

- * We often speak of valuation as if it is a defined number and quite specific
- * Surely a company or a business has a value and that value is clear.
 - * Look at the market price
 - * Look at the transaction value
- * Surely, that is what the company is worth...

- * The first issue is that valuation is not a number
- * Valuation is a process
- * The process is to try to determine what company is worth its economic value

- * There are many reasons for wanting and needing a business valuation
 - * Raising Capital
 - * Mergers and Acquisitions
 - * IPO
 - * Taxation
 - * Partner Ownership
 - * Pricing Options, Convertibles and Warrants

* For every reason there are a number of different parties each of whom will have their own agenda and their own view on value - high or low

* The Valuation process uses a range of methods which we will discuss in this course both intrinsic and relative

- * We also need to ensure that we look beyond the numbers
 - * Management
 - * Markets
 - * Competitors
 - * Products and Services
 - * Competitive Advantage

- * Company valuations may vary depending on
 - * Scale
 - * Rate of Growth
 - * Profitability (Margins)
 - * Cash Flow
- * These will all be taken into account

- * The methods for valuation take a range of approaches and seldom result in the same answer
- * In fact, it is much more likely that the results will be different
- * Not just that but each method will produce its own high/low range of outcomes

* Public and Private companies have different risk profiles and we will discover that risk is one of the central factors in every valuation approach

- * Be prepared for a roll-a-coaster ride
- * The valuation process has its ups and downs and just when you think you are getting a handle on it, it spins you off in a different direction

- * To summarise, Company Valuation is a journey
- * A journey without end
- * It is constantly changing and will offer you a range of conflicting destinations
- * Welcome and enjoy the ride!

