MERCURY

Advanced Financial Analysis Training Course

15 – 19 November 2027
Madrid (Spain)



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Ref: 16129_1007523 **Date:** 15 – 19 November 2027 **Location:** Madrid (Spain) **Fees:** 5600 Euro

Introduction:

The Advanced Financial Analysis training course is essential for understanding and evaluating organizations' financial performance. It enables more accurate and effective financial decision-making by equipping participants with advanced knowledge of financial analysis concepts and their significance.

This Advanced Financial Analysis course covers various financial analysis methods used to interpret financial statements, empowering professionals to assess risks and opportunities within the business environment. Participants will learn about key financial ratios and how to use them to measure corporate performance. They will also acquire advanced techniques for analyzing and interpreting financial data using the latest tools and technologies.

The Advanced Financial Analysis program highlights financial analysis instruments that assist in forecasting future financial positions and evaluating companies' sustainability and growth potential. Practical examples and case studies are integrated throughout the course, allowing participants to apply the concepts in real-world settings. This approach strengthens their ability to make sound financial decisions based on solid analytical foundations.

Targeted Groups:

The Advanced Financial Analysis training course targets a diverse group of professionals in the finance and accounting sectors, including:

- Chief accountants seek to enhance their financial analysis skills and gain a deeper understanding of financial statements.
- Accounting managers and senior accountants seek to develop their analytical competencies to deliver accurate and efficient financial reports.
- Finance managers aim to improve their ability to assess financial performance and make strategic decisions.
- Financial analysts and controllers require advanced insights into various financial analyses to strengthen their recommendations.
- Financial account managers are responsible for managing and analyzing financial data to ensure compliance with accounting standards.
- Heads of financial departments, treasury controllers, and corporate financiers want to enhance their financial strategies.
- Credit risk analysts, bankers, and relationship managers are interested in financial risk evaluation and data-driven credit decisions.
- Any individual seeking to advance their skills and expertise in financial analysis.

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Training Course Objectives:

By the end of the Advanced Financial Analysis course, participants will be able to:

- Define financial analysis and understand its core components and role in assessing financial performance.
- Explore the importance of financial analysis in making strategic financial decisions.
- Distinguish and interpret key elements in financial statements using accurate analytical methods.
- Apply various financial analysis techniques to evaluate a company's financial position.
- Analyze financial data using analytical tools and specialized software such as Excel to create visual reports and dashboards.
- Evaluate the quality of financial reports, including earnings and cash flows.
- Develop skills to critique accounting standards and analyze financial risks.
- Assess the financial standing of organizations and make decisions based on advanced analytical results.
- Deliver accurate financial insights that support business sustainability and improved performance.

Targeted Competencies:

Upon completing this Advanced Financial Analysis program, participants will enhance the following competencies:

- In-depth understanding and accurate interpretation of financial data.
- Advanced skills in financial analysis and professional handling of financial data.
- Proficiency in credit analysis and understanding financial risks associated with companies and financial institutions.
- Strengthened risk management capabilities and data-driven financial decision-making.
- Advanced comprehension of financial management and strategic financial analysis.
- Familiarity with International Financial Reporting Standards IFRS and global compliance.
- Proficiency in preparing and analyzing professional financial reports that support strategic decision-making.
- Advanced use of Excel and PowerPoint in financial data analysis and presentation preparation.

Advanced Financial Analysis: Tools & Techniques

Financial analysis tools are fundamental for organizations to measure and understand financial performance.

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These include financial ratio analysis, trend analysis, and cash flow analysis—all of which support informed strategic decisions.

Participants will gain hands-on experience using these tools to better understand and apply different types of financial analyses professionally.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Introduction to Advanced Financial Analysis:

- Users of financial information.
- Content of the annual financial report.
- Importance of non-financial information in annual reports.
- Understanding the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement.
- Components of other comprehensive income.

Unit 2: Industry Analysis & Ratio Analysis Using Excel:

- Common-size analysis to enhance comparability.
- Trend and growth pattern analysis.
- Ratio analysis to assess key performance indicators:
  - Profitability.
  - Liquidity.
  - Efficiency & working capital management.
  - Capital structure & risk.
- Altman Z-Score model to predict potential bankruptcy.

Unit 3: Financial Statement Window Dressing & Creative Accounting:

- Measuring inventory at net realizable value: signs of obsolete inventory.
- Analysts' approach to inventory assessment.
- Impact of capitalizing vs. expensing on ratios and statements.
- Depreciation methods and their financial implications.
- Asset impairment and revaluation of property, plant & equipment.
- Operating lease vs. finance lease classification.
- Off-balance-sheet manipulation via special-purpose entities.
- Joint ventures: using the equity method.
- Consolidated financial statements: full goodwill vs. partial goodwill.
- Employee compensation and end-of-service benefits recognition.
- Stock-based compensation vs. bonus systems.
- Case studies: Enron, WorldCom, Parmalat accounting scandals.

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Unit 4: Evaluating the Quality of Financial Reports:

- Building a framework for assessing report quality.
- Common issues affecting financial reporting quality.
- Identifying sustainable and recurring earnings.
- Beneish M-Score model to detect earnings manipulation.
- Evaluating a company's earnings quality.
- Assessing the quality of cash flows.

Unit 5: Integrating Financial Data Analysis Techniques:

- Applying a comprehensive financial statement analysis model.
- Evaluating the quality of a company's financial information.
- Case Study: Investment evaluation in Nestlé.