



**Financial Technology and digital innovation to modernise and develop curricula of Vietnamese and Philippines Universities**

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# **MASTER IN FINTECH AND DIGITAL INNOVATION - MODULE SYLLABUS -**



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programming software such as R. By the end of the module you will be able to implement trading strategies and portfolio construction methods in a wide range of assets. This module will introduce you to corporate responsibility and professional standards for financial analysts. You will be taken through a review of the key factors and responsibilities for ethical practice in finance.

### 3. Learning Outcomes

The course overall learning outcomes are:

Knowledge and Understanding:

- a. Demonstrates in-depth understanding of core concepts of investment and portfolio management
- b. Demonstrates a critical understanding of investment concepts both from individual and institutional perspectives
- c. Demonstrates a critical understanding of the range of investment avenues available within the financial market system.
- d. Demonstrates in depth understanding and awareness of market implications from firm, industry and macroeconomic environment
- e. Convincingly establish the link between modern investing approaches and the available tools of the current, emerging and future issues more especially in FinTech.

Application and Problem-Solving Abilities:

- a. Practice at least few ranges of investment activities within the financial market system;
- b. Do actual investment decisions using available FinTech tools and other technologically enabling financial softwares solutions;
- c. Applies an integrated understanding of entrepreneurial dynamics, project and innovation management in the context of financial market;
- d. Plans and executes significant research and development projects of financial system and technology;
- e. Demonstrates innovations and entrepreneurial thinking in terms of interaction with the financial system.

### 4. Module knowledge, skills and competencies (EQF\*)

Moreover, at the end of this course, the student will be able to  
(\*<https://europa.eu/europass/en/european-qualifications-framework-eqf>) :  
<https://pqf.gov.ph/Home/Details/4>

- Enumerate and discuss the different major topics and subtopics in asset pricing and portfolio management ;
- Exploit different tools available in the areas of investment and portfolio management; Identify the main problems and questions of financial management;
- Apply solutions, methods and models of financial theory in the corporate problem-solving and decision-making processes;
- Classify, analyze, interpret, and predict the behaviour of the main financial variables both from domestic and international market
- Design future competitive scenarios and hypothesize financial strategies and policies for domestic and multinational companies;
- Evaluate convenience and profitability of corporate financial and investment policies estimating their impact on the firm value.

## 5. Module lessons

<b>Lesson N.</b>	1
<b>Lesson title</b>	Investment groups
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain the basic functions of different investment institutions available from the point of view of investors</li> <li>● Enumerate the differences of the different risks and return scenario of different investment groups</li> <li>● Discuss the taxes incentive and disincentive as well as other regulatory implication of different investment groups</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Banks</li> <li>● Foundations and endowments</li> <li>● Insurance companies</li> <li>● Mutual funds</li> <li>● Pension funds</li> <li>● Individual private investors</li> <li>● Institutional investors</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion



<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one</li> <li>● Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	Reference article: Yes Video Documentary : Yes
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topical quickcheck questions (open-ended and multiple choice)</li> </ul>

<b>Lesson N.</b>	2
<b>Lesson title</b>	Asset Allocation and Investing
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours and 20 minutes
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be able to explain what is involved in the asset allocation process</li> <li>● Enumerate and explain what are the four steps in the portfolio management</li> <li>● Be able to know what is the role of asset allocation in investment planning</li> <li>● Explain why is a policy statement important to the planning process</li> <li>● Discuss what objectives and constraints should be detailed in a policy statement</li> <li>● Explain how and why do investment goals change over a person's lifetime</li> <li>● Understand why do asset allocation strategies differ across national boundaries</li> <li>● Measuring Historical Rates of Return on Investment</li> <li>● Computing Mean Historical Return on Investment</li> <li>● Calculating Expected Rates of Return on Investment</li> <li>● Measuring the Risk of Expected Rates of Return on Investment</li> <li>● Determinants of Required Returns on Investment</li> </ul>

<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Asset allocation process</li> <li>● Steps in the portfolio management</li> <li>● Asset allocation and investment planning</li> <li>● Asset allocation policy and its importance</li> <li>● Changes in investment goals</li> <li>● Asset allocation in international scene</li> <li>● Risk and return on investment           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt;Historical</li> <li>&gt;Mean</li> <li>&gt;Calculation</li> <li>&gt;Measurement</li> <li>&gt;Determinants</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 4 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour Lecture note: yes Case Study: no
<b>Other supporting material</b>	Online video reference: Yes
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions (open-ended and multiple choice)

<b>Lesson N.</b>	3
<b>Lesson title</b>	Portfolio and arbitrage pricing theory
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Portfolio mean and variance</li> <li>● Diversification</li> <li>● Portfolio frontier with 2 assets</li> <li>● Portfolio frontier with more than 2 assets (Markowitz problem)</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The 2-fund theorem (with no risk-free asset)</li> <li>● The 1-fund theorem (with risk-free asset)</li> <li>● Factor models</li> <li>● No arbitrage conditions</li> <li>● APT</li> <li>● APT and CAPM</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	Video links and references: yes
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions (open-ended and multiple choice) Sample application problem

<b>Lesson N.</b>	4
<b>Lesson title</b>	Derivatives and Options
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours and 30 minutes +/-
<b>Specific objectives</b>	
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Forward, futures, and swaps</li> <li>● Options</li> <li>● Put-call parity</li> <li>● Binomial model</li> <li>● Option pricing through replication</li> <li>● Option pricing through risk neutral probability</li> <li>● Stochastic calculus (Brownian motion and Ito's lemma)</li> <li>● Option pricing through replication (delta hedge)</li> <li>● Option pricing through risk neutral probability</li> <li>● Black-Scholes option pricing formula</li> </ul>



<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 25 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	Text reference link : yes
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions (open-ended and multiple choice) Sample application problem

<b>Lesson N.</b>	5
<b>Lesson title</b>	Global market investments
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain why should investors should have global perspective regarding investments</li> <li>● Explain what has happened to the relative size of foreign stock and bond markets</li> <li>● Understand what are the differences in the rates of return on U.S. and foreign securities markets</li> <li>● Know how can changes in currency exchange rates affect the returns that U.S. investors experience on foreign securities</li> <li>● Determine if there is an additional advantage of diversifying in international markets beyond the benefits of domestic diversification</li> <li>● Identify what alternative securities are available and what are their cash flow and risk properties</li> <li>● Describe what is the historical return and risk characteristics of the major investment instruments</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover what is the relationship among returns for foreign and domestic investment instruments and what is the implication of these relationships for portfolio diversification</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global investment perspective</li> <li>Background on stock and bond markets</li> <li>Currency differences; Its impact on expected</li> <li>International market diversification</li> <li>Alternative securities ; cash flow and risk properties</li> <li>Investment instrument</li> <li>Relationship between foreign and domestic investment instruments</li> <li>Portfolio diversification</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>Lecture note: yes</li> <li>Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Caselet discussion Project work

<b>Lesson N.</b>	6
<b>Lesson title</b>	Securities Markets; Organization, Functions and Indices
<b>Duration</b>	2 hour and 30 minutes +-
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss what is the purpose and function of a market</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Enumerate what are the characteristics that determine the quality of a market</li> <li>● Distinguish what is the difference between a primary and secondary capital market and how do these markets support each other</li> <li>● Discuss the national exchanges and how are the major security markets becoming linked</li> <li>● Understand what are the regional stock exchanges and the over-the-counter (OTC) market</li> <li>● Familiar with the alternative market-making arrangements available on the exchanges and the OCT market</li> <li>● Identify some major uses of security-market indexes</li> <li>● Determine the major characteristics that cause various indexes to differ</li> <li>● Discuss the major stock-market indexes in the United States and globally, and what are their characteristics</li> <li>● Study the major bond-market indexes for the United States and the world</li> <li>● Understand why are bond indexes more difficult to create and maintain than stock indexes</li> <li>● Describe some of the composite stock-bond market indexes</li> <li>● Determine sources of historical and current data for all the indexes</li> <li>● Discuss the relationship among many of these indexes in the short-run (monthly)</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Functions stock market</li> <li>● Quality of market</li> <li>● Primary and secondary capital market</li> <li>● National exchanges/stock exchanges</li> <li>● Over-the-counter (OTC) market</li> <li>● Alternative market</li> <li>● Uses of security-market indexes</li> <li>● Indices and its changes</li> <li>● Stock-market indexes in the advance economies and globally</li> <li>● Bond-market</li> <li>● Stock vs bond indexes</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composite indexes</li> <li>• Short run and long run indexes</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 4 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>• Lecture note: yes</li> <li>• Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	Video link supplements : yes Video documentary : yes
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topic drill questions

<b>Lesson N.</b>	7
<b>Lesson title</b>	Asset Pricing Models
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the assumptions of the capital asset pricing model</li> <li>• Determine the risk-free asset and what are its risk-return characteristics</li> <li>• Discuss the relationship of covariance and correlation between the risk-free asset and a risky asset or portfolio of risky assets</li> <li>• Determine the expected return when combining the risk-free asset and a portfolio of risky assets</li> <li>• Discuss the standard deviation when combining it with the risk-free asset and a portfolio of risky assets</li> <li>• Study the combination of risk-free asset and a portfolio of risky assets on the Markowitz efficient frontier</li> </ul>

<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Capital asset pricing model (CAPM)</li> <li>● Risk-return</li> <li>● Covariance and correlation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; free asset and</li> <li>&gt; risky asset</li> <li>&gt; portfolio of risky assets</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Expected return</li> <li>● Standard deviation</li> <li>● Markowitz efficient frontier               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt;risk-free asset</li> <li>&gt;portfolio of risky assets</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions both multiple choice and open ended.

<b>Lesson N.</b>	8
<b>Lesson title</b>	Introduction to Portfolio Management
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss risk aversion, and what evidence indicates that investors are generally risk averse</li> <li>● Describe the basic assumptions behind the Markowitz portfolio theory</li> <li>● Understand and explain what is meant by risk, and what are some of the alternative measures of risk used in investments</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain and demonstrate how to compute the expected rate of return for an individual risky asset or a portfolio of assets</li> <li>● Explain and demonstrate how to compute the standard deviation of rates of return for an individual risky asset</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk aversion and its evidences</li> <li>● Markowitz portfolio theory</li> <li>● Investment risk</li> <li>● Expected return &gt;individual assets &gt;portfolio of assets</li> <li>● Standard deviation of rates of return &gt;individual risky asset</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	Video link supplements: yes
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions multiple choice and/or open ended.

<b>Lesson N.</b>	9
<b>Lesson title</b>	Capital Markets; Microanalysis and Macrovaluation
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss what is meant by capital market is efficient</li> <li>● Understand why should capital markets needs to be efficient</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Determine the factors contribute to an efficient market</li> <li>● Discuss how to test the three efficient market subhypotheses and their result of test</li> <li>● Explain the behavioral finance and how does it relate to efficient market hypotheses</li> <li>● Discuss the expected and the empirical relationships between economic activity and security markets</li> <li>● Understand the macroeconomic approach to estimating future market returns</li> <li>● Determine the major macroeconomic techniques used to project the securities market</li> <li>● Identify the leading economic indicator approach what are its uses and shortcomings</li> <li>● Explain with depth the expected and the empirical relationships between the growth of the money supply and stock prices</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Capital market efficiency</li> <li>● Factors contributing to an efficient market</li> <li>● Three efficient market subhypotheses and their result of test</li> <li>● Behavioral finance and market hypotheses</li> <li>● Economic activity and security markets relationship</li> <li>● Macroeconomic environment</li> <li>● PESTL (Political, Economic, Social, Technological and Legal) in securities market</li> <li>● Economic indicators in capital market</li> <li>● Stock prices and money supply</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>



<b>Other supporting material</b>	
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions multiple choice and/or open ended.

<b>Lesson N.</b>	10
<b>Lesson title</b>	Industry Analysis and Financial Statement Analysis
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours and 30 minutes+-
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss what is an industry</li> <li>● Determine which industries will benefit most from present and emerging economic environment</li> <li>● Describe the industry life cycle and its features</li> <li>● Identify the tools for industry analysis</li> <li>● Discuss what are financial statements</li> <li>● Understand the importance of financial statement in doing investment</li> <li>● Determine the users of financial statements</li> <li>● Identify the various tools, methods and techniques necessary in financial statement analysis</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Industry and its economic environment</li> <li>● Industry life cycle and its features</li> <li>● Tools for industry analysis</li> <li>● Financial statements</li> <li>● Importance of financial statement</li> <li>● Users and uses of financial statements</li> <li>● Tools and techniques in FS analysis</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion
<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	Audio/Video Lessons and duration: 3 video lessons of about 25 minutes each one Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>

<b>Other supporting material</b>	
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions multiple choice and/or open ended.

<b>Lesson N.</b>	11
<b>Lesson title</b>	Security Valuation and Equity Portfolio Management Strategies
<b>Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss the valuation philosophy, approaches, and techniques</li> <li>● Describe the valuation techniques for market, industries and securities</li> <li>● Enumerate and discuss macroeconomic indicators</li> <li>● Discuss the relationship of structural changes to securities valuation</li> <li>● Discuss equity in a portfolio</li> <li>● Describe the passive equity portfolio management</li> <li>● Identify some passive equity strategies</li> <li>● Explain the index portfolio construction techniques</li> <li>● Discuss and present a demo problem on Quadratic Optimization or programming techniques</li> </ul>
<b>Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Valuation philosophies and techniques</li> <li>● Macroeconomic indicators</li> <li>● Structural changes to securities valuation</li> <li>● Equities portfolio</li> <li>● Passive equity portfolio management and strategies</li> <li>● Index portfolio construction techniques</li> <li>● Quadratic Optimization or programming techniques</li> </ul>
<b>In presence activity</b>	lecture video presentation, individual problem solving activities, in group interactive discussion



<b>Distance learning type of learning object /task</b>	<p>Audio/Video Lessons and duration:            3 video lessons of about 20 minutes each one</p> <p>Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming conference and duration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 Virtual classrooms/ web-streaming of about 1 hour</li> <li>● Lecture note: yes</li> <li>● Case Study: no</li> </ul>
<b>Other supporting material</b>	
<b>Formative evaluation</b>	Topical quickcheck questions multiple choice and/or open ended.