Module Descriptor

Title	Financial & Banking Markets		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	ACCT09018	**SCQF Level**	9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	James Johnston		

Summary of Module

The module introduces module participants to financial markets and institutions. It aims to give those who take it a better understanding some of the main features of banking and financial markets. It begins with an overview of the financial system, with particular attention being paid to intermediation and financial crises. It then examines interest rate determination and the term structure of interest rates. The main elements of the money and capital markets are explored. The focus of the module then switches to central banks, how they conduct monetary policy and the merits of innovations in this policy space such as central bank independence. The conventional approach to banking, how banks manage risk, and the merits of attempts to better regulate modern banks and banking will be appraised. The module concludes by looking at working of the foreign exchange market and basic models of exchange rate determination. It finishes by examining the use of derivatives in the management of exchange rate risk. Given the content of the module it should be useful to anyone aspiring to a career in the financial services industry.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus**[1] ☒	**Hybrid**[2] ☐	**Online**[3] ☐	**Work -Based Learning**[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate an understanding financial markets, why they exist and how they can become unstable.
L2	Demonstrate an understanding of interest rate determination and the working of money and capital markets.
L3	Demonstrate an understanding of central banks and monetary policy.
L4	Demonstrate an understanding of banking, risk management in banking, and bank regulation.
L5	Demonstrate an understanding of simple models of exchange rate determination and the management of exchange rate risk.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 9** Those taking the module should develop knowledge and understanding of banking and financial markets, central banks and the conduct of monetary policy, and exchange rate determination and the management of exchange rate risk.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 9** Those taking the module should be able to make use of the knowledge and understanding acquired and research skills developed to better understand and participate more effectively in the financial services sector.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Those taking the module will be able to develop their critical, analytical, ideas synthesising skills, allowing them to make more balanced judgements in relation to money banking and financial markets.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 9** The course requires students to make use of and develop their communication, ICT, and numeracy skills.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities at a professional level in relation to money, banking, and finance. Work independently, and where appropriate, under guidance.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching

In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.

Module material will be delivered using the traditional lecture and tutorial format. Lectures will be used to explore the underlying financial principles and the importance of finance in an international context. The lectures will be supported by tutorial exercises and questions, designed to allow students to test their understanding of the material provided in lectures. Knowledge and understanding will be enhanced by reference to real-life scenarios and case studies. Through assessment, students will be able to demonstrate their evaluation, analytical, and interpretative skills.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	12
Independent Study	164
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Mishkin, F. S. and Eakins, S. G. (2024). Financial Markets & Institutions. 10th edition, Pearson, Global edition.

Brandl, M.W. (2021) Money, Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions, Cengage, 2nd ed., Chapter 7, and references therein.

Pilbeam, K. (2018) Finance & Financial Markets. 4th ed. London, Palgrave. Chapter 3, and references therein. **

Howells, P, and Bain, K., (2012) The Economics of Money, Banking and Finance - A European Text, Current Edition FT Prentice Hall - Pearson, Harlow.

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

The university is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that actively facilitates student success. In this module, there is a high degree of student-led flexibility. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on-campus and online, including engaging with online learning activities in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments.

Whilst we understand that there may be times when conflicting priorities make participation challenging, for you to gain the most from this module it is recommended that you participate in all scheduled live classes and complete your self-directed learning activities in a timely manner.

It may be difficult to pass the assessment associated with this module if you are not regularly engaging with the module work and live classes. We may reach out to check how things are going and offer support if we observe that you have not been attending sessions or completing online activities.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical and/or laboratory based learning or assessment required to meet accrediting body requirements the University will make reasonable adjustment such as adjustable height benches or assistance of a 'buddy' or helper.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Accounting Finance Law**
Overall Assessment Results	☒ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	AFL
Moderator	Kieran James
External Examiner	Kasun Dissanayake
Accreditation Details	

Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**
Changes / Version Number	

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
100% Class Test (written).
Assessment 2
Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Class Test	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	100	2

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	2 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**