

Topics in Empirical Research in Finance (F000725)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

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|--------------------|--|--------------------|--------|
| Course size | <i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i> | | |
| Credits 3.0 | Study time 90 h | Contact hrs | 30.0 h |

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

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|----------------|---------|------|----------------------------|--------|
| A (semester 2) | English | Gent | online lecture | 0.0 h |
| | | | lecture | 10.0 h |
| | | | seminar: coached exercises | 10.0 h |
| | | | group work | 10.0 h |

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

| | | |
|---------------------|------|--------------------|
| Frömmel, Michael | EB21 | lecturer-in-charge |
| Vander Vennet, Rudi | EB21 | co-lecturer |

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
| Master of Science in Banking and Finance | crdts | offering |
| | 3 | A |

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Numerical techniques, methodology, financial econometrics, banking finance.

Position of the course

This course wants to expose the students to new developments in the empirical literature in finance. In addition, they will be exposed to quantitative financial methods using the software package R and the course shall provide a link between theory and practice.

Students should be able to choose between the different methodologies and techniques in order to solve financial problems. They also have to be able to realize these solutions and to report about them, both orally and in written.

Contents

First, external speakers are invited to present their most recent work and to demonstrate how theory is implemented in practice. The students are expected to contribute actively to the discussions.

Second, a number of practically oriented exercises are made during which the students will become acquainted with quantitative techniques and the R software. The illustrations used and assignments made are drawn from both the presentations and the other courses.

Third, the students will in groups manage a virtual portfolio over a longer period (portfolio game). They will take the role of a team of fund managers. The group regularly have to report and present their strategy and results to the other students and teaching staff and link it to the course contents. The strategies are discussed.

Initial competences

Students are acquainted with econometrics, statistics, and investments.

Given the interaction between this course and the others, it is assumed that students are familiar with the main topics from these courses.

Final competences

- 1 Apply the basic techniques of structured programming
- 2 Use and extend the R software
- 3 Know and use the most frequently used empirical techniques in finance
- 4 Recognize the practical relevance of empirical research
- 5 Manage a simulated portfolio, define a strategy, present and defend this strategy and results, adjust the strategy

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, seminar: coached exercises, online lecture, online seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods

Interactive sessions in the PC lab; group discussion; guest speakers, portfolio game (group work).

Learning materials and price

Papers presented by guest speakers and teaching notes. Cost: 20 EUR

References

Duane Hanselman and Bruce Littlefield, 2001, Mastering R. A comprehensive tutorial and reference, Prentice Hall.

Course content-related study coaching

- Handouts of lecture material available on the website
- Supervised assignments
- Individual feedback for reports

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period**Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period****Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation**

Oral examination, participation, assignment, skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

- Programming exercises in R.
- Participation during guest lectures and excursions.
- Assignment + presentations

Calculation of the examination mark

Permanent evaluation (100%).