

Programme Specification:

DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE (SCQF LEVEL 11)

Contents

1	Introduction and Summary	2
2	Aims	2
3	Teaching, Learning and Assessment	2
4	Entry Requirements	2
5	Progression	3
6	Curriculum	3
7	National Occupational Standards (NOS)	3
8	QAA Benchmark Statements	4
9	Learning/Teaching Methods and Strategies	4
10	Assessment Methods and Strategies	4

Introduction and Summary

This programme provides learners with the skills to record, report and analyse financial and accounting information in organisational contexts to aid decision-making and corporate reporting

Aims

The aims of this programme will allow learners to:

- Be able to demonstrate deep knowledge and understanding of accounting and finance within wider organisational contexts
- Be able to understand current issues, techniques and thinking in the area
- Be able to apply theoretical and applied perspectives and specialist skills to organisational contexts in which they operate

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

See section 10 below.

Entry Requirements

One of the following:

- Level 6 Diploma, or
- Bachelors Degree, or
- Other relevant international qualification at Level 6,
- Over 5 years of work experience

Progression

Successful completion may allow progression to the dissertation stage of master's degrees at UK and overseas universities.

Curriculum

The Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11) is an RQF equivalent Level 7 programme consisting of 6 units, all of which are compulsory as shown:

Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11) Compulsory Units		
Unit Title	RQF Level	Credits
Strategy and Global Finance	7	20
Strategic Financial Management	7	20
Strategic Auditing	7	20
Financial Analyst	7	20
Ethical behaviour and Corporate Governance	7	20
Corporate Reporting	7	20
Total Credits		120

National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Some units in the Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11) relate to the National Occupational Standards for Management and Leadership.

Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11) Unit Titles	NOS Unit in accounting and finance
Strategy and Global Finance	K1, K4, K5, K13
Strategic Financial Management	P1, P2, P3, P4, P6, P13
Strategic Auditing	P8, P10, K6
Financial Analyst	P14, P16
Ethical behaviour and Corporate Governance	P7, P8, P9, P11, P12, K1, K2, K3, K8
Corporate Reporting	P8, P15, K10, K11, K12

QAA Benchmark Statements

The Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11) is a RQF-equivalent Level 7 qualification, and has been mapped to sections 3.1, 3.2, 4 and 6.7 within the QAA 'Accounting' and 'Finance' undergraduate benchmark statements 2016 and sections 3.8 and 3.13 of the QAA Master's benchmark statement in 'Business and Management' 2015, with particular reference to Type 1 master's degrees (see link here for more information). Note that there are no master's subject benchmark statements for

Accounting and Finance, but learners are expected to meet the outcomes of the two undergraduate benchmark statements described above as well as the outcomes of sections 3.8 and 3.13 of the master's statement.

The following tables of learning outcomes for this programme have been produced with reference to the three benchmark statements' learning outcomes.

Dip Acc and Fin Unit Titles (all units are 20 credits)	QAA subject benchmark statement paragraph references*
Strategy and Global Finance	M3.8, F3.2i-2iii, A 3.2i-v, F6.7
Strategic Financial Management	M3.8, M 3.12 iv, M3.13ii, M3.13iv, F6.7, A 3.2
Strategic Auditing	M 3.13 iv, F 6.7vii, ix, A6.7iv -v
Financial Analyst	M 3.13 iv, A6.7iv -v
Ethical behaviour and Corporate Governance	M 3.13 ii and ix, F 3.2v-viii
Corporate Reporting	M 3.13 ii, iv and ix, F 3.2v-viii

- **M = master's SBS, A=undergraduate accounting SBS, F= undergraduate finance SBS.**

Learning/Teaching Methods and Strategies

The learning outcomes will be achieved by the use of the following learning and teaching methods and strategies:

- Learning and teaching situations such as lectures, tutorials and seminars
- Live and simulated case studies
- Independent and group activities (class and non-class based)
- Speakers and subject specialists

Assessment Methods and Strategies

The following assessment strategies will be adopted to achieve the learning outcomes:

- Examination (seen and unseen)
- Coursework assignments (including problem solving activities, simulations, consultancy projects, individual and group reports, as well as more conventional written forms such as essays and other discursive assignments)
- Course presentations
- Reflective forms of assessment (e.g. portfolios, learner logs, and peer engagement)

Strategy and Global Finance

Unit Summary

Equivalent QCF Level	7
Credit Value	20
Learning Time (hours)	200
Organisation name	EduQual Ltd. (Company Number 8913632)
As part of (Award Title)	Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11)
Unit purpose	The rationale of this unit is to ensure the learner can use knowledge and techniques at the forefront of the discipline to make decisions that add value in terms of corporate finance based on sound theoretical concepts. In addition, it enables the learner to present, interpret and critically evaluate financial information and to work independently to solve the problems arising within the specified time given. It also ensures that the learning can be applied in practical contexts.
Unit Introduction	This unit introduces strategic financial decision making in international business today and considers competitiveness not only with regional markets but internationally. It uses corporate finance techniques to analyse corporate risk and performance from a global viewpoint. The unit covers the concept of globalisation, multinational organisations, their business environment and investment processes and recommends appropriate strategies in order to enhance the value of an organisation. Further the unit looks into the preparation of reports explaining the outcome of strategic decisions, use of appropriate sources of finance, the risks involved, suitable risk management techniques and critical assessment of potential investment decision from a global environment perspective.
Unit Entry Requirements (if applicable)	See Programme Specification.

Learning Outcome 1

Evaluate the concept of globalisation and the investment processes involved in relation to globalisation.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
1.1 Explain the concept of globalisation.	The concept of globalization, approaches to globalization in selected organisations.
1.2 Explain the affiliation between the concept of globalization and investment process.	The different types of globalisation. Mergers, acquisitions, licensing, joint ventures, outsourcing, and direct overseas branches.
1.3 Evaluate approaches to investment in globalized businesses	The investment processes in globalization, evaluation of approaches such as direct investment, mergers and acquisitions, joint partnerships, out sourcing etc. for particular scenarios (e.g. Apple, Tata Steel, Tesco, Toyota, Prudential insurance etc.)

Learning Outcome 2

Evaluate the impact of the global business environment on selected national and multinational organisations.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
2.1 Review and identify the global business environment factors.	Global business environment factors. Market entry and exit barriers e.g. restrictions on foreign ownership, tariff barriers on imported components etc., import substitution policies, export restrictions. Suitability of local infrastructure.
2.2 Evaluate the impact of the identified factors on selected national and multinational organisations.	The effects on national and multinational organisations for selected scenarios.

Learning Outcome 3

Evaluate and recommend strategies to enhance value on an organisation.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
3.1 Describe the current financial position of selected organisations.	Published financial statements, analysis of statements, accounting approaches used e.g. for revenue recognition and apportionment, valuations of intangibles (e.g. intellectual property valuations, brands, goodwill etc.)
3.2 Explain how the identified organisations achieve their financial goals	Analysis of possible approaches e.g. Strategic implications of mergers and post-merger values.
3.3 Evaluate and recommend strategies which enhance the value of the	Evaluation of management theories to understand the current market position, strategies to enhance value. Evaluation of approaches to increasing value, selection of suitable strategies with rationale.

Learning Outcome 4

Evaluate and explain the financial consequences of strategic decisions and presentation of report to management.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
4.1 Explain the range and impact of strategic decisions in selected organisations.	The strategic decision undertaken (e.g. market entry/withdrawal, mergers and acquisitions, new products and services etc.).
4.2 Evaluate the financial consequences of the strategic decision made.	The financial consequences faced by an organisation e.g. Tesco in SE Asia, Inditex/Zara's approach to outsourcing etc.) Evaluation of organisational performance and results in short, medium and long term.

Learning Outcome 5

Critically evaluate the risk involved and the cost in managing the global risk, when harnessing appropriate sources of finance.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
5.1 Identify and explain the sources of finance available for selected scenarios.	Sources of finance available: government loans/grants, joint enterprises, shareholders, bank loans etc
5.2 Critically evaluate the risk involved for the identified sources of finance.	Risk Analysis. e.g. currency fluctuations, interest rate rises etc. and mitigation strategies
5.3 Analyse and explain the cost involved in managing the global risk.	Cost of Capital and WACC (weighted average cost of capital), airline fuel purchasing policies etc.

Learning Outcome 6

Critically evaluate suitable techniques to manage global risk.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
6.1 Explain global risks as based on	Interest rate and foreign exchange rate risks, tariffs, trade barriers, government legislation, political and economic instability etc.
6.2 Evaluate risk mitigation techniques for the typical risks as identified at 6.1 above.	Use of exchange rates, interest rates, borrowing in local currencies etc
6.3 Evaluate the suitability of techniques identified at 6.2 above to manage the global risk to a selected organisation.	Use of CAPM (Capital asset pricing model) and APT. (Arbitrage pricing theory)

Learning Outcome 7

Critically evaluate potential investment decisions available and strategies for implementation selected in the global environment.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
7.1 Identify the potential investment decisions and strategies available for chosen scenarios.	Advanced Investment Appraisal-Impact of global financing. Case studies.
7.2 Critically evaluate the decisions and strategies selected	Evaluation of strategies used in case studies of global investment.

Delivery and Assessment

Tuition and guidance should feature flexible approaches to delivering the unit. Formal tuition sessions, whether face to face or online, will identify some of the required, theoretical subject matter. This will help students to work individually, or as part of a group, researching and gathering information about the subject. Personal and group research, case studies, simulations, exercises and discussion are typical and engaging ways of learning about the subject. Students will likely use tutor- and self-directed study and reflect on their experience and expertise. Up-to-date information and materials are available from many sources such as businesses, the World Wide Web, television and radio broadcasts, broadsheet newspapers and advisory services.

Programme of Suggested Assessment/Assignments

The following table illustrates the respective assessments for the unit and identifies the corresponding assessment criteria.

Assessment criteria covered	Assignment title	Scenario	Assessment method
1.1,1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1,4.2, 5.1	AS1	Students are expected to develop an individual essay of 2500 words while fulfilling the specific Learning outcome and the module indicative content. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Individual Essay 2500 words
1.3,2.1,2.2,3.3, 5.2,5.3 6.1,6.2,6.3, 7.1, 7.2	AS2	Students are expected to complete a report of 2500 words which consist of 3 sub task each fulfilling the specific Learning outcome. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Individual report 2500 words

List of Learner Sources

The recommended sources listed below should be familiar to each tutor and assessor who is delivering this unit as part of an EduQual qualification. Learners should be made aware of these sources before delivery of this unit, and be fully conversant with these sources upon completion of this unit.

Textbooks	
Margaret, W., International Risk Management, 2008	
Larry, J.K., Business Valuations, 1997	
Journals	
Journal of Business Strategy	
Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis	
Websites	
Free Management Library	www.managementhelp.org
Forbes	www.forbes.com
Financial Managers Society	www.fmsinc.org
Accounting Coach	www.accountingcoach.com
Understanding accounts for non-financial managers	www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newCDV_45.htm
IDEAS	https://ideas.repec.org/a/scm/ausvfe/v10y2010ispecialp180-188.html

Strategic Financial Management

Unit Summary

Equivalent SCQF Level	11
Credit Value	20
Learning Time (hours)	200
Organisation name	EduQual Ltd. (Company Number 8913632)
As part of (Award Title)	Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11) and (also Diploma in Business Management / Diploma in Business and Marketing Strategy (SCQF Level 11))
Unit purpose	To provide learners with the skills to apply financial principles relevant to strategic management in organisational contexts. To demonstrate understanding of strategic planning for profit as well as not for profit organisations with a global focus. The unit develops learner knowledge of concepts and frameworks to produce effective strategic plans.
Unit Entry Requirements (if applicable)	See Programme Specification.

Learning Outcome 1 (Assignment 3, Task 2)

Explain forms of investment appraisal and evaluate the approaches used.

(Accurate calculation methodology required wherever appropriate and where application of financial tools/techniques required)

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Content/Evidence <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
1.1 Describe appropriate finance for an organisation from alternative sources, through the use of selected investment appraisal techniques.	Analyse sources of finance and investment appraisal techniques to determine suitable sources of finance.
1.2 Contrast the usefulness of various investment appraisal approaches.	Select possible sources of finance and appraise their suitability using appropriate investment appraisal techniques, making recommendations.
1.3 Analyse international aspects of financial risk management.	Analyse international financial risks such as interest and exchange rate changes, growth in overseas markets, international accounting standards, and tools to minimise exchange rate risks.

Learning Outcome 2 (Assignment 3, Task 1)

Apply cost concepts to management decision-making.

(Accurate calculation methodology required wherever appropriate and where application of financial tools/techniques required)

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Content/Evidence <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
2.1 Explain the importance of costs in pricing strategies.	Analysis of use of management accounting information such as cost-volume and cost-profit indicators to support investment in product/marketing decisions and pricing decisions.
2.2 Evaluate existing costing systems and propose improvements.	Discuss and evaluate costing and budgeting approaches, propose improvements for the costing system used by selected organisations.
2.3 Design a costing system for an organisation.	Discuss different approaches to costing and choose the most appropriate for a chosen organisation.

Learning Outcome 3 (Assignment 3, Task 2)

Evaluate the importance of risk management in strategic decision-making.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Content/Evidence <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
3.1 Identify various sources of risks that relate to a business.	Discuss different types and sources of risk, including financial, technological, operational, reputational, social, etc.
3.2 Evaluate techniques for risk recording and monitoring.	Evaluate techniques for determining risk levels and their recording and monitoring (e.g. traffic light systems and impact/probability grids, etc.).
3.3 Measure and monitor the likely impact of various risks to an identified business.	Select an appropriate approach to measure and monitor risk in a chosen organisation.
3.4 Apply strategies and techniques to mitigate particular business risks.	Evaluate and apply appropriate strategies and techniques to mitigate risk in a chosen organisation.

Learning Outcome 4 (Assignment 3, Task 1)

Apply financial management techniques to intangible resources.

(Accurate calculation methodology required wherever appropriate and where application of financial tools/techniques required)

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Content/Evidence <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
4.1 Evaluate the value of intangible resources to selected organisations.	Identify and discuss intangible resources such as copyright, patents, trademarks, goodwill, corporate image, reputational risk and their value to organisations.
4.2 Monitor and evaluate intangible and tangible resources using appropriate strategies and tools	For a chosen organisation, select and apply tools and strategies to monitor and evaluate resources.
4.3 Evaluate the efficiency of resource utilisation in an organisation using appropriate techniques.	Appraise approaches to measuring efficiency such as benchmarking against accepted best practice, and evaluate the efficiency of resource utilisation in a chosen organisation.

Learning Outcome 5 (Assignment 3, Task 1)

Interpret and analyse financial statements for strategic planning and decision-making.

(Accurate calculation methodology required wherever appropriate and where application of financial tools/techniques required)

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Content/Evidence <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
5.1 Analyse financial statements to determine the financial viability of an organisation.	Evaluate financial statements and their sources: Companies House and overseas equivalents, balance sheet, profit and loss account, cash flow, balanced scorecards, etc.
5.2 Apply financial ratios to improve information quality.	Apply financial ratios to summarise information for selected companies.
5.3 Make financial recommendations for an organisation based on sourced information.	Evaluate information from the above to make financial recommendations.

Delivery and Assessment

Tuition and guidance should feature flexible approaches to delivering the unit. Formal tuition sessions, whether face to face or online, will identify some of the required, theoretical subject matter. This will help students to work individually, or as part of a group, researching and gathering information about the subject. Personal and group research, case studies, simulations, exercises and discussion are typical and engaging ways of learning about the subject. Students will likely use tutor- and self-directed study and reflect on their experience and expertise. Up-to-date information and materials are available from many sources such as businesses, the World Wide Web, television and radio broadcasts, broadsheet newspapers and advisory services.

Full guidance on delivery and assessment is available from EduQual upon request.¹ Where Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a valid option for learners that meet some (or all) of the assessment criteria outlined for a given unit, readers are referred to [EduQual's Recognition of Prior Learning Policy](#). This policy is available online, or by request.²

Finally, EduQual provides detailed Assessment Guidance to its Approved Centres. Centres that lack this document may:

- Request it from the email address shown in the footnotes on this page

- Access it from their own EduQual Dropbox folder.

Outline Learning Plan

The following outlined learning plan can be used as a guidance document in conjunction with the unit assessment. It is designed only as a simple exemplar of a way in which the unit can be delivered.

Topic and Suggested Assignments / Activities / Assessment
Introduction to unit and programme of learning
Presentation on resourcing decisions and the impact they have both internally and externally on organisational performance and effectiveness
Practical work, research and discussion on resourcing decisions and the impact they have both internally and externally on organisational performance and effectiveness
Presentation on sources of finance and investment appraisal
Practical work, research and discussion on sources of finance and investment appraisal
Presentation on risk management
Practical work, research and discussion on risk management
Assignment 3, Task 1: Report
Tutorial support and feedback for Assignment 3, Task 1
Presentation on cost concepts and management decision-making
Practical work, research, exercises and discussion on cost concepts and management decision-making
Presentation on financial management techniques applied to intangible items and efficient use of all resources
Practical work, research, exercises and discussion on financial management techniques applied to intangible items and efficient use of all resources
Presentation on interpreting financial statements and strategic planning and decision-making
Practical work, research, exercises and discussion on interpreting financial statements and strategic planning and decision-making
Assignment 3, Task 2: Report
Tutorial support and feedback for Assignment 2
Review of unit and programme of assignments

List of Learner Sources

The recommended sources listed below should be familiar to each tutor and assessor who is delivering this unit as part of an EduQual qualification. Learners should be made aware of these sources before delivery of this unit, and be fully conversant with these sources upon completion of this unit.

Textbooks	
Lumby & Jones, Corporate Finance Theory and Practice, 6 th Ed, 2011	
Ross, S.A., Westerfield, R.W., and J. Jaffe, Corporate Finance, 10 th Ed, 2013	
Journals	
Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting	
Journal of Multinational Financial Management	
Strategic Management Journal	
International Journal of Strategic Management	
Websites	
Free Management Library	www.managementhelp.org
Forbes	www.forbes.com
Financial Managers Society	www.fmsinc.org
Accounting Coach	www.accountingcoach.com
Understanding accounts for non-financial managers	www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newCDV_45.htm

Strategic Auditing

Unit Summary

Equivalent QCF Level	7
Credit Value	20
Learning Time (hours)	200
Organisation name	EduQual Ltd. (Company Number 8913632)
As part of (Award Title)	Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11)
Unit purpose	The rationale of this unit is to enable students to develop critical awareness of current standards and issues in auditing and to be able to choose and apply suitable investigative techniques in a variety of audit situations which are simple and non-simple in the accounting environment. The unit discusses the aims, objectives and methods of auditors and their contribution to the achievement of a true and fair view of the published accounts.
Unit Introduction	The unit examines the history of financial regulation and audit, and critically evaluates the current regulatory environment for auditing and the rules of professional conduct for auditors. The unit also discusses the significance of legal and professional behaviour in the performance of auditing. In addition, the audit risk involved and the procedures to minimise the risk are evaluated. The unit also covers the relationship between accounts preparation and auditing and discusses current developments in auditing and relevant research information in relation to auditing.
Unit Entry Requirements (if applicable)	See Programme Specification.

Learning Outcome 1	
Evaluate the history and the current regulatory environment for auditing.	
Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
1.1 Critically evaluate the history of auditing and regulatory environments.	Critical discussion of the history of auditing and regulatory environments. 'True and fair views' of published accounts, and the history of measures to ensure such views.
1.2 Evaluate current audit practice and regulatory environment.	Evaluation of current auditing practices and regulatory environment. The extent to which published accounts have given 'true and fair' views; case studies (e.g. Enron, the 2008 financial crisis etc.) and measures to avoid past problems.

Learning Outcome 2

Demonstrate an understanding of and critically apply the rules of professional conduct for auditors.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
2.1 Identify the rules of professional conduct.	Rules of professional conduct for auditors, legal and professional sanctions for breaches.
2.2 Critical evaluation of the application of the rules of professional conduct for auditors.	Evaluation of cases showing application of the rules of professional conduct.

Learning Outcome 3

Evaluate the importance of legal and professional requirements when performing the audit.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
3.1 Identify and explain the importance of legal and professional requirements.	Professional responsibility and liability. Significance of legal and professional requirements.
3.2 Evaluate the identified requirements for the performance of audit.	Evaluation of the above for the financial statements of companies and groups, auditors' reports.

Learning Outcome 4

Analyse overall audit strategy. Critical analysis on the effectiveness of audit monitoring process in use.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
4.1 Identification and analysis of audit strategy in general.	Analysis of the auditing process. Non-statutory audits, internal audits, environmental audits etc. Audits in not-for-profit organisations.
4.2 Critical evaluation of the effectiveness of the audit monitoring process	Evaluation of effectiveness of auditing e.g. case studies from the
.	

Learning Outcome 5

Evaluate the risks involved in audit and the use of suitable measures to minimise risks.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
5.1 Evaluate the risks involved in the process of auditing	Audit related risks
5.2 Explain and evaluate appropriate measures to minimize the risks identified in specific scenarios	Evaluation of audit risk mitigation methods. Discussion of particular cases of audit failure (for example, from the 2008 financial crisis) and suggestions for how audits could have been improved.

Learning Outcome 6

Analyse and explain the linkage between accounts preparation and the conduct of audit.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
6.1 Identify the link between preparation of accounts and the audit conducted.	Preparation of accounts and accounting standards (e.g. recognition of revenue, transfer pricing, treatment of intangibles, depreciation, etc.). Duty to present a fair view of the business.
6.2 Explain and evaluate the features of the link identified.	Auditor reports and a fair view of the business.

Learning Outcome 7

Explain and critically assess current developments in auditing.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
7.1 Identify and explain current developments in auditing.	Current developments. International standards and financial reporting, International dimension. Work of the UK Financial Reporting Council and Financial Conduct Authority, requirement for strategic audits
	The use of technology.
7.2 Critical assessment of the current developments identified.	Evaluation of the above. Selected case studies.

Delivery and Assessment

Where the module is delivered in a format of webinars and lecture notes. The lectures will cover important academic or contextual issues, setting the scene for more detailed consideration in independent study, preparation and preparation for assessment. The workshops are designed to allow students to engage in tutor-led case studies and activities requiring students to solve typical curriculum issues and problems, applied in relevant scenarios. Sessions may also be devoted to student-led activities and discussions based around relevant topical themes and concepts, the background to which will have been researched and documented in advance.

Where the module is delivered by distance learning all learning materials will be provided either in text or through links to supporting resources. Students will be expected to engage in periodic online tutor-led activities to encourage students to apply materials to relevant problems and scenarios.

All students are expected to engage in significant additional independent work using online resources available through the library knowledge, understanding or competence they already possess.

If a learning journal is used, then the narratives in it can be mapped to assessment criteria and used as evidence for the demonstration of relevant assessment criteria.

It is possible to assess work using professional discussions, with students explaining and describing things to the assessor either on a one-to-one basis or in group work or in a presentation. Similarly questioning can be used to provide evidence of knowledge. If these types of assessment are used, then the work must be directly attributable to the student.

Assessment can be for individual learning outcomes, for groups of learning outcomes within a unit and can be combined with the assessment of outcomes and criteria from other units. This latter would require an assessment map to identify where outcomes and criteria are assessed.

Outline Learning Plan

The following outlined learning plan can be used as a guidance document in conjunction with the unit. This is an exemplar in which the unit can be delivered.

Topic and Suggested Assignments / Activities / Assessment
Introduction to the unit and the programme of assignments
Presentation on the history and current regulatory environment for auditing.
Presentation on the rules of professional conduct applied to auditors.
Presentation on the legal and professional requirements of financial audit.
Presenting the audit monitoring process currently in use in specific cases and the audit strategy in general.
Presentation of the risks identified in auditing and the mitigating measures.
Presentation on the relationship between accounts preparation and the audit conducted.
Presentation on the current developments in auditing.
Presentation on the critical assessment of the current developments.

Programme of Suggested Assessment/Assignments

The following table illustrates the respective assessments for the unit and identifies the corresponding assessment criteria.

Assessment criteria covered	Assignment title	Scenario	Assessment method
1.1,1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 5.2, 6.2	AS1	Students are expected to complete a report of 2500 words which consist of 2 sub tasks each fulfilling the specific Learning outcome. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Report 2500 words
3.1,3.2,4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 6.1 7.1, 7.2	AS2	Assignment 2 is a case study which is made available to the candidate has to attend to the 5 question fulfilling the requirement of 2500 words in reference to the provided Learning Outcomes.	Case Study

List of Learner Sources

The recommended sources listed below should be familiar to each tutor and assessor who is delivering this unit as part of this qualification. Learners should be made aware of these sources before delivery of this unit, and be fully conversant with these sources upon completion of this unit.

Textbooks	
Millichamp,A.H., Auditing, 8th Ed, 2002	
Frank, C., The essentials of auditing, 2015	
Journals	
Journal of Auditing	
Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance	
Managerial Auditing Journal	
Websites	
Slide Share	http://www.slideshare.net/vishwacrv/auditing-notes-
What are auditing and accounting	http://smallbusiness.chron.com/auditing-accounting-11772.html

Financial Analyst

Unit Summary

Equivalent QCF Level	7
Credit Value	20
Learning Time (hours)	200
Organisation name	EduQual Ltd. (Company Number 8913632)
As part of (Award Title)	Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11)
Unit purpose	The purpose of this unit is to develop a critical understanding of market equilibrium models, bond valuation and performance evaluation. At the end of this module students should be able to evaluate the impact of current developments in the world's capital markets on the investment process and critically appraise current thinking on the theories and investments. They should be able to make sound recommendations for investments and risk mitigation in selected scenarios.
Unit Introduction	The Financial Analyst module is designed to provide students with an understanding of the investment environment and process, the concepts underlying investment decisions and the analysis and strategies involved in investment in financial assets, principally but not exclusively, those traded on recognised secondary markets. The module introduces students to the markets on which financial assets are traded, to the theories and techniques used to analyse those assets, and to the theories and techniques used to manage portfolios of financial assets. The main key skills that are required are to monitor targets and meet the deadlines. Collectively locate, analyse, summarise and communicate numerate and qualitative information effectively in weighting, using appropriate information and advanced technology to comment and support on the arguments given.
Unit Entry Requirements (if applicable)	See Programme Specification.

Learning Outcome 1

Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the different types of securities

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
1.1 Identify different types of securities and their characteristics	Bonds: Types and characteristics of bonds; pricing bonds; bond yields; the Term Structure of Interest Rates; theories of the term structure; bond risk - types and measurement.
1.2 Evaluate the characteristics of each type of security for selected scenarios	Equities Types and characteristics of equities; summary measures of equity performance; the pricing of equities; equities and risk; evaluation of equities.
1.3 Critical application of the characteristics to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of different types of securities.	Derivatives Synthetic securities - swaps, bundled and unbundled securities. The efficient markets hypothesis, Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) and the Arbitrage Pricing model, hedging and speculation. Aims of portfolio management

Learning Outcome 2

Analyse and explain the regulation of, and procedures relating to, the trading of securities and new issues in the world markets, including the London Stock Exchange (LSE).

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
2.1 Identify the regulations and procedures relating to trading securities.	Forward contracts - description and evaluation. Financial futures - characteristics, operation of futures markets, types of financial future, pricing financial futures. Financial options - characteristics, operation of options markets, types of option, option pricing, warrants and convertibles; regulations regarding trading of securities
2.2 Evaluate issues arising in the global markets including (LSE)	

Learning Outcome 3

Evaluate and apply the principles of investment theory, security and market analysis and efficiency

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
3.1 Identify and explain the principles of investment theory.	Underlying Concepts and objectives of investment
3.2 Critically evaluate the use of securities for selected scenarios	Motives for investment; risk & return; pricing securities; market efficiency. Types and characteristics of different securities
3.3 Application of the underlying concepts of market analysis and efficiency.	Money Market Investments Markets & investors; securities quoted on a yield basis; securities quoted on a discount basis.

Learning Outcome 4

Evaluate the principles of taxation and their implications, including income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance and corporation tax.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
4.1 Identify the range of taxes, their purposes and their characteristics.	Definitions and characteristics of Income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance and corporation tax, Wealth taxes? Property taxes, IPO taxes, transfer pricing and taxation, revenue/profit recognition/ repatriation and impact of tax liability.
4.2 Critical evaluation of the impact of taxation for selected scenarios	Evaluation of impact of taxation e.g. Piketty's 'Capital in the 21st Century'. Effects of taxation on investment decisions.

Learning Outcome 5

Critically evaluate the effectiveness of the law and regulation in controlling the financial services industry

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
5.1 Explain the regulations prevailing in the financial services industry	Tax avoidance and evasion, tax havens. Regulatory environments, reporting standards and auditing rules Hedging, Arbitrage & Speculation Speculation - nature & objectives, speculation using futures, speculation using options, Arbitrage - nature & objectives, arbitrage using futures; arbitrage using options; Hedging - nature & objectives, hedging risk on individual equities, hedging market risk on equity portfolios, hedging interest rate risk.
5.2 Evaluate risk mitigation methods in investments.	
5.3 Application of the methods to real world scenario examples.	

Learning Outcome 6

Plan, manage and review client portfolios and recommend and justify appropriate types of savings and investment.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
6.1 Identify client portfolios according to customer profile	Portfolio Management Functions of portfolio management; active and passive portfolio management; portfolio performance measurement.
6.2 Recommend and justify appropriate types of savings and investments	Managing client portfolios
6.3 Investigate issues relating to portfolio management	The Efficient Markets Hypothesis, the Capital Asset Pricing Model and the Arbitrage Pricing Model and their implications for investment strategy and portfolio management

Delivery and Assessment

The lectures will cover important academic or contextual issues, setting the scene for more detailed consideration in webinars and in independent study, preparation and preparation for assessment. The workshop manuals are designed to allow students to engage in tutor-led case studies and activities requiring students to solve typical curriculum issues and problems, applied in relevant scenarios. Sessions may also be devoted to student-led activities and discussions based around relevant topical themes and concepts, the background to which will have been researched and documented in advance.

Where the module is delivered by distance learning all learning materials will be provided in text or through links to supporting resources. Students will be expected to engage in periodic online tutor-led activities to encourage students to apply materials to relevant problems and scenarios.

All students are expected to engage in significant additional independent work using online resources available through the library or via direct links on the Learning Portal.

Outline Learning Plan

The following outlined learning plan can be used as a guidance document in conjunction with the unit. This is an exemplar in which the unit can be delivered.

Topic and Suggested Assignments / Activities / Assessment
Introduction to the unit and the programme of assignments
Presentation of the framework underlying concepts of the financial industry and its regulations
Presentation on the nature of financial securities
Critical evaluation on the principles of taxation and their implications.
Application of the principles of investment theory, security and market analysis and efficiency.
Presenting the methods of risk mitigating circumstances.
Presenting the principle approaches of Hedging, Arbitrage & speculation.
Analysing portfolio management and the functions of performance measurements.

Programme of Suggested Assessment/Assignments

The following table illustrates the respective assessments for the unit and identifies the corresponding assessment criteria.

Assessment criteria covered	Assignment title	Scenario	Assessment Method
1.1,1.2, 2.1 3.1,3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1,5.2		Students are expected to complete a report of 2500 words which consist of 2 sub tasks each fulfilling the specific Learning outcome. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Individual Assignment 2500 words
1.3, 2.2 3.3, 4.2, 5.3 6.1,6.2,6.3		Students are expected to complete a report of 3000 words which consist of 3 sub tasks each fulfilling the specific Learning outcome. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Individual assignment 3000 words

List of Learner Sources

The recommended sources listed below should be familiar to each tutor and assessor who is delivering this unit as part of an EduQual qualification. Learners should be made aware of these sources before delivery of this unit, and be fully conversant with these sources upon completion of this unit.

Textbooks	
Reilly & Brown, Investment Analysis & Portfolio Management, 10 th ED, 2009	
Cheng,L., Advances in Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management, 9 th ED, 2002	
Piketty, T., Capital in the 21 st Century, 2014, Harvard University Press	
Journals	
Journal of International Financial Markets	
The Hedge Fund Journal	
Journal of Asset Management	
Websites	
Management Study Guide	http://www.managementstudyguide.com/portfolio-management.htm
Reference for business	http://www.referenceforbusiness.com/encyclopedia/Int-Jun/Investment-Analysis.html
Slide Share	http://www.slideshare.net/aakashkulkarni3/mgbpm-market-efficiency-and-portfolio-theory

Ethical Behaviour and Corporate Governance

Unit Summary

Equivalent RQF Level	7
Credit Value	20
Learning Time (hours)	200
Organisation name	EduQual Ltd. (Company Number 8913632)
As part of (Award Title)	Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11)
Unit purpose	The rationale of this unit is to critically evaluate the impact of accounting and financial practices on the environment, the various stakeholders and on the wider society. Learners will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to act as an advisor in relation to the governing authorities in the private, public and charitable sectors.
Unit Introduction	This unit will discuss and evaluate the impact of accounting systems on organisations and the society in general terms, using selected cases. The unit discusses the significance of corporate governance and ethical behaviours, including financial reporting practices, and their impact on the wider society. The concept of corporate governance, practical application of principles and assessment of how good corporate governance could be achieved are examined in the unit. In addition, it provides the ability to work within and handle group activity and to present the information in a qualitative manner with the use of technology in a sophisticated manner
Unit Entry Requirements (if applicable)	See Programme Specification.

Learning Outcome 1

Evaluation of professional standards in financial reporting and accountancy and application of governance law and practices in the national and international context.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
1.1 Explain what a profession is and the professional institutes representing accountants	Discussion of accounting as a profession, its regulation and codes of professional conduct. The governance laws and practices prevailing in the national and international context: the rules followed by the governments of different nations, impact of laws and practices affecting corporate behaviour in selected cases. Evaluation of impact on transnational companies.
1.2 Analyse and evaluate the law and practices prevailing in the national and international context as they affect corporate behaviours and financial reporting.	
1.3 Critical application of the laws and practices to the national and international perspective.	

Learning Outcome 2

Evaluate the nature and importance of corporate governance and ethical behaviour and critical evaluation of ethical issues in relation to corporate activity and recommend solutions.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
2.1 Identify and explain the significance of corporate governance and ethical behaviour in selected cases	Corporate governance and ethical behaviour, selected cases e.g. west African clothing industry and imports of second-hand clothing from Europe, cut flower export industry in Kenya etc. Agency theory which involves directors controlling the company whilst shareholders own the company, transparency of beneficial ownership etc.. Transfer pricing, revenue and profit recognition and impact on tax liability in selected contexts. Accountability and Ethics. Application of governance rules and principles. Identification of solutions to ethical issues and their evaluation.
2.2 Critical evaluation of ethical issues arising in relation to corporate activity.	
2.2 Evaluate solutions identified to overcome the issues.	

Learning Outcome 3

Assess the impact of financial reporting in relation to a wide range of stakeholders.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
3.1 Identify and explain the range of stakeholders for a selected organisation and context.	The types of stakeholders available and their importance, selected case studies.
3.2 Evaluate the impact of financial reporting on the range of stakeholders identified.	The meaning of financial reporting and the external financial statements and notes to financial statements, impact of current practices for CSR issues. Impacts on local producers. Auditing and reporting requirements, strategic audits and directors' statements.

Learning Outcome 4

Explain the principle approaches to corporate governance, identifying and assessing how risk should be managed in order to achieve good corporate governance.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
4.1 Identify the principle approaches to governance.	Role of the board and its governance responsibilities. Principles of good corporate governance
4.2 Identify the risks involved and evaluate how they could be managed to achieve good corporate governance.	Remuneration of directors and senior executives, transparency and conflicts of interest, risk and risk management

Learning Outcome 5

Research and communicate complex and leading edge issues in CSR and governance, in an appropriate format.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
5.1 Evaluation of CSR and governance issues in selected contexts.	Cadbury, Greenbury, Hampel and Turnbull reports. Application of governance rules, examples of issues raised and their impact, managing identified risks.
5.2 Explain issues identified in an appropriate and understandable format to support accessible communication to others.	

Delivery and Assessment

Where the module is delivered using webinars and lecture notes. The lectures will cover important academic or contextual issues, setting the scene for more detailed consideration in independent study, preparation and preparation for assessment. The workshops are designed to allow students to engage in tutor-led case studies and activities requiring students to solve typical curriculum issues and problems, applied in relevant scenarios. Sessions may also be devoted to student-led activities and discussions based around relevant topical themes and concepts, the background to which will have been researched and documented in advance.

Where the module is delivered by distance learning all learning materials will be provided either in text or through links to supporting resources. Students will be expected to engage in periodic online tutor-led activities to encourage students to apply materials to relevant problems and scenarios.

All students are expected to engage in significant additional independent work using online resources available through the library knowledge, understanding or competence they already possess.

If a learning journal is used, then the narratives in it can be mapped to assessment criteria and used as evidence for the demonstration of relevant assessment criteria.

It is possible to assess work using professional discussions, with students explaining and describing things to the assessor either on a one-to-one basis or in group work or in a presentation. Similarly questioning can be used to provide evidence of knowledge. If these types of assessment are used, then the work must be directly attributable to the student.

Assessment can be for individual learning outcomes, for groups of learning outcomes within a unit and can be combined with the assessment of outcomes and criteria from other units. This latter would require an assessment map to identify where outcomes and criteria are assessed.

Outline Learning Plan

The following outlined learning plan can be used as a guidance document in conjunction with the unit. This is an exemplar in which the unit can be delivered.

Topic and Suggested Assignments / Activities / Assessment
Introduction to the unit and the programme of assignments
Presentation of the framework underlying governance law and practice in national and international context
Presentation on the nature and importance of corporate governance and ethical behaviour
Presentation on the critical evaluation of ethical issues and recommendations to overcome the issues
Presentation on the wide range of stakeholders; analyses of stakeholders in selected cases
Presentation on the impact of financial reporting on a wide range of stakeholders
Presenting the principle approaches of governance
Presentation on the identification and the assessment of risk and how it should be managed to achieve good corporate governance
Presentation of CSR and governance issues in an appropriate format

Programme of Suggested Assessment/Assignments

The following table illustrates the respective assessments for the unit and identifies the corresponding assessment criteria.

Assessment criteria covered	Assignment title	Scenario	Assessment Method
1.1,1.2,2.1,3.1 4.1,4.2,4.3, 5.1 5.2	AS 1	Assignment 2 is a case study which is made available to the candidate has to attend to the 5 question fulfilling the requirement of 2500 words in reference to the provided Learning Outcomes.	Case Study – 2500 words
1.3, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2, 5.2	AS2	Students are expected to complete a report of 3000 words which consist of 3 sub tasks each fulfilling the specific Learning outcome. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Report of 3000 words

List of Learner Sources

The recommended sources listed below should be familiar to each tutor and assessor who is delivering this unit as part of an EduQual qualification. Learners should be made aware of these sources before delivery of this unit, and be fully conversant with these sources upon completion of this unit.

Textbooks	
Fernando, A.C., Corporate Governance, 2009	
Justin,S., John,T., Corporate Governance, Ethics and CSR, 2013	
Journals	
Journal about ethics	
Social Responsibility Journals	
International Journal of Corporate Strategy and Social Responsibility	
Websites	
Forbes	http://www.forbes.com
OECD	http://www.oecd.org/corporate/principles-corporate-governance.htm
IOS Press	http://www.iospress.nl/book/ethics-and-accountability-in-a-context-of-governance-and-new-public-management/

Corporate Reporting

Unit Summary

Equivalent RQF Level	7
Credit Value	20
Learning Time (hours)	200
Organisation name	EduQual Ltd. (Company Number 8913632)
As part of (Award Title)	Diploma in Accounting and Finance (SCQF Level 11)
Unit Purpose	The rationale of this unit is to assist the learners in the preparation and interpretation of financial statements for a group of companies where it is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and to understand and evaluate the key aspects of accounting theory. On the completion of the unit the learners will be able to communicate complex numerical and qualitative information effectively and solve problems in a selective and critical manner.
Unit Introduction	Financial reporting is a large area which looks into the regulatory framework and financial accountability to main stakeholders of a business both internally and externally. The unit delivers the main sources of regulatory framework and explains on the relevance for companies. Accounting concepts and theories have been provided illustrating aspects of accounting information and its presentation. Further the unit provides the information on the key accounting policies and practices within corporate accounting.
Unit Entry Requirements (if applicable)	See Programme Specification.

Learning Outcome 1

Identify and demonstrate an understanding of the main sources of regulatory frameworks.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
1.1 Identify the main sources of regulatory frameworks and list their key features.	History of accounting standards and regulatory frameworks, preparation of group accounts. UK Financial Conduct Authority and Financial Reporting Council requirements for corporate reporting and audit.
1.2 Identify and explain the current presentation and uses of accounting information.	Usefulness of accounting information, views of the business, accuracy of directors' reports, requirement for and purpose of strategic reviews.
1.3 Evaluate the exploitation of accounting information.	The current regulatory framework and financial reporting. External auditing, accounting standards etc. Choices when presenting accounting information, tax avoidance strategies, transfer pricing, corporate domicile

Learning Outcome 2

Evaluate the significance and the general impact of the current regulatory framework on selected businesses.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must provide evidence which draws from the knowledge and skills listed:</i>
2.1 Identify and evaluate the impact of regulatory frameworks on businesses	Current Regulatory frameworks and their impact. International Financial Reporting Standards, tax domicile, revenue and profit reporting and recognition.

Learning Outcome 3

Identify and evaluate accounting concepts and theories.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must have shown ability to:</i>
3.1 Identify accounting concepts and theories.	Accounting concepts and theories. Purpose of accounting, use of accounting information for business decision-making, consistency of reporting over time, fair views of the business.
3.2 Evaluate the concepts and theories identified.	

Learning Outcome 4

Understanding and implement accounting calculations and information.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must have shown ability to:</i>
<p>4.1</p> <p>Evaluate appropriate accounting calculations and implement their computation.</p>	<p>Cash flow statements.</p> <p>Accounting for non-current assets including intangibles, government grants, research and development.</p> <p>Accounting for taxation including deferred taxation and tax avoidance.</p> <p>Accounting for long term contracts.</p> <p>Group accounting - acquisition basis - including goodwill, non-controlling interest, inter-company transactions, statements of comprehensive income and statements of financial position.</p> <p>Issue and redemption of shares and debt.</p> <p>Accounting for company failure – liquidations.</p>

Learning Outcome 5

Critically evaluate accounting information.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must have shown ability to:</i>
<p>5.1</p> <p>Interpretation of the accounting information gathered.</p>	<p>Obtaining financial information for selected organisations, sources of accounting information, interpretation and evaluation of accounting information from selected business cases, using published company accounts. Inaccurate reporting cases and issues (e.g. Enron, Goldman Sachs, BHS etc.)</p>
<p>5.2</p> <p>Critical assessment of the accounting information gathered.</p>	

Learning Outcome 6

Critically evaluate selected accounting regulations.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must have shown ability to:</i>
6.1 Identify specific accounting regulations as relevant for the chosen sector.	Accounting regulations, advantages and disadvantages of chosen regulations, alternatives. Effectiveness of accounting regulations in dealing with contemporary issues e.g. transfer pricing, tax avoidance, beneficial ownership etc.
6.2 Critically analyse the specific accounting regulations identified.	

Learning Outcome 7

Identify and appraise key accounting policies and practices within corporate accounting.

Performance Criteria <i>On completion of this unit, the learner can:</i>	Marking criteria-typical evidence expected <i>The learner must have shown ability to:</i>
7.1 Identify key accounting practices and policies.	Accounting policies and practices. Evaluation of their usefulness and possible improvements Group accounting - acquisition basis - including goodwill, non-controlling interest, inter-company transactions, statements of comprehensive income and statements of financial position.
7.2 Evaluate the key accounting practices and policies identified.	

Delivery and Assessment

Where the module is delivered in a format of webinars and lecture notes. The lectures will cover important academic or contextual issues, setting the scene for more detailed consideration in independent study, preparation and preparation for assessment. The workshops are designed to allow students to engage in tutor-led case studies and activities requiring students to solve typical curriculum issues and problems, applied in relevant scenarios. Sessions may also be devoted to student-led activities and discussions based around relevant topical themes and concepts, the background to which will have been researched and documented in advance.

Where the module is delivered by distance learning all learning materials will be provided either in text or through links to supporting resources. Students will be expected to engage in periodic online tutor-led activities to encourage students to apply materials to relevant problems and scenarios.

All students are expected to engage in significant additional independent work using online resources available through the library knowledge, understanding or competence they already possess.

If a learning journal is used, then the narratives in it can be mapped to assessment criteria and used as evidence for the demonstration of relevant assessment criteria.

It is possible to assess work using professional discussions, with students explaining and describing things to the assessor either on a one-to-one basis or in group work or in a presentation. Similarly questioning can be used to provide evidence of knowledge. If these types of assessment are used, then the work must be directly attributable to the student.

Assessment can be for individual learning outcomes, for groups of learning outcomes within a unit and can be combined with the assessment of outcomes and criteria from other units. This latter would require an assessment map to identify where outcomes and criteria are assessed.

Outline Learning Plan

The following outlined learning plan can be used as a guidance document in conjunction with the unit. This is an exemplar in which the unit can be delivered.

Topic and Suggested Assignments / Activities / Assessment
Introduction to the unit and the programme of assignments
Presentation on the main sources of regulatory framework and the use of the accounting information.
Presentation on the significance of the regulatory framework on the business.
Presentation on the accounting concepts and theories.
Presenting the calculations and the accounting information required.
Presentation on the critical evaluation of the accounting information.
Presenting critically the specific accounting regulations.
Presenting identified accounting policies and practices within corporate accounting.
Presentation on the critical assessment of the accounting policies and practices identified within corporate accounting.
Review of unit and programme of assignments

Programme of Suggested Assessment/Assignments

Assessment criteria covered	Assignment title	Scenario	Assessment method
1.3, 2.1,3.2, 6.1,6.2,5.2,7.1, 7.2	AS1	Students are expected to complete a report of 2500 words which consist of 2 sub tasks each fulfilling the specific Learning outcome. Candidates are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines provided.	Report 2500 words
1.1,1.2, 2.1, 3.1 4.1,5.1	AS2	<p>Assignment 2 is a presentation based on the respective learning outcomes provided. Candidates should follow the presentation format as follows to structure the answers.</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Body of the answer</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>References – Harvard referencing method need to be followed to cite both in-text and bibliography references</p> <p>Word count is 1500 words maximum for speaker notes and maximum of 20 slides.</p>	Presentation

List of Learner Sources

The recommended sources listed below should be familiar to each tutor and assessor who is delivering this unit as part of an EduQual qualification. Learners should be made aware of these sources before delivery of this unit, and be fully conversant with these sources upon completion of this unit.

Textbooks	
Geoff, E., Corporate Reporting, 7 th Ed, 2004 Andrew, H., Corporate Financial Reporting Theory & Practice, 2003	
Journals	
Journal of Financial Reporting and Accounting Journal of Critical Perspectives On Accounting	
Websites	
Integrated Reporting	http://integratedreporting.org/corporate-reporting-dialogue/
ACCA	http://www.accaglobal.com/lk/en/student/exam-support-resources/fundamentals-exams-study-resources/f7/technical-articles/conceptual-framework-need.html