# 20ECC014: Economics of the Financial System

This module is principally taught by School of Business and Economics

## Module details

| Module Leader       | Prof M Giulietti                  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Long Title          | Economics of the Financial System |  |  |  |  |
| Distance Learning   | None                              |  |  |  |  |
| Credit Weighting    | 20                                |  |  |  |  |
| Sensitive Content   |                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Exam Weight %       | 75                                |  |  |  |  |
| Coursework Weight % | 25                                |  |  |  |  |

Module instance details (including semester changes)

| Instance Number | Instance Start Date | Delivery Start Date | Delivery End Date | Delivery Period       |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1               | 28/09/2020          | 28/09/2020          | 16/06/2021        | Semesters One and Two |

Pre requisites and co requisites

Pre requisite modules

ECA001 + ECA002 or ECA501 or ECA502

Other pre requisites

Co requisites

**Excluded combinations** 

**Availability** 

Module is available to students meeting pre-requisites but only if listed in their Programme Specifications.

Accessibility

## **Accessibility**

C. Does not use methods which are likely to present difficulties for students with disabilities

**Accessibility information** 

Module aims and content

**Aims** 

The aims of the module are (1) to enable students to understand the key theoretical and analytical issues involved in the financial system; (2) to apply this analytical framework to the business of financial institutions and markets; (3) to reveiw the changing economics of financial firms; (4) to gain an understanding of current issues in the financial system; (5) to consider the causes, consequences and regulatory responses to the global financial crisis.

#### **Contents**

Nature and functions of a financial system; Key concepts in finance; Information problems and their solutions; Financial institutions and markets; Financial intermediation; Micro structure of financial markets; Economics of the financial firm; Management of risk; Securitisation; Financial innovation and financial instruments; credit derivatives; nature and causes of the banking and financial crisis; policy responses to the crisis; theory and practice of financial regulation.

#### Module learning outcomes

# **Knowledge and Understanding**

• A01: Nature and functions of a financial system, financial institutions and markets; the nature, form and theory of financial intermediation; the economics of the financial firm; micro structure of financial markets; management of risk; credit rationing; theory of the banking firm; information theory; financial innovation; financial and derivate instruments: swaps, forwards, options; the business models of banks; the nature and causes of the global financial crisis; the theory and practice of financial regulation

# **Subject-Specific - Cognitive Skills**

• B01: students should be able to analyse the theoretical basis of financial intermediation, and the role of financial institutions and markets; understand the role of financial institutions and markets in the financial system; have further developed their skills in economic analysis; skills in interpreting current affairs in finance; be able to apply elementary financial analysis to developments in the financial system, be able to assess the practical significance of trends in the financial system; be able to evalute public policy interventions in the financial system; be able to analyse the nature and significance of financial innovation; be able to understand trends and the reason behind trends in the financial system; and most especially, the nature, causes and implications of the financial crisis.

## Subject-Specific - Practical Skills

There are no module learning outcomes defined for this category.

## **Key Transferable Skills**

D01: students should have acquired skills in understanding issues in theoretical economics and financial analysis; skills in interpreting current affairs in finance; have further developed their skills in analysing complex problems; have further developed their written communication skills.; be able to critically assess media comment on banking and financial issues; be able to assess the nature of banks business strategies; understand the role of regulation. Students should also have developed a critical approach to analysis of developments in financial markets.

# Teaching and learning

| Activity                 | Hours | Comments             |
|--------------------------|-------|----------------------|
| Guided independent study | 160   |                      |
| Lecture                  | 40    | 20 in each semester. |
| Total                    | 200   |                      |

# **Teaching and learning text**

Students will learn through lectures, directed reading and current topical material distributed as and when appropriate during the module.

Private Study should comprise guided reading and preparation associated with lectures; student self directed learning in the subject area of the module; preparation and production of assessed coursework; examination preparation and revision.

## Assessment

This information relates to the default instance of the module:

| Assessment<br>Code | Assessment<br>Title                   | Weight<br>(%) |            | Exam<br>Semester |       | SAP<br>Availability           | Chronological<br>Order |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------------|-------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| S1CW               | Semester 1 -<br>Essay, 2,000<br>words | 25            | Coursework | N/A              | N/A   | Yes, can be reassessed in SAP | 0                      |
| S2E                | Semester 2 -<br>Exam                  | 75            | Exam       | 2                | 2 hrs | Yes, can be reassessed in SAP | 0                      |

#### **Assessment text**

## Module feedback

Feedback given to students in response to assessed work

Individual written feedback on coursework; Generic written feedback on examinations

Developmental feedback generated through teaching activities

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