

Programmatic within the framework of Departmental Evaluation

1. Study programme and study programme's design and development (ESG 1.11, 1.2, 1.8, 1.9)

Findings for:

[BBA]:

- The program offers a state-of-the-art knowledge and skills for accountants and finance personnel.

[M.SC.]:

- The program is research oriented and requires high quality thesis supervised by the faculty.

Strengths for:

[BBA]:

- The program prepares professionals in high demand by the large CPA firms and other employers.

[M.SC.]:

- A research-oriented master program. Prepares the students for advanced academic research as well as for professional careers.

Areas of improvement and recommendations for:

[BBA]:

- None.

[M.SC.]:

- None.

2. Teaching, learning and student assessment

Findings for:

[BBA]:

- The learning objectives of the program reflect high quality in line with leading accounting and finance programs in the world.
- Particularly, the department organizes guest lecturers, seminars, presentations, and prepares case studies for the benefit of the students. Also, internships enhance practical implementation of the knowledge and skills. Highly appreciated by the student
- Some text books at the library are outdated

[M.SC.]:

- The program provides students unique training in finance that is both theoretically anchored and practically oriented.

Strengths for:

[BBA]:

- Both the depth and the broadness of the program are impressive.
- An exceptionally large portion of the program is taught by faculty academics.
- The high quality learning processes result in exemption from ACA and ACCA external examinations.
- The combination of accounting and finance disciplines allow students to apply meaningful and relevant skills.

[M.SC.]:

- The program provides students with rigorous skills and applied training in quantitative and empirical methods in finance.
- Skills learnt in the program enhance the students' employability.
- Strong tier with industry.

Areas of improvement and recommendations for:

[BBA]:

- Developing an assurance of Learning system as required by the AACSB will benefit the program.

[M.SC.]:

- Developing an assurance of Learning system as required by the AACSB will benefit the program.

Response:

We are in the process of collecting data both for the AACSB accreditation but also for their use by the departments.

In May 2020 all graduating students will take an exit survey on learning assurance. The first employers' survey will also be administered this year where we will receive formal employer feedback on our students knowledge. In 2020 we will also administer for the first time an alumni survey regarding on how their education has helped them develop their job skills.

As already acknowledged by the Committee we are using a number of indirect ways that support the quality of learning: For example our department has the highest number of global prizes in the ICAEW exams and the highest passing rates in ACCA exams. In addition, our students have consistently won either the first or second place at the CFA competition while employers at the ICAEW business game give the most positive feedback regarding our students knowledge and abilities. Finally, in the past few years we have a sharp rise in the employability percentage of our students that employers themselves attribute to the exceptional skills and strong knowledge that our graduates possess. We will continue to monitor these indirect measures for learning assurance as a supplement to the surveys that will be administered regularly starting in 2020.

Finally, in response to the finding that some of the textbooks in the library are outdated we have already asked colleagues to provide us with an updated list of all textbooks used or are recommended for their classes and these will be ordered soon through the library.

3. Teaching Staff

Findings for:

[BBA]:

- The academic faculty instructors are leading researchers highly appreciated world-wide. Other instructors are highly competent, resulting in a useful and effective mix of theory and practice.

[M.SC.]:

- The academic faculty instructors are leading researchers highly appreciated world-wide. Other instructors are highly competent, resulting in a useful and effective mix of theory and practice.

Strengths for:

[BBA]:

- The academic faculty instructors are leading researchers highly appreciated world-wide. Other instructors are highly competent, resulting in a useful and effective mix of theory and practice.

[M.SC.]:

- The academic faculty instructors are leading researchers highly appreciated world-wide. Other instructors are highly competent, resulting in a useful and effective mix of theory and practice. .

Areas of improvement and recommendations for:

[BBA]:

- None.

[M.SC.]:

- None.

4. Students

Findings for:

[BBA]:

- Students are highly satisfied from learning in the program, which fully addresses their expectations. Particularly, the program is effective in securing their employability.

[M.SC.]:

- Students are highly satisfied from learning in the program, which fully addresses their expectations. Particularly, the program challenges and inspires the students.

Strengths for:

[BBA]:

- The program is effective in securing their employability.

[M.SC.]:

- The program challenges and inspires the students.

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Areas of improvement and recommendations for:

[BBA]:

- Students would benefit from lectures video scoping as it will enhance the learning capabilities.

[M.SC.]:

- Students would benefit from lectures video scoping as it will enhance the learning capabilities.

Response:

We have been experimenting with online teaching in the past few days due to external needs that prompted the University to postpone all classes. This recent experience has prompted the University to move fast and utilize technologies that allow video scoping. The department's agenda for the next meeting includes a discussion on how to use this technology where we need to strike a balance between making lectures available to students without giving them an opportunity to miss classes. At UCY class attendance is mandatory and we rely a lot on interactive teaching so this technology should be used when it is mostly needed.

5. Resources

Findings for:

[BBA]:

- The overall resources and support of the studies are of a good level.

[M.SC.]:

- The overall resources and support of the studies are of a good level.

Strengths for:

[BBA]:

- Using financial databases and especially WRDS enhances students' capabilities to handle "big data" and use large databases. These are important skills in today's professional environment.

[M.SC.]:

- Using financial databases and especially WRDS enhances students' capabilities to handle "big data" and use large databases. These are important skills in today's professional environment.

Areas of improvement and recommendations for:

[BBA]:

- None.

[M.SC.]:

- None.

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6. Additional for doctoral programmes

Findings for:

[BBA]:

- -

[M.SC.]:

- -

Strengths for:

[BBA]:

- -

[M.SC.]:

Areas of improvement and recommendations for:

[BBA]:

- -

[M.SC.]:

- -

Conclusions and final remarks

Both programmes are well designed and efficiently deliver the appropriate learning objectives. The learning objectives are relevant and meet the needs of the market. Both programmes benefit from

research-oriented instructors who are leading scholars with high involvement in practice. Both undergraduate and graduate students are of high quality due to the strict admission criteria. The students expressed an extremely high level of satisfaction for both programmes. Evidently, employers highly appreciate the learning processes of both programmes as indicated by the fact that all students are employed immediately after graduation.

OVERALL: We would like to thank the committee for their constructive assessment.