1. **Title of the module**

BUSN9078 (CB9078) Research Methods and Skills (Finance)

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

Kent Business School

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

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

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

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

Autumn and Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

MSc Finance (International Banking and Finance); MSc Finance (Finance and Management); MSc Finance (Financial Markets)

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 identify a topic on which to write a research proposal which is appropriate to the student’s degree;

8.2 identify and apply appropriate tools and techniques to support the proposal;

8.3 carry out an effective literature search using electronic sources such as Web of Knowledge and Business Source Complete; accurately summarise the literature sources and critically evaluate their relevance;

8.4 specify what data they will need to collect to carry out the report/dissertation and how they will go about obtaining it;

8.5 be aware of a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods that might be necessary to analyse the data.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 demonstrate critical thinking;

9.2 select, organise, develop and synthesise complex material;

9.3 demonstrate problem solving;

9.4 plan, work and study independently;

9.5 demonstrate competence in numeracy and quantitative skills including the use of models of finance; qualitative research skills;

9.6 conduct research into finance and management issues;

9.7 identify, find, record, organise and manipulate and communicate knowledge relevant to the evaluation of the financial performance and management of organisations.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module develops the necessary knowledge and skills for students to be able to successfully complete a business report/dissertation proposal. Indicative topics are:

* Choosing a company for analysis / the finance topic of interest
* Searching and reviewing the literature and Bloomberg
* Choosing suitable methods and approaches for analysing the chosen company/ the finance topic of interest
* Preparing the business report/dissertation proposal
* Structuring the business report/dissertation

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

Beattie, V., Ryan, B., Scappen, R. W. and Theobald, M. (2002), “Research Methods and Methodology in Finance and Accounting”, Cengage Learning

Blumberg, B., Cooper, D.R., and P.S. Schindler (2008), “Business Research Methods”, 2nd European Ed, McGraw Hill

Bryman, A. and Bell, E. (2006) “Business Research Methods”, Oxford University Press

Hussey, J. and Hussey, R. (1997) “Business Research: A Practical Guide for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students, Palgrave

Weyers, J. and McMillan, K. (2007) "How to Write Dissertations and Project Reports", Prentice Hall

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 12

Private study hours: 138

Total study hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Project proposal (1000 words) (100%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Reassessment Instrument: 100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* | *9.5* | *9.6* | *9.7* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| Lectures | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project proposal | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

Finance is an international language and associated quantitative techniques will reflect this. The intended learning outcomes are applicable worldwide as part of the universal principles of Finance. With regard to subject content, the material within the syllabus has been developed for use within an international educational setting for students who will apply financial theories in a wide range of international contexts. The reading list also has references to international research. Our international teaching team is also diverse and international. Our support for students in KBS is also internationally attuned, given our international student body.

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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
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Revised FSO Jan 2018