financial institutions. 4.4 Analyse regulatory challenges for global businesses.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Financial Risk and Performance Management

Level
6

Learning Time Hours
200

Credit Value
20

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria
In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria determine the standard required to achieve the unit.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Understand the relationship between risk and performance.	1.1 Define key performance and risk metrics. 1.2 Analyse how risk affects organizational performance. 1.3 Evaluate the use of performance management systems.

	1.4 Discuss the integration of risk management and performance frameworks.
2. Be able to apply financial models to assess performance.	2.1 Apply variance analysis to financial performance. 2.2 Evaluate performance using balanced scorecards. 2.3 Assess value creation through EVA and ROI. 2.4 Recommend improvements to performance measurement systems.
3. Understand techniques for managing financial performance.	3.1 Analyse cost structures and budgeting processes. 3.2 Develop performance improvement strategies. 3.3 Evaluate strategic cost management tools. 3.4 Assess the effectiveness of performance controls.
4. Be able to produce performance management reports.	4.1 Prepare performance management reports with key indicators. 4.2 Interpret and communicate performance results. 4.3 Recommend strategic actions based on financial analysis. 4.4 Present findings to senior management effectively.

Version:2510a