Faysal Aziz

Excel for Financial Modelling

Transforming Financial Data into Strategic Insights in Just One Day

FA-0202 · One Day

Data & Analytics

Introduction

Welcome to the MS Excel for Financial Modelling course! In today's competitive business environment, the ability to create robust financial models is invaluable for finance professionals, analysts, and business leaders.

This one-day intensive course is designed to equip you with the skills needed to build dynamic financial models that support strategic decision-making. Leveraging over 30 years of industry experience, our instructor will guide you through practical, real-world exercises, ensuring you gain hands-on experience with the tools and techniques most demanded by the finance industry.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the principles and best practices of financial modelling.
- Utilize advanced Excel functions and formulas specific to financial modelling.
- Build and structure dynamic financial models.
- Analyze financial data and forecast future performance.
- Create professional and visually appealing financial reports.
- Implement scenario analysis and sensitivity testing within models.

Prerequisites

- Intermediate proficiency in MS Excel.
- Basic understanding of financial statements and accounting principles.

- Familiarity with basic Excel formulas and functions.

Training outline

1. Introduction to Financial Modelling

- Overview of financial modelling and its importance in business
- Key principles and best practices for effective financial modelling
- Types of financial models (e.g., forecasting, valuation, budgeting)

2. Setting Up the Financial Model

Structuring your model for clarity and flexibility

- Best practices for worksheet organization
- Using consistent formats and naming conventions

Input data organization

- Collecting and validating data inputs
- Setting up assumptions and drivers

3. Advanced Excel Functions and Formulas for Financial Modelling

Logical functions for decision-making

- IF, AND, OR, and nested IF statements

Lookup and reference functions

- VLOOKUP, HLOOKUP, and XLOOKUP
- INDEX and MATCH for flexible data retrieval

Financial functions

- NPV, IRR, PMT, and other financial calculations
- Using the DATE, EDATE, and EOMONTH functions for date calculations

- Array formulas for complex calculations

4. Building the Financial Model

Revenue and expense forecasting

- Techniques for projecting revenue and costs
- Building dynamic revenue models

Constructing the financial statements

- Income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement
- Linking the statements for dynamic updates

Integrating supporting schedules

- Depreciation, amortization, and working capital schedules
- Debt and interest schedules

5. Financial Analysis and Forecasting

Performing ratio analysis

- Key financial ratios and their significance
- Using Excel to calculate and interpret ratios

Conducting variance analysis

- Comparing actual performance against budget/forecast
- Identifying and analyzing variances

Scenario analysis and sensitivity testing

- Setting up scenarios to test different assumptions
- Using data tables for sensitivity analysis

6. Data Visualization and Reporting

Creating professional charts and graphs

- Best practices for financial data visualization
- Advanced chart types (waterfall charts, stock charts)

Designing dashboards for financial reporting

- Key components of an effective financial dashboard
- Using form controls (drop-downs, sliders) for interactivity

Preparing the model for presentation

- Formatting techniques for readability
- Creating summary reports and executive summaries

7. Practical Exercises and Real-World Applications

Hands-on exercises to reinforce learning

- Building a dynamic revenue forecast model
- Creating a complete set of linked financial statements
- Performing a comprehensive financial analysis with scenario testing

Real-world scenarios and problem-solving

- Applying modelling techniques to industry-relevant tasks

8. Conclusion and Q&A

- Recap of key concepts covered
- Open floor for questions and clarifications
- Additional resources for further learning

By the end of this course, you will possess the expertise to build and analyze complex financial models using Excel, providing you with the strategic insights needed to drive business decisions. Join us to enhance your financial modelling skills and become a vital asset to your organization.

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