UNIVERSITY of BRADFORD

Module Descriptor

Empirical Methods in Accounting and Finance

Module Code:	AFE6014-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Management
Subject Area:	Accounting, Finance and Economics
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 6
Module Leader:	Ahmed Elamer

Additional Tutors:
Dr Mark Baimbridge

Pre-requisites:	Introduction to Finance 2017-18
Co-requisites:	

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	24
Practical classes and	6
Tutorials	6
Directed Study	164

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
ONA	College of Banking and Financial Studies, Oman / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)

Module Aims

This module aims to provide you with sound conceptual understanding and core practical skills necessary for empirical research within accounting and finance. It aims to develop your analytical skills and enable you to make use of data and suitable methods to assist decision making within firms, organisations and other entities. It aims to enable you to undertake appropriate empirical analysis for completing your research project and to enable you to develop applied skills which would be useful for future roles as a finance or accounting professional.

Outline Syllabus

1 Introduction to the philosophy of empirical research
2 Literature search and literature review
3 An overview of qualitative empirical methods 1 (including content analysis, secondary data analysis and interviews)
4 An overview of qualitative empirical methods 2 (including questionnaire design and survey methods)
5 Introduction to quantitative empirical methods (including descriptive and graphical analysis)
6 Obtaining data and basic data analysis (descriptives/ graphics)
7 Probability basics: Measuring uncertainty
8 Statistical inference
9 Correlation and causation
10 Introduction to the classical linear regression model
11 Deviations from the classical linear regression model - Autocorrelation, heteroscedasticity and normality failures
12 Basic time series analysis

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

1 1a Demonstrate a critical understanding of the basics of empirical work within accounting and finance.
1b Develop an in depth understanding of core concepts underpinning applied research within accounting and finance, as used to support decision making within firms and other organisations.
1c Appropriately apply suitable software resources to analyse data and carry out empirical research.

2 2a Use appropriate formal theory to estimate simple formal econometric models and apply them to an accounting or finance context.
2b Demonstrate an understanding of basic concepts within probability, statistical inference and the classical linear regression model.
2c Critically appraise, analyse and employ a variety of data in order to aid decision making in business and financial organisations.
2d Run regression models and interpret regression outputs and evaluate the results obtained.

3 3a Plan and manage your own applied and theoretical learning.
3b Effectively define problems, engage in and evaluate decision making, and use appropriate verbal and written communication skills.
3c Undertake non-technical presentation of formal models and results.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures, seminars and laboratory computing sessions will provide you with basic theory and knowledge of formal concepts as well as practical demonstrations involving use of suitable computing and software resources which are essential for gaining key discipline skills. This includes the use of software such as SPSS or Stata and Bloomberg Professional. This will enable you to relate classroom-based analysis to the 'real life' decision making context faced by professionals within accounting and finance. Weekly tutorials and laboratory sessions (as appropriate) will give you the opportunity to apply your theoretical and conceptual knowledge to an applied context, and enable you to test your understanding of formal concepts. Tutorials also aid reflection, as well as critical evaluation of technical and econometric methods employed by practitioners in accounting and finance. Oral feedback will be provided within tutorials and the laboratory training / demonstration sessions.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Examination - closed book	Closed book examination	1.5 hours	50%	Yes
Summative	Coursework	Group Coursework	0-2000 words	50%	No

Legacy Code (if applicable)

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to rebus:list.