INTRODUCTION

In recent years the financial system has been characterised by extreme volatility together with a rise in the level of instability in interest rate, equity, foreign exchange and commodity markets.

Financial institutions and multi-national corporations face challenges and opportunities on a daily basis and it is necessary to develop strategies to adapt to these changing business conditions.

A grasp of global financial markets and the products traded within them is vital in order to understand what these challenges and opportunities are and how they can be managed and exploited.

AIMS

The aim of this course is to provide you with a strong understanding of financial markets and the main types of products traded within these markets. The course will focus on the money markets, the foreign exchange markets and fixed income markets. You will learn how instruments are priced, how they are traded, and how they are used to hedge financial risks.

METHODOLOGY

The course is made up of six sessions which combines lectures, exercises and real life case studies. We balance theory and practice by examining the valuation of fx and interest rate products and then applying strategies to trading scenarios and risk management decisions in the workplace. You need to read the course notes before each session. There will be an area within the virtual campus where you will locate readings, exercises and assignments.

EVALUATION

Each participant will be evaluated according to the acquired knowledge on the pertinent subject and the quality and consistency of their participation. 80% of the final grade will be based on a minimum of one written assignment during the course (including a group presentation) and the final exam. The other 20% will be based on the quality and consistency of the participation. No matter how high the evaluation on the participation may be, in order to get a passing grade on the subject, the participant needs to pass the written part of the evaluation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Blake, Financial Market Analysis. Wiley