

SEVERN BUSINESS COLLEGE

SBC Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Management

Course Handbook

Qualification
SBC Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Management

Level
7

Total Qualification Time
1200

Credit Value
120

Aim of the Course
The Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Management is designed for professionals, aspiring senior managers, and finance specialists seeking to develop strategic understanding and analytical capability in financial decision-making, corporate finance, and global business operations.
This qualification provides learners with the knowledge, skills, and tools to effectively manage financial strategies, assess risks, interpret complex financial data, and make sound decisions in dynamic global markets.

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

Course Structure

SBC Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Management			
Unit number	**Units**	**Unit level**	**Unit credit**
1	Strategic Financial Management	7	20
2	Corporate Reporting and Financial Analysis	7	20
3	Risk Management and Financial Derivatives	7	20
4	Global Finance and Strategy	7	20
5	Strategic Audit and Corporate Governance	7	20
6	Research Methods and Financial Project	7	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
Strategic Financial Management

Level
7

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 and frameworks of strategic financial management.	1.1 Explain the key objectives of strategic financial management. 1.2 Analyse the relationship between corporate strategy and financial strategy. 1.3 Evaluate the impact of external factors on financial planning. 1.4 Assess the ethical considerations in financial decision-making.

2. Assess capital structure and funding strategies.	2.1 Compare sources of finance and their cost implications. 2.2 Analyse the risk-return trade-off in capital structure decisions. 2.3 Evaluate the effect of leverage on shareholder value. 2.4 Recommend optimal funding strategies for long-term growth.
3: Evaluate investment appraisal and valuation techniques.	3.1 Apply discounted cash flow (DCF) and net present value (NPV) models. 3.2 Assess the role of real options in investment appraisal. 3.3 Evaluate sensitivity and scenario analyses in investment decisions. 3.4 Critically interpret results to support managerial recommendations.
4. Develop strategic financial policies for sustainable growth.	4.1 Formulate dividend and retention policies. 4.2 Evaluate policies for liquidity management. 4.3 Analyse strategies for long-term value creation. 4.4 Recommend improvements to existing financial strategies.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Corporate Reporting and Financial Analysis

Level
7

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 corporate reporting.	1.1 Explain the conceptual framework for financial reporting. 1.2 Analyse the regulatory environment governing financial statements. 1.3 Evaluate the role of international financial reporting standards (IFRS). 1.4 Assess the importance of transparency and accountability in reporting.
2: Prepare and interpret consolidated financial statements.	2.1 Prepare group financial statements. 2.2 Account for associates, subsidiaries, and joint ventures. 2.3 Analyse the impact of mergers and acquisitions on financial reports. 2.4 Evaluate the quality of earnings through ratio and trend analysis.
3: Evaluate financial performance using advanced analytical tools.	3.1 Apply profitability, liquidity, and efficiency ratios. 3.2 Assess business performance using cash flow analysis. 3.3 Evaluate limitations of ratio-based assessments. 3.4 Recommend strategic actions based on analysis.
4. Assess the implications of creative accounting and ethics.	4.1 Define creative accounting and its methods. 4.2 Analyse case studies of ethical breaches in reporting. 4.3 Evaluate corporate governance measures to prevent manipulation. 4.4 Recommend best practices for ethical financial reporting.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Risk Management and Financial Derivatives

Level
7

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 financial risk management.	1.1 Identify types of financial risks faced by organisations. 1.2 Analyse the risk management process and framework. 1.3 Evaluate the role of risk culture in strategic planning. 1.4 Assess the benefits and limitations of risk mitigation strategies.
2 Analyse the use of derivatives in managing financial risk.	2.1 Explain the structure of futures, options, and swaps. 2.2 Evaluate hedging techniques using derivative instruments. 2.3 Assess pricing and valuation of derivatives. 2.4 Critically appraise the role of derivatives in financial crises.
3: Evaluate quantitative techniques in risk assessment.	3.1 Apply Value-at-Risk (VaR) and stress testing methods. 3.2 Use scenario analysis for risk forecasting. 3.3 Assess limitations of quantitative models. 3.4 Recommend integrated risk management approaches.
4: Develop a comprehensive risk management strategy.	4.1 Formulate a risk policy framework. 4.2 Recommend internal controls for risk governance. 4.3 Design a system for ongoing risk monitoring. 4.4 Evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy post-implementation.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title

Global Finance and Strategy

Level

7

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 global financial markets and institutions.	1.1 Describe the structure and role of global financial markets. 1.2 Evaluate the impact of exchange rate movements. 1.3 Analyse the role of international financial institutions. 1.4 Assess the implications of globalization for financial management.
2 Assess international investment and financing decisions.	2.1 Analyse foreign direct investment (FDI) strategies. 2.2 Evaluate cross-border mergers and acquisitions. 2.3 Assess country risk and political risk. 2.4 Recommend financing strategies for international operations.
3 Evaluate currency risk management techniques.	3.1 Explain methods of managing transaction and translation exposure. 3.2 Analyse the use of forward contracts and currency options. 3.3 Evaluate hedging vs. speculation. 3.4 Recommend best practices for multinational corporations.
4 Formulate global financial strategies.	4.1 Assess global capital structure optimization. 4.2 Recommend tax-efficient financing structures. 4.3 Evaluate transfer pricing policies. 4.4 Develop strategies for global financial sustainability.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Strategic Audit and Corporate Governance

Level
7

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 Explain the concept and importance of corporate governance. 1.2 Evaluate governance frameworks and regulatory codes. 1.3 Analyse roles and responsibilities of boards and committees. 1.4 Assess the relationship between governance and ethical leadership.
2. Evaluate audit processes and risk-based approaches.	2.1 Explain the principles of auditing and assurance. 2.2 Analyse risk-based audit planning. 2.3 Evaluate internal control systems. 2.4 Recommend improvements to audit effectiveness.
3. Assess the impact of governance failures.	3.1 Analyse case studies of governance failures. 3.2 Evaluate consequences for stakeholders and markets. 3.3 Assess lessons learned from corporate scandals. 3.4 Recommend governance reforms.
4 Develop a corporate governance strategy.	4.1 Design governance policies aligned with stakeholder interests. 4.2 Recommend transparent reporting systems. 4.3 Evaluate governance performance indicators. 4.4 Present a strategic governance improvement plan.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Unit Title
Research Methods and Financial Project

Level
7

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 research methodologies in financial management.	1.1 Explain qualitative and quantitative research methods. 1.2 Evaluate data collection and analysis tools. 1.3 Assess research ethics in financial studies. 1.4 Formulate a feasible research question.
2. Conduct a literature review and data analysis.	2.1 Critically review academic and industry sources. 2.2 Develop a conceptual and theoretical framework. 2.3 Apply statistical tools to analyse data. 2.4 Interpret findings in context.
3. Present and discuss research findings.	3.1 Present results using appropriate financial models.

	3.2 Critically discuss limitations of the research. 3.3 Evaluate implications for financial management practice. 3.4 Recommend directions for future research.
4. Develop a professional research report.	4.1 Structure the report in line with academic conventions. 4.2 Apply Harvard or APA referencing accurately. 4.3 Use visual data representation effectively. 4.4 Submit a professional and reflective final project.

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