



Professional Masters in Banking and Finance [PMBF]

PMBF IN BRIEF

The Professional Masters in Banking and Finance is a program intended to satisfy the advanced learning and development needs of banking professionals in the region. It is intended to be run out of AIT as a joint program of the AIT Extension and the School of Management. AIT will partner with the University of Applied Sciences NorthWest, Switzerland, which is expected to bring knowledge and experience of running program in banking and finance for practicing professionals globally.

Targeted Market and Customers

The target market is practicing managers in the banking industry. Managers targeted are mid level managers in the age group of 28-35 years They could be employed in the central bank of the countries in the region, in state owned banks, in private sector banks or in cooperative banks. "Region", in the initial 5-8 years of the program will include Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. Customers will be sponsoring banks. Marketing will be done on a B to B basis by targeting the Learning and Development divisions of the banks. Individual, self paying participants are expected to be only a few. Almost all participants will be sponsored by their employer banks. Each batch is expected to have about 25 participants from across the banks in the target region. The first two batches will have participants mostly from Bangladesh Bank, the central bank of Bangladesh.

Growth Trends In This Business

Overall, the market for learning and development services in the region is growing. This is a natural consequence fast growth of the economies in the region and shortage of people with requisite knowledge and skills to occupy positions of responsibility that arise. Banking industry has been growing in pace with the economy, perhaps faster, in all countries in the region. This has been the result of increased size of banking operations and the start of new banks. The demand for Learning and Development services in the banking industry in the region has been strong and growing.

Vision:

The launch of the PMBF is in line with AIT's vision of helping development human resources in the region by targeting practicing professionals. PMBF will add to the existing AIT portfolio of professional masters' programs. Banking is a large and enduring industry in all countries in the region with an ever present need for human resource development.

The vision of PMBF is also to be a program of choice for banks in the region when these banks consider sponsoring their managers for a mid career degree. By being a program of choice, PMBF will enhance AIT's capability to provide a variety of services to the banking industry such as short duration executive development program, consulting, identifying potential employees from among the AIT grandaunts and conducting sponsored research.



Professional Masters in Banking and Finance

Background

AIT has teamed up with the University of Applied Sciences North West (FHNW) from Switzerland to develop and deliver a professional masters in banking and finance, focused on the needs of the region. FHNW has a history of offering programs in banking and finance. It also has an interest in serving the needs of the region. It has been running a similar program in Vietnam for over five years.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of this program are:

- To teach the knowledge and skills of professional banking
- To develop knowledge of management of business as might be useful to performing the role of a banker
- To provide a balance of theory, case studies and practical skills that will enhance participants' personal and professional development

The specific objectives of this program are to develop in the participants:

- An ability to understand and evaluate broad trends in banking and assess the impact of such trends on their business;
- The ability to evaluate and apply management tools and technique in the context of banking and finance;
- An ability to integrate diverse body of knowledge into an application in their job through a comprehensive research project

Key Features of the Program

- Conducted by a partnership of two outstanding institutions with a long history of being centers of higher learning
- Designed and delivered to suit the needs of working executives in the banking sector in the region
- Faculty body, a combination of academics and practicing managers
- Faculty body from Switzerland and from within the region
- An engagingly diverse participant group comprising of bankers from different countries in the region
- Practical orientation with a significant organization based research project in the curriculum

Degree and Faculty

- The Professional Master's Degree in Banking and Finance will be granted by the Asian Institute of Technology "in collaboration with FHNW".
- AIT will therefore be responsible for approving the overall curriculum, course content, admissions requirements, instructors and schedule, following all necessary consultation with UNW.

Program Structure

- The program combines class work and a research project in a curriculum that will be delivered over a period of 12 to 15 months.
- The course list is open to modification based on specific audience needs, especially when a batch or cohort is comprised of participants, all from the same organization.
- The delivery will be in modules of three courses. There will be three modules in all. Each module will be of six weeks' duration.
- In the time between the modules, participants will be back at work in their organizations. During this time, they will also be spending time on their research project, integral to the curriculum.
- Participants' learning in each course will be tested by a combination of exams and assignments. The research project will be evaluated by a committee comprising of chosen faculty members and mentors in the participants' organizations.
- Successful completion would require participants to obtain grades in line with AIT's policies and procedures.



Credit Structure and Module-wise Courses

(Date and courses subject to modification)

Credit Structure	Credits
9 courses	27
1 Research Project	6
Module-wise Courses	
Module 1	
Microeconomics of Competitiveness	
Financial Management	Module 1*
Financial Regulations and Supervision	January - April
Module 2	
Strategic Management and Leadership	
International Finance	Module 2*
Banking	July - August
Module 3	
Risk Management	
Information Management and Knowledge	Module 3*
Management	
Growth Development	October - December
Research Project	April - December
Defense Final Research Project	November - December
GRADUATION	December