

Financial management and legal aspects

2025 - 2026

Is part of the next programmes:

- M0012004 Master of Computer Science: Software Engineering
- M0012005 Master of Computer Science: Data Science and Artificial Intelligence
- M0004009 Master of Biomedical Sciences: Molecular Mechanisms of Diseases
- M0012006 Master of Computer Science: Computer Networks
- M0008000 Master of Physics
- M0003002 Master of Biology: Evolution and Behavioral Biology
- M0010001 Master of Drug Development: Pharmacist
- M0010002 Master of Drug Development: Biopharmaceutical Sciences
- M0001000 Master of Biochemistry and Biotechnology
- M0004004 Master of Biomedical Sciences: Clinical Scientific Research
- M0047002 Master of Biology: Global Change Biology
- P0037000 Postgraduate of entrepreneurship for sciences and biomedical sciences

Course Code:

2003FBD00D

Study Domain:	Business sciences
Semester:	2E SEM
Contact Hours:	52
Credits:	6
Study Load (hours):	168
Contract Restrictions:	Exam contract not possible
Language of Instructions:	NED
Lecturer(s):	 Ine Paeleman
Examperiod:	exam in the 2nd semester

1. Prerequisites *

reading and comprehending of:

- English

specific prerequisites for this course

- Basic knowledge management;
- Be able to work with a calculator and MS Excel.

2. Learning outcomes *

- The students should have gained insight into the various concepts, methods and instruments used with respect to financial management of a company;
- The students should have gained insight into the financial and juridical knowledge necessary for starting and managing a business;
- The students should be able to apply this knowledge and insight in solving several problems and challenges related to the management of a company.

3. Course contents *

The course is divided in two parts: financial management of SMEs and juridical aspects of corporate policy.

Partim 1: Financial management of SMEs

After an introduction on the financial aspects applicable to starting a business, attention is given to the technique of bookkeeping and the content of the financial accounts. In a next step, we elaborate further on the way in which this information can be used for taking financial decisions. The following subjects will be discussed:

- analysis of the financial accounts (static and dynamic analysis);
- cost price calculation and break-even analysis;
- work out financial forecasts and draw up financial plans;
- assessment and selection of investment projects;
- demand and supply side of SME financing;
- venture capital, business angels and mezzanine financing;
- working capital management.

Partim 2: Juridical aspects of corporate policy

In this part we discuss the juridical aspects of corporate policy. A selection of the following subjects will be discussed:

- overview of the pros and cons of several legal forms of an organization;
- introduction to the trade practices act;
- introduction to contract law;

- introduction to corporate tax and VAT.

The classes will be organized in an interactive way. Exercises and case studies should lead to an increase of the students' capacity to apply the knowledge (concepts and techniques) in a real life context. The students need to work out a group task in which they apply the course content to a specific company.

4. International dimension *

- This course stimulates international and intercultural competences.
- Students use course materials in a foreign language.

5. Teaching method and planned learning activities

5.1 Used teaching methods *

Class contact teaching

- Lectures
- Practice sessions
- Guest lectures

Personal work

- Exercises

Assignments

- In group

Case studies

- In group

5.2 Planned learning activities and teaching methods

This course exists mainly out of lectures in which theory and examples and case studies are discussed. A number of session will take the format of exercise sessions in which the discussed concepts are applied in real situations. Students have to prepare at home a solution for a number of exercises and case studies. Group work is possible.

5.3 Facilities for working students *

Classroom activities

- no specific facilities

Individual work

- In group: individual alternative assignment possible

6. Assessment method and criteria *

6.1 Used assessment methods *

Examination

- Written examination without oral presentation
- - Closed book
- - Open-question
- - Exercises

Other assessment methods

- Written assignment (no second assessment period)

6.2 Assessment criteria *

The group work is quoted on maximum 4 points. The written exam is quoted on maximum 16 points.

The points for the group work will be taken into account in the second examination period. Students have the option to carry over the group work score to the next academic year if desired. The group work only requires a written report (no oral presentation). Students can get feedback on their group work during the feedback moment of the exam. There is no second assessment period for the written assignment.

Not only group work is organized, but also a written exam will be organized that will have two parts. In the first part students (closed book) will be asked to answer a number of questions about the theory of financial management. In the second part (open book) students will be asked to solve two short exercises. The standard maximum duration of the exam is 3 hours.

7. Study material

7.1 Required reading *

Eddy Laveren, Peter-Jan Engelen, Sven Damen. Financieel Beheer van KMO's, Intersentia, Antwerpen, Forthcoming 2022 (student price +/- 35 euro).

Syllabus of professor

7.2 Optional reading

The following study material can be studied voluntarily :

Old or recent lecture recordings can be made available ad-hoc by the instructor for working students or students who have a scheduling conflict with another course.

8. Contact information *

- Alain Praet: alain.praet@kuleuven.be
- Sven Damen: sven.damen@uantwerpen.be

9. Tutoring

For asking questions or for making personal appointments, the professor can be contacted:

- Alain Praet: alain.praet@kuleuven.be
- Sven Damen: sven.damen@uantwerpen.be