

Syllabus

Course description

Course title	New frontiers in financial intermediation and banking (FIN III)
Course code	25457
Scientific sector	ECON-09/B (Former SECS-P/11)
Degree	Master in Accounting and Finance
Semester and academic year	1st semester, 2025-2026
Year	2
Credits	6
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	36
Attendance	Strongly recommended
Prerequisites	No
Course page	-

Specific educational objectives	<p>This course is an introduction to new intermediation models: from traditional banking branch model to i) technology platform-based disintermediation models (e.g., Fintech and BigTech companies), ii) fully disintermediated models supported by blockchain and digital token/currency, iii) non-bank financial intermediation models such as shadow banking and alternative channels to finance and investments, iv) sustainable and climate protection-oriented banking.</p> <p>The course provides a critical retrospective of how and when new financial intermediation models have entered the world of finance. It will discuss their relevance in the today financial industry.</p> <p>The objective is to provide students with a basic knowledge of both theory and evidence to understand alternative models of financial intermediation as well as the financial industry competitive landscape.</p> <p>To achieve this objective, classroom activity will focus on the strategy and management of both traditional and new intermediaries as well as the accounting implications for disclosing strategic plans and outcomes to financial markets.</p>
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Lecturer	Per Linus Siming Office SER E501 Tel. 0471 013309 perlinus.siming@unibz.it Per Linus Siming / Libera Università di Bolzano
Scientific sector of the lecturer	13/ECON-09 (Former 13/B4) – ECON-09/B (Former SECS-P/11)
Lecturer	Sara Longo Office SER I206 Tel. +39 0471 013552 sara.longo@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/
Scientific sector of the lecturer	ECON-06/A (Former SECS-P/07)
Teaching language	English
Office hours	18
List of topics covered	<p>The course is split into two parts.</p> <p>Part 1: Strategy and Risk Management Practices of new intermediary models</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Financial Intermediation and Emerging Risk Management - Financial intermediation and Technology: from traditional business model to digital banking, FinTech, Open Banking - Shadow banking - Sustainable banking <p>Part 2: Accounting practices in the new era of banking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Starting from financial statements - Intangible assets and customer value - Financial instruments: recognition and measurement - Regulation, supervision, enforcement: the interplay between accounting and prudential regulations.
Teaching format	Background lectures which include both academic material and real-world examples. Presentations and interactive discussions are the main teaching methods used in this course. Students are expected to participate actively in class.
Learning outcomes	<u>Knowledge and understanding:</u> to be successful, students need to master the course core concepts and learn to identify the financial intermediary business models and interpret their financial information. Students will learn

	<p>how new financial intermediaries operate and how to evaluate them.</p> <p><u>Applying knowledge and understanding</u>: to be able to distinguish the type of financial intermediation models, their risk, and strategies, and how to report the financial information, accordingly.</p> <p><u>Communication skills</u>: to interpret the financial information from a managerial and accounting perspective.</p> <p><u>Learning skills</u>: to understand the management and accounting for financial instruments and the interplay between strategy, financial reporting, and banking regulation.</p>
Assessment	The course grade is based on written (final and or/mid-term) exams.
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	The final exam is based 50% on Part 1 and 50% on Part 2. Students have the possibility to sit a voluntary mid-term exam that can account for Part 1 of the final exam. All marks will be awarded based on the correctness of calculations and/or how well the argumentation links to the course concepts.
Required readings	<p>Saunders A., Cornett M., Erhemjamts, O. (2023) Financial Institutions Management: A Risk Management Approach, 11th Edition, Mc Graw Hill.</p> <p>Giannetti, M., Jasova, M., Loumiotj, M. & Mendicino, C. (2024), Glossy Green' Banks: The Disconnect Between Environmental Disclosures and Lending Activities. European Corporate Governance Institute Finance Working Paper No. 919/2023.</p> <p>Bischof, J., Laux, C., & Leuz, C. (2021). Accounting for financial stability: Bank disclosure and loss recognition in the financial crisis. <i>Journal of Financial Economics</i>, 141(3), 1188-1217.</p> <p>Gallemore, J. (2023). Bank financial reporting opacity and regulatory intervention. <i>Review of Accounting Studies</i>, 28(3), 1765-1810.</p> <p>Articles, business cases, and other readings are provided in class.</p>
Supplementary readings	Teaching slides, scientific papers and any other material are distributed in class or downloaded from OLE.



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