

Business Analysis and Valuation

General data

Course code:	M23VZB04E		
ECTS credits:	9		
Type of the course:	General core course (B1)		
Semester:	Fall, Semester 2		
Course restrictions:	-		
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1. Description and aims

Students will be guided through the financial life cycle of businesses from early phases to maturity to highlight the available funding options, opportunites and risks. Therefore, the course will cover the topics from bootstrapping and crowdfunding in entrepreneurial finance to the financial management issues of listed companies. Students will be equipped with skills and competences to perform financial statement analysis, to make capital structure and payout policy related decisions. Students will have a deep insight into the financial statements presented under US GAAP and under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and will understand how accounting information should be interpreted and used for valuation purposes. Furthermore, students will acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to appropriately select and apply different valuation methods to determine the intrinsic value of any company, and to present their work in a high-quality valuation report in line with the International Valuation Standards (IVS). Students will be able to perform real option valuation imbedded into financial management decisions.

2. Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

CILO1: apply relevant financial ratio analysis, based on balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statement. (PILO4)

CILO2: correctly judge a financial decision making situation related to capital structure or payout policy, or ESG integration. (PILO4, PILO8)



CILO3: understand and differentiate the most widely used company valuation principles and methods described in the relevant literature, and in the International Valuation Standards (IVS). (PILO4)

CILO4: correctly judge a valuation situation, select the appropriate valuation method, work out a sophisticated valuation model (working in a team and using software support), and present the valuation results in a professional valuation report in line with International Valuation Standards. (PILO4, PILO8)

CILO5: identify real option types, and apply several real option valuation techniques in an interdisciplinary context. (PILO4, PILO8)

3. Content, schedule

Financial analysis

- 1. Funding options throught life cycle.
- 2. Complex financial statement analysis.
- 3. Capital structure decision.
- 4. Payout policy. ESG integration.

Valuation

- 5. Inputs for valuation: Financial statements under the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- 6. Valuation approaches and methods: cost-based, market-based and income-based valuation.
- 7. The practice of valuation: International Valuation Standards (IVS).
- 8. Solution of a complex valuation case study using MS Excel.

Real options

- 9. From DCF valuation to flexibility assessment.
- 10. Real option types in general.
- 11. Real option valuation (Binomial pricing, Black-Scholes pricing, qualitative assessment).
- 12. The interdisciplinary application of real options (Engineering, energy sector, pharmaceutical industry, venture capital applications).

4. Learning and teaching strategy, methodology

The financial analysis module will be based on pre-reading of relevant chapters from the "Financial Statement Analysis" e-learning material which will be provided to students via Moodle; and on interactive learning environment where all the students will be working on a financial analysis of a listed company of their choice individually, while discussing comparative analysis issues in groups at the same time to be able to highlight corporate differences withing the same sector. The target of this teaching strategy is to arrive at the course work of a complex financial analysis to be submitted as an assessment compontent for 20% (CILO 1, 2). Within the "Valuation" module, students will get a combination of lectures, practical exercises and short case studies, which will help them acquire the knowledge and practical skills necessary to conduct and present a high-quality business valuation (CILO 3, 4). Within the "Real Option" module, students will get a combination of lectures, practical exercises and case studies, which will help them acquire the knowledge and practical skills necessary to identify flexibility and expand DCF valuation (CILO 5).



5. Assessment

Formative assessment elements:

Consultation will be offered to the students to discuss financial analysis issues and to provide a feedback on their performance prior to the submission of the course work.

Summative assessment elements:

Individual Assessment	%	Group Assessment	%
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Name of the element	Weight	Туре	Details	Retake opportunity	Req.*	Related CILOs
Financial	20%	Individual	Financial ratio	No	No	1, 2
analysis		course work	analysis, credit analysis, capital structure			
			analysis, risk analysis, payout			
		policy analysis.				
Valuation report	30%	Written assignment (group work)	Professional valuation report in line with International Valuation Standards	No	No	3, 4
Final exam	50%	Test	Electronic test	Yes	Yes	3, 4, 5

^{*} Req.: Completion of the element is required to pass the course, irrespective of the performance in other elements.

6. Learning materials

Essential

- KUTI, M. (2017): Financial Statement Analysis. E-learning material.
- DAMODARAN, A. (2012): "Investment Valuation: Tools and Techniques for Determining the Value of Any Asset", Third Edition, Wiley
- Luehrman, T. A. (1998). Investment opportunities as real options: Getting started on the numbers. HBR July-August 1998

Recommended

- KUTI, M. et al (2017): Equity-based Crowdfunding. Financial and Economic Review, Vol. 16 Issue
 4., December 2017, pp. 187–200.
 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322016926 Equity-based Crowdfunding
- International Valuation Standards (IVS 2020): https://www.ivsc.org/standards/
- Luehrman, T. A. (1998): Strategy as a portfolio of real options. Harvard Business School Press, 1998.
- Leslie K.J., Michaels M. P. (1997): The Real Power of Real Options, The McKinsey Quarterly, 1997 Number 3.
- Borison, A. (2005). Real options analysis: Where are the emperor's clothes? Journal of Applied Corporate Finance, 17(2), 17-31.



7. Further information

International aspects embedded with the course

The financial analysis and valuation techniques are based on the international standards and best practices.

Ethics, Responsibility & Sustainability (ERS) aspects embedded with the course

The analysis of the sustainability reports will help students understand the stakeholder approach in financial management.

Connections to the world of practice of the course

Guest lecturers from prestigeous companies will be hosted at the course.