

MODULE SPECIFICATION

1. Title of the module

Technical Consultancy Project

2. School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Pearson College London

3. The level of the module (e.g. Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 6

4. The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

30 credits (15 ECTS)

5. Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

This module can be run in any term: Autumn, Spring or Summer

6. Prerequisite and co-requisite modules

- Corporate Reporting 2 (level 5)
- Taxation for Professional Accountants (level 5)
- Financial Assurance & Risk Management (level 5)
- Business Ethics (level 5)
- Advanced Financial Management (level 6)

7. The programmes of study to which the module contributes

- BSc (Hons) Professional Accounting in Business - core module
- Integrated Masters in Advanced Professional Accounting in Business- core module

8. The intended subject specific learning outcomes.

On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

- 8.1 Synthesise their technical knowledge of accounting, taxation, finance, and assurance concepts to address real business issues from a technical perspective.
- 8.2 Adopt a systematic approach to addressing complex business issues.
- 8.3 Apply the methods and techniques to critically review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding of financial reporting, finance, assurance, and taxation issues.
- 8.4 Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of business valuation techniques.
- 8.5 Analyse and apply strategic tax planning concepts and recommendations.
- 8.6 Apply appropriate accounting, audit and taxation techniques to real business issues, processes and transactions.

9. The intended generic learning outcomes.

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On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

- 9.1 Demonstrate decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts,
- 9.2 Critically evaluate information and (sometimes incomplete) data to make judgements and identify solutions to problems,
- 9.3 Effectively communicate recommendations in a professional manner using technical and non-technical language.

10. A synopsis of the curriculum

The purpose of this module is to serve as one of two “gateway” consultancy modules, which aim to equip learners with a holistic approach when solving business issues. The gateway modules have been designed to help prepare learners for the realities of working in accounting and finance through adopting the mind set of an external or internal consultant. It will also help to prepare learners for the final stage modules of professional accountancy qualifications.

The Technical Consultancy Project will require students to apply their technical accounting knowledge gained at levels 4 and 5 to provide advice on real business issues, such as mergers and acquisitions, groups, financing, new transactions, and assurance issues. As well as reinforcing key accounting, finance, tax, and assurance concepts through practical application, it will also develop learner’s awareness of how business decision-making requires many elements to be considered.

Overview of curriculum:

- Business valuations: share valuation methods, debt valuation models, efficient market hypothesis
- Mergers and acquisitions
- First time adoption of IFRSs
- IFRS 3 (Goodwill), IFRS 8 (operating segments), IFRS 9 (financial instruments), IFRS 10 (consolidated financial statements), 12 (disclosure of interest in other entities), 16 (leases),
- IAS 16 (PPE), IAS 18 (Revenue), IAS 24 (Related Party disclosures), IAS 37 (Provisions), IAS 38 (intangible assets), IAS 40 (Investment Property)
- Assurance engagements and risk management approaches
- Strategic tax planning: use of losses, groups, corporation tax relief for start ups
- Advanced business structures: special purpose vehicles
- Contemporary issues in business
- Consultancy techniques and ethics

11. Reading List (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)

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- Ogden, Jen, O’Conner, “Advanced Corporate Finance: policies & strategies”, Pearson
- ACCA F7 Complete Text,
- Cotter, “Advanced Financial Reporting: A complete guide to IFRS”, Pearson (latest edition)
- International Financial Reporting Standards, IFRS Foundation
- ACCA F6 Study Manual
- Arens, Elder, Beasley, “Auditing & Assurance Services (an integrated approach)”, Pearson (latest edition)
- “International Journal of Auditing”, Wiley
- “Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance”, SAGE Journals
- Andrew Ferguson, A, Pündrich, G,” Does Industry Specialist Assurance of Non-Financial Information Matter to Investors?”, American Accounting Association

12. Learning and Teaching methods

This module will be typically taught by:

10 x 1 hour lectures

10 x 4 hour seminars

The focus of the seminars will be on applying technical and accumulated knowledge (covered principally in the lectures) to real case studies and current business issues that appear in journals and press at the time to help them to develop a synthetic approach. Learners will be expected to practise their consultancy skills during seminars and clinics, facilitated by the lecturer and / or industry professionals.

13. Assessment methods.

This module will be assessed through a 4,500 word coursework integrated case study assignment (100% of overall grade).

14. Map of Module Learning Outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to Learning and Teaching Methods (section12) and methods of Assessment (section 13)

Module learning outcome		8.1	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	9.1	9.2	9.3

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Learning/ teaching method	Hours allocated									
Private Study	250	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lecture	10	X			X	X	X			X
Seminar	40	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Assessment method										
Case study coursework assignment (100% grade)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

15. **Pearson College London recognises and has embedded the expectations of current disability equality legislation, and supports students with a declared disability or special educational need in its teaching.**

Within this module we will make reasonable adjustments wherever necessary, including additional or substitute materials, teaching modes or assessment methods for students who have declared and discussed their learning support needs. Arrangements for students with declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the College's Registry which oversees disability/dyslexia student support, and specialist support will be provided where needed.

16. **Campus(es) or Centre(s) where module will be delivered:**

Pearson College London

If the module is part of a programme in a Partner College or Validated Institution, please complete sections 17 and 18. If the module is not part of a programme in a Partner College or Validated Institution these sections can be deleted.

17. **Partner College/Validated Institution:**

Pearson College London

18. **University School responsible for the programme:**

Kent Business School

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FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY

Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.

Date approved	Major/minor revision	Start date of the delivery of revised version	Section revised	Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet)