

# AP Degree in FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

# Academy Profession Programme International Financial Management and Financial Services

# CURRICULUM And Academic Regulations

2012-2014

#### **PART I**

These academic regulations and the curriculum will apply to students commencing their studies on September 1<sup>st</sup> and is common to the following institutions:

**Erhvervsakademi Aarhus** www.akademiaarhus.dk

Professionshøjskolen University College Nordjylland www.ucn.dk

Erhvervsakademi SydVest www.easv.dk

International Business Academy www.iba.dk

Erhvervsakademiet Lillebælt www.eal.dk

Erhvervsakademiet Copenhagen Business www.cphbusiness.dk

Erhvervsakademi Sjælland www.easj.dk

Erhvervsakademi Dania www.eadania.dk



# Erhvervsakademi Midtvest www.eamv.dk

#### Preface

The academic regulations and the curriculum for the programme have now been divided into a common, national core curriculum, and a local curriculum individual to the local institution.

The national core curriculum has been drafted in common and will apply to Erhvervsakademi Århus, Erhvervsakademiet Copenhagen Business, Professionshøjskolen University College Nordjylland, Erhvervsakademiet Lillebælt, Erhvervsakademi Dania, Erhvervsakademi Midtvest, Erhvervsakademi Sjælland, Erhvervsakademi SydVest samt International Business Academy.

The academies of professional higher education behind this national core curriculum have agreed to cooperate to ensure the national competence level and to cooperate on credits and accreditation, especially through a common structure for external exams and uniform procedures.

The partners in this network have likewise agreed to effect any changes to the national core curriculum together on a joint basis of the ongoing evaluation process and with the involvement of the national



Advisory Board representing a.o. Finanssektorens Arbejdsgiverforening, HK, Finansrådet, Realkreditrådet, Forsikring & Pension, Forsikringsakademiet, Ejendomsforeningen Danmark, og Dansk Ejendomsmæglerforening.

September	2012
-----------	------

#### **CONTENTS**

1.0 INTRODUCTION5	 	
2.0 GENERAL ISSUES5	 	
3.0 CONTENTS OF THE PROGRAMME	 	



	3.1 Distribution of Themes
	3.2 Individual Programme Elements (30 ECTS)
4. 8	0 EXAMINATION, TESTS AND ASSENSMENT
	4.1 Terms and conditions
	4.2 Examination Structure of AP Degre Finansiel Management
	4.3 Descriptions of the Exams of the Programme
5. 1	0 COMPLAINTS
6. 1	0 COMPULSERY PART1
	6.1 Theme 1 – introduction to financial business and methods and basic skills
	6.2 Theme 2 – the financial sector and financial products
	6.3 Theme 3 – the financial sector in society
	6.4 Theme 4 – personal finance and councelling
	6.5 Theme 5 – councelling corporate customers
	6.6 Theme 6 – financial businesses and organisations
7. 1	0 INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMME ELEMENTS
	7.1 Elective part
	7.2 Internship in a company
	7.3 Final examination project
	7.4 Credit transfer agreements



.0 INSTITUTIONAL PART
8.1 Rules for implementation of internships in companies
8.2 Opportunities for taking part of the education abroad
8.3 Approach to education and work
8.4 Set preconditions
8.5 Quality Assurance
8.6 Special admission criteria

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The academic regulations and curriculum for the Financial Management AP programme was established in accordance with the guidelines of the Government Order No. 636 af 29th June 2009 governing academy and university college bachelor programmes and of Government Order 697 af 3rd July 2009 relating to this Financial Management Programme (AP Degree).

The programme is designed so that horizontal credits are ensured between the institutions offering the programme in Denmark: Erhvervsakademi Århus, Niels Brock Business Academy, Professionshøjskolen University College Nordjylland, Tietgen Business College, Erhvervsakademi Dania – Minerva Hobro, Erhvervsakademi Midtvest, Erhvervsakademi Sjælland, Erhvervsakademiet København Nord, Erhvervsakademi SydVest and International Business Academy.

The institutions above cooperate with organisations and stakeholders in the financial sector, a.o. Finanssektorens Arbejdsgiverforening (employers), HK (office workers), Finansrådet (Bankers' Association), Realkreditrådet (mortgage association), Forsikring & Pension (insurance and pensions), Forsikringsakademiet (insurance academy), Ejendomsforeningen Danmark (property management), og Dansk Ejendomsmæglerforening (real estate agents).

The curriculum offers an overview and a description of the subjects and activities of the educational programme and the scheduled order, the teaching and learning approaches, and the examinations.

The national core curriculum contains a description of

- Contents of the programme
- Compulsory subjects (esp. themes)
- Core areas
- Examinations common to all institutions
- Regulation of credits
- Description of individual modules (incl. of electives, internship periods, and final exam project)



The institution's local curriculum contains a description of

- Regulations or internship procedures
- Study abroad structure
- Learning styles and philosophies
- Quality assessment of the educational programme
- Special access and credits

#### 2.0 GENERAL ISSUES

#### Aims and objectives of the educational programme

The aim of the educational programme is to qualify the graduate to work independently with the planning, organisation and realisation of tasks within finance, investments, insurance, real estate and administration of property.

The graduate should be able to work nationally as well as internationally with key issues of an enterprise and with financial counselling services.

The graduate should be able to perform tasks in a broad perspective and in cooperation with other persons of different cultural and educational backgrounds.

#### The name of the AP programme and the title of graduates

The name of the educational programme is the Financial Management programme. The graduates are entitled to use "AP Degree in Financial Management".

#### Admission

Admission to the educational programme follows Ministerial Order No. 87 of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011 on admission, enrolment and leave in higher education and the current admission requirements cf. www.uvm.dk/videre/generelt/adgang.htm

Please also check the institution's own curriculum for rules on this.

#### **Duration of the educational programme**

The education is a short -cycle professional higher education taking 2 years.

#### 3.0 CONTENTS OF THE AP PROGRAMME

#### **Structure**

The subjects and activities of the educational programme have been allotted credits in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). By using this formalised ECTS system it is possible to give credits for the educational programme in relation to other study programmes within higher education in Denmark or abroad.

Every subject is allocated a stipulated number of ECTS credits comprising all study activities in connection with that subject. 60 ECTS credits correspond to the full-time workload of a student for one year and the whole education including tests thus comprises 120 ECTS points.



The educational programme consists of a compulsory part and an elective part. The compulsory part constitutes 90 ECTS incl. of exams, and the elective part 30 ECTS, divided into 5 ECTS elective, internship 15 ECTS, and final exam project 10 ECTS.

#### **Compulsory part (90 ECTS)**

Thematic modules are organised according to 6 competence related themes. Learning outcomes for these are described in a later chapter.

Themes are designed in such a way that each theme uses programme elements from different core areas cover one holistic module which relates to the purpose and objective of the programme.

The themes contain all the individual elements from the core areas as described in the Government Order (the learning objectives for core areas can be seen in a separate document called "Curriculum Details")

#### 3.1. Distribution on Themes

ECTS points relate to relative student workload

Modules per theme	ECTS	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5	Theme 6
		Introduction to Financial Business & Methods and Basic Financial Skills	The financial sector and financial products	The in financial sector society	Personal Finance and Counselling	Counselling Corporate Custom- ers	Financial Enterprises and Organisations
Financial Enterprises & Markets	14	2	5	3	1	1	2
- Marketing Personal Finance	7			4	7	1	3



Business	15	4.5			2	8.5	
Economics							
Global	10	3.25		3.75		2	1
Economics							
Business	12	2	5	0.25	1	2	1.75
Law							
Statistics	11	7		4			
Customer/	8	0.5			4	1.5	2
Client							
Relationship							
Management & Communication	5	0.75				3	1.25
Total	90	20	10	15	15	20	10
ECTS total		3	0	30		30	
per semester							
		1. se	emester	2. semester 3. seme		emester	

#### 3.2. Individual Programme Elements (30 ECTS)

The individual elective part consists of two elements, which is a period of specialisation and a final examination project.

#### **Electives (5 ECTS):**

Examples of specialisation areas:

Financial advice International financial relations Real estate business Conveyance of real property and administration of real estate Financial management of private and public enterprises

Each student can select only 1 period of specialisation within the allotted study period. Detailed contents of the specialisation period appear from the documentation issued by the institution.



#### **Internship in a Company (15 ECTS)**

All students have to work for 3 months with a company or an organisation.

The internships are during January to April and the learning outcomes are described in the specialisation area regulations.

#### Final examination project (10 ECTS)

In the examination project the student will demonstrate the ability to work with a complex problem related to a specific task within the area of finance, using proper academic method.

The problem formulation should be done in cooperation with a company or and organisation in the financial sector.

Each institution publishes guidelines for the final project.

#### 4.0 EXAMINATION, TESTS AND ASSESSMENT

#### 4.1 Terms and Conditions

Tests and examinations are laid down in accordance with

- BEK nr 1016 af 24/08/2010 <u>Bekendtgørelse om prøver og eksamen i erhvervsrettede</u> <u>uddannelser (Eksamensbekendtgørelsen)</u>
- BEK nr 262 af 20/03/2007 Bekendtgørelse om karakterskala og anden bedømmelse
- BEK nr. 636 af 29/06/2009 Bekendtgørelse om erhvervsakademiuddannelsen (AK) inden for finansområdet

Also check for current versions on www.retsinfo.dk which has the latest changes and versions.

Every student must enrol for 6 exams, of which 3, including the final examination project, are external (i.e. with external examiners) and 3 are internal examinations. All examinations must be passed (a minimum mark of "2" or "pass").

Examinations must be taken in the first examination period after the end of instruction. If withdrawal from the examination is not registered in due time, the examination will be considered to have started seen in relation to the allowed number of attempts. This is, however, not enforced if the student is prevented from participating due to illness.

If an examination is not passed, the student may re-sit, but the student cannot sit for the same examination more than 3 times. The college decides the time of re-examination. The college decides who will be given access to re-examination. Passed examinations cannot be retaken.

In order to be allowed to enrol for an examination the semesters mandatory tasks must have been fulfilled (cf. special section on this in the local curriculum).

It is a prerequisite for the advancement to the Final exam project that the student has passed the all previous external and internal exams.



#### **4.2** Examination Structure AP Degree Financial Management

Semester	Subjects and modules	Exam title		
2 <sub>nd</sub>	Global Economics, business law,	First Year Exam 1st		
	business economics and statistics	External		
2 <sub>nd</sub>	Personal finance and law relating to	Private Counselling 1 <sup>st</sup>		
	personal finances, financial enterprises,	Internal		
	customer relations			
3rd	Business economics, management and	Corporate Counselling 2 <sup>nd</sup>		
	communication, financial enterprises	External		
	and markets, customer relations			
3rd	Written exam in business law and global	Financial Skills 3 <sup>rd</sup>		
	economics	Internal		
4 <sub>th</sub>	Internship and elective	Specialised Competencies		
		4 <sup>th</sup> Internal		
4 <sub>th</sub>	Final exam project	Final Exam Project		
		3 <sup>rrd</sup> External		

#### 4.3 Description of the Exams of the Programme

#### First Year Exam – (1st External Exam)

At the end of the second semester a 6-hour exam is organised, comprising the subjects of global economics, business economics, business law and statistics.

The exam paper is constructed by a national exam committee. The exam will demonstrate the student's ability to use knowledge acquired during the first and second semesters.

Assessment: One overall grade or mark. Part-grades or marks are secret.



#### **Advicing Private Customer (1st Internal Exam)**

At the end of semester 2 the institution will organise a 30-minute oral exam in Personal finance, Financial enterprices and Customer Relations based on modules from 5 themes of the programme.

The exam is an individual oral exam and has the form of a role play or situational dialogue followed by other exam questions.

Part 1 of the exam – invitation to dialogue – is a counselling situation where the student (financial adviser) introduces a financial product or service for the examinator (client). The dialogue takes departure in the material issued to the examinee before the actual exam.

Part 2 of the exam is a dialogue concentrating on elected financial issues of relevance to the material issued.

#### **Advising Business Clients (2nd External Exam)**

At the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> semester the school organizes an oral examination of 30 minutes' duration. Each student is given 5 days and nights to prepare for a comprehensive, multidisciplinary case.

On the day of examination, each student draws a question and is given 60 minutes' preparation time after the draw.

The exam is graded with one overall mark according to the Danish scale of marks.

#### **Professional Skills Testing (2<sup>nd</sup> Internal Exam)**

At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester the school organizes a written examination of 120 minutes' duration in the subject of Global Economics and a written examination of 120 minutes' duration in the subject of Business Law.

The exam is graded with one overall mark according to the Danish scale of marks.

#### **Specialised Competencies Exam (3<sup>rd</sup> Internal Exam)**

During the internship the student will study in depth a limited research question chosen together with the company and the university. On the basis of the internship research the student writes a reseach plan which is answered in a paper comprising 5 pages.

The university evaluates the learning outcome for each student through an oral examination of 30 minutes' duration.

The student receives passed/not passed for the internal examination.

#### Final Examination Project (3<sup>rd</sup> External Exam)

After semester 4 the Final Examination Project is followed up by oral defense of 45 minutes duration incl. of evaluation time.

The examinee must in his/her final examination project should demonstrate the ability of the student to work independently and methodologically with a complex situation related to a specific task within the area of finance.



The project should be based on the key issues of the educational programme and may contain central elements from the student's specialisation.

The topic of the final examination project should be formulated by the student in cooperation with the college and usually in cooperation with a company. The college approves of the problem formulation.

The final examination project is worked out individually or in groups of two or three students. In case the project is not accepted as passed a new project has to be prepared. Group members who do not pass are subject to the same rule.

Rules concerning size, delivery and requirements as to individual or group work can be found in the school's exam guidelines.

One overall mark is awarded for the written (70% weight) and oral (30% weight) parts and the student is only to be informed of the overall mark.

If the final examination project is written in Danish, spelling and wording accounts for 10% of the mark (out of the 70% weighted written part). Each school may allow students special permission to prepare the project in English language.

#### **5.0 COMPLAINTS**

The examinees may see the regulations for complaints in

- BEK nr 1016 af 24/08/2010 Bekendtgørelse om prøver og eksamen i erhvervsrettede uddannelser
- The responsible director for the programme at each school for further information, cf. also www.kvucensor.dk

Complaints are to be handed in to the administrative office of the school no later than 2 weeks after publication of the exam results or publication of a decision by the school.

## 6.0 COMPULSORY PART – DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPETENCE RELATED THEMES 1-6 OF THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

#### 6.1. Theme 1 – Introduction to financial business and methods and basic skills

In the first of the education programme themes, a good introduction to the studies is organised, with emphasis on the establishment of a good basis of fundamental professional skills - combined with focus on teamwork, methodology, development of skills and competencies, and an overview of the function of enterprises in the financial business sector.

#### Aims:

The student will work efficiently and problem-oriented and will obtain an overview of the functions of the various financial business enterprise types and their role in society.



Within the theme, the student will obtain fundamental knowledge in the subjects of global economics, business economics, statistics, and business law.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

- The most important types of suppliers of financial services
- The behaviour of indiviuals and groups in a variety of co-operation relations
- The process of communication
- Demographics, price- and salary level establishment mechanisms, market types, and economic relations in society
- Statistical error types
- The construction and function of the legal system, terminology, as well as sources of law and their interpretation
- Contractual legal issues in the financial sector
- Cost issues

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Preparing and presenting a project
- Reflecting on his/her own strengths and possibilities for improvement
- Working with problem-oriented projects and problem-based learning
- Applying tools for conflict resolution, as well as management and optimisation of decision-taking processes
- Applying knowledge about the behaviour of individuals and groups
- Analysing the effects and consequences of micropolitical intervention
- Carrying out a value chain analysis
- Undertaking elasticity and optimisation calculations
- Applying basic statistical tests
- Applying valid rules concerning contractual agreements and powers of attorney
- Applying and assessing legal procedures for damage and compensation issues
- Applying theories, methods, and models of business economics

#### The student should possess competences in:

• Working problem-oriented in groups and individually apply his/her basic knowledge, skills and qualifications in handling various practical problem issues.

#### 6.2. Theme 2 – The financial sector and financial products

The second education programme theme is organised with a view to establishing a good understanding of the financial sector, its products, and legal foundation – with the purpose of enabling the student to provide counselling to customers at a later stage.

#### Aims:

The student will have knowledge about the financial products and which needs they reflect with various types of clients.

The student will be able to compare and combine the products, conduct fundamental calculations in relation to these, and apply legal rules pertaining to the products.



#### The student should possess knowledge about:

- National and international payment conveyance
- Loans and deposits
- Types of loans
- Credit analysis of private customers and small-business clients
- Financial investments
- Elements contributing to the valuation of real estate and the procedure of property trade
- Insurance and pension products
- Types of claims and debts
- Basic insurance law
- Regulation of the financial business sector

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Being able to apply, compare, and combine the products of the financial business sector to meet the requirements of clients
- Analysing and assessing various forms of claims and how to secure these claims
- Conducting financial consequence calculations for financing scheme alternatives
- Being able to apply the rules concerning mortgages and similar lending against security in connection with other judicial issues and in practise concerning risk- and credit assessments
- Applying rules and legal practise concerning buying and selling of real estate
- Applying rules and legal practise concerning property registration
- Being able to apply the rules governing cancellation of claims
- Being able to apply the rules and legal practise governing the transfer of claims

#### The student should possess competences in:

• Individually being able to handle financial products in an interdisciplinary framework, including needs assessment, establishment of security, and legal regulation of the products.

#### **6.3.** Theme 3 – The financial sector in society

In the third theme of the education programme, the student must turn his/her focus to society in a wider sense and analyse relations in international economics, as well as the political framework for the activities of the financial sector. A particular area of emphasis is the interplay between society, business sector, and clients. Statistical and global economics methods and analysis types will be included as an essential part of this learning process.

#### Aims:

The student has knowledge about the roles and functions of financial business enterprises in society.

The student is able to independently carry out market analysis.

The student is able to independently analyse and assess problem issues in business economics and economics of society (macroeconomics).

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

• Legislation and supervision regarding the activities and operation of financial business enterprises



- The roles of financial business enterprises towards clients and the surrounding society
- Basic marketing terms and the role and placement of the marketing function in the financial business enterprise
- Various primary and secondary methods of information and data collection in relation to the information needs for a market analysis.
- Methods for identification of internal and external circumstances affecting business enterprises and enterprises in the financial sector (e.g. demand, competition, and macroeconomic conditions)
- The meaning of ethics in the marketing of financial sector enterprises
- Income creation, society-level economic aims and targets and their mutual correlation
- Interest rate establishment and interest structures
- Financial asset valuation in various asset pricing approaches
- Classical and contemporary theories of trade
- Numerative tables, regression analysis, and random sample selection
- Application and assessment of competition law in relation to the financial sector and its clients

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Collecting primary and secondary data with the use of statistical methods
- Being able to apply theoretical models in analysis of income level establishment, interest rate establishment, and financial asset pricing establishment, as well as inflation and employment
- Being able to analyse the development in the balance of payments, the capital balance, and the rate
  of competitiveness
- Ensuring that valid legislation and ethical guidelines are adhered to in client relations
- Establishing and handling an actual business economics or macroeconomics problem issue by using statistical analysis
- Setting up and implementing a regression model containing one or more descriptive variables
- Applying various methods for selection of random samples

#### The student should possess competences in:

- Communicating expectations regarding developments in society to co-operation partners and clients
- Individually being able to assess the effects of established interest and exchange rate levels
- Individually being able to assess a completed business economics or macroeconomics statistical analysis
- Individually preparing and implementing a market analysis

#### 6.4. Theme 4 – Advising personal clients and counselling

This theme is organised with a view to establishing competencies to advise the typical private customer within the scope of the most common financial products

#### Aims:

The student has the necessary knowledge and competencies to provide financial counselling in a legally sound manner for the typical private customer through all life phases. In this connection, the student must independently plan and implement goal-oriented private customer counselling meetings.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

• Different income and income utilisation types



- Basic legal rules concerning family and inhertiance
- Debtor protection of private customers
- Purchasing law with regard to consumers
- Meeting technique
- Customer relation building and relation marketing

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Calculating taxes and preparing budgets
- Preparing savings, financing, and investment proposals
- Assessing insurance needs
- Applying consumer protection legislation in connection with counselling of the typical private customer
- Applying rules and legal practise for counsellors' responsibility in the financial sector
- Applying regulation of rights and duties concerning credit agreements
- Applying and assessing regulation of financial security provision in connection with other judicial subjects

#### The student should possess competences in:

- Assessing budgets and income utilisation scenarios
- Assessing the financial needs, risks, and opportunities of private customers, as well as conducting financially and legally sound counselling for these customers
- Displaying assertive behaviour
- Independently planning and conducting counselling meetings and basic sales negotiations

#### 6.5. Theme 5 – Advising corporate customers

The theme is organised with a view to establishing a competency to enable the student to provide counselling to corporate customers and analyse enterprises.

#### Aims:

The student is able to individually advise and counsel enterprises, from a starting point involving a situation analysis and credit worthiness assessment, in connection with financing requests and investment proposals.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

- Business opportunities and profitability considerations for the financial sector enterprises
- Contents and connections in annual reports including related budgets
- Management conditions and the internal collaboration between various functions and departments in the enterprise
- Debt reorganisation
- Purchasing law for business enterprises
- Basic company law
- Financing structures and different financing types

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

• Interpreting accounts analyses and accounts presented by enterprises



- Preparing credit assessments, credit worthiness assessments, and risk management analyses based on market, economics, legal, organisational, and management conditions
- Analysing and assessing the investment needs of enterprises and assess investment proposals
- Assessing the optimal financing structure for enterprises
- Assessing strategic opportunities for enterprises
- Applying and assessing legal rules for compensation claims within the corporate customer segment
- Identifying and assessing the optimal security provision
- Being able to apply and assess rules and practise for individual and general creditor prosecution

#### The student should possess competences in:

- Being able to participate in a professional and interdisciplinary co-operation regarding credit assessments and counselling of corporate customers on the basis of strategic analysis
- Being able to independently conduct a counselling situation and negotiation with corporate customers in a professionally sound manner

#### 6.6. Theme 6 – Financial enterprises and organisations

The sixth theme of the education programme is specially organised to draw together all the acquired competencies of the student. The emphasis will be on complete processes where the student can undertake problem solving as well as planning and implementation of financial activities.

#### Aims:

The student has achieved a broad professional skills platform and is able to participate in planning, organisation, and implementation of tasks in connection with counselling and provision of advisory services in the financial sector enterprise – and is able to do so on a legally and ethically sound basis.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

- The main structure of accounts for financial business sector
- Theory and method in connection with the build-up of customer relations
- Project management
- Business opportunities and profitability considerations in a financial business enterprise

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Analysing and estimating the need for organisation development
- Being able to apply theoretical models for the determination of income creation
- Being able to communicate macroeconomic development trends to co-operation partners and clients
- Being able to apply and assess marketing law in relation to the financial sector and its clients

#### The student should possess competences in:

- Being able to independently analyse and assess organisational problem issues
- Working in an interdisciplinary and project-oriented way
- Independently determining goals and strategies and transfer these to a marketing plan
- Being able to independently assess the effect of economic policies



### 7.0 INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMME ELEMENTS – DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPETENCE RELATED THEME 7 OF THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The seventh theme of the education programme is characterised by a large degree of freedom for the student in organisation of the process.

Theme 7 is divided into three elements: an elective part (specialisation area), internship in a company, and the final examination project.

#### 7.1. Elective part (specialisation area)

*Aims:* The initial seminar creates the foundation for the student's selection possibilities among subjects of practical relevance and contributes to the student's efficiency in completion of the remaining part of 4<sup>th</sup> Semester.

The aim of the specialisation area seminar is to enable the student to choose a development-oriented and relevant problem issue for the company-based element within the elective part of the education programme.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

- How to collect professional knowledge about the specialisation area
- How to connect the theory part of the education programme to the final application-oriented part

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Evaluating the relevance of professional/vocational information in relation to the envisaged application
- Establishing and presenting professional, application-oriented problem issues
- Being able to choose between various alternatives for carrying out the company-based element of the individual programme

#### The student should possess competences in:

• Displaying a critical and reflecting position when considering the consequences of various choices of specialisation area

#### 7.2. Internship in a company

#### Aims:

The company internship element of the Financial Management AP Programme is of essential importance for the profession- and application-oriented characteristics of the programme – and contributes to the development of students' professional competencies.

The internship aims at enabling the student to apply methods and tools from his/her studies through solving an actual, practise-based assignment in a financial business in Denmark or abroad.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:



- How to collect knowledge in connection with carrying out assignments in the enterprise
- How to acquire know-how about the financial sector
- Observation of the connection between the theoretical level and the practise relevance of the specialisation area and the internship assignments

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Assessing the relevance and reliability of the knowledge collected
- Distinguishing between facts, theory, the statements of sources, and own points of view
- Demonstrating the ability to present solution alternatives with relation to practise
- Being able to choose between different alternative solutions from a basis closely related to practise

#### The student should possess competences in:

• Displaying a critical and reflecting position when considering practical professional issues

The education institutions offering the Financial Management AP Programme will prepare a separate guide for students regarding the work during the Internship period.

#### 7.3. Final examination project

#### Aims:

To demonstrate that the student is able to combine, in a qualified manner, theoretical, methodical, and practical elements – and can communicate these. The final examination project at Academy level must be a larger assignment where the student acquires special insight in a limited financial subject/area/problem, which is central to the financial sector.

The problem description for the project is prepared by the student and may take place in co-operation with an enterprise. The problem area chosen for the project must be approved by the education institution.

#### The student should possess knowledge about:

- How to collect facts about financial problem issues on an actual basis in an actual enterprise
- How to collect knowledge for use in selection and de-selection processes related to problem, method, theory, empiricism, and conclusion
- Communication strategy and project presentation

#### The student should possess skills and qualifications in:

- Applying scientific methodology through collection, processing, and application of relevant knowledge and practise-related data
- Developing and analysing strategic and creative proposals for problem solution based on applied theory and method concerning actual and abstract problem situations in an enterprise within the financial sector.
- Independently managing a final examination project and implement creative problem solving approaches in this connection
- Evaluating own learning and identifying own competence development needs



 Communicating and disseminating ideas, quantitative and qualitative data to a variety of target groups

#### The student should possess competences in:

- Combining theoretical, methodical, and professional elements to create profession-applicable knowledge
- Communicating his/her own professionally justified viewpoints convincingly
- Formulating well-argued responses to concrete problem issues
- Assessing various solution alternatives for abstract and concrete problem issues

The education institutions offering the Financial Management AP Programme will prepare a joint set of guidelines for students regarding the work on their Final Examination Project. The guidelines will comprise formal requirements, scope, time plan, contact to supervisor, as well as criteria for assessment of the project.

#### 7.4. Credit transfer agreements

#### Other education programmes at academies of higher professional education

It has been agreed between the education institutions covered by these Academic Regulations that students can be transferred during the programme. However, the transfer can take place only after the student has passed the first annual exam.

#### Higher education institutions

In accordance with agreement between the Danish Ministry of Education and the Danish business schools, a graduate from the Financial Management AP Programme with mathematics at level B will be given credits (standard credits) for HD (Bachelor of Commerce), part 1. Access to HD part 2 in Financial Counselling does not require mathematics at level B.

Graduates of the Financial Management AP Programme can be admitted to the HA (Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Business Administration and Economics) studies at business schools and universities in Denmark and complete the BSc degree in 1½ years. Subsequently, Financial Management AP Programme graduates can be admitted to the cand.merc. (Master of Science (MSc) in Business Administration and Economics) studies. At the Aarhus School of Business, Financial Management AP Programme graduates can be admitted to the above MSc studies after completion of a 1-year bridging programme.

From AP Degree in Financial Management to Professional Bachelor of Financial Management From 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester (all internal and external exams during the first year must have been passed):

The student starts at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester of the Professional Bachelor Programme in Financial Management but must, before the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Semester, pass the exams in Organisational Psychology (internal exam, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester), Business Economics (external exam, 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester), as well as a special internal exam in Methodology Skills and Scientific Theory. Prior to starting, the student must attend a compulsory interview with the Head of Studies for the programme.

From 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester (all internal and external exams during the first year and 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester must have been passed):



The student starts at the 4<sup>th</sup> Semester of the Professional Bachelor Programme in Financial Management but has, prior to starting, attended a counselling dialogue with the Head of Studies with special focus on the internship element.

#### From 4<sup>th</sup> Semester (all exams of the AP Programme must have been passed):

The AP graduate starts at the 5<sup>th</sup> Semester internship without period reduction, but must have participated in Elective A in advance and passed the exams included herein.

## After graduation with AP Degree in Financial Management and 6-12 months of employment in a professionally relevant sector:

The graduate starts directly with the individual subject round B at the 6<sup>th</sup> Semester of the Professional Bachelor Programme in Financial Management but must, before the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> Semester, have prepared for examination in the subjects of individual subject round A and passed a special internal exam herein.

#### Foreign Universities

Credit transfer has been agreed with several foreign universities where graduates of the AP Programme in Financial Management can complete a Bachelor degree in one year.

For additional information concerning credit transfer agreements, please refer to the websites of the individual education institutions and to www.Erhvervsakademierne.dk

#### Provisions under Open Education

Reference is made to the opportunities for supplementary education at the further education system for adults (VVU-degree in Financial Counselling).

#### 8.0 INSTITUTIONAL PART – LOCAL CURRICULUM

#### 8.1. Rules for implementation of internships in companies

During the internship period, the student has access to a work placement supervisor from the education institution and a contact person in the enterprise. The enterprise and the student jointly determine the goals for the student's learning outcome from the internship period. These goals will subsequently be used by the enterprise as guidelines in the organisation of the student's work. The education institution will be able to assist in setting up learning goals for the internship and ensure that the aims for the internship as per section 7.2. are met.

The internship period is concluded with an exam on the basis of a written synopsis. See also the section containing description of the exams during the education programme.

The company internship is, as a rule, to be regarded as an ordinary job – comprising the same requirements to the effort, commitment, and flexibility as the graduate from the Financial Management AP Programme should expect to encounter in his/her first job position.

#### 8.2. Opportunities for taking part of the education abroad



IBA has a wide network of international co-operation partners and can assist the student in organising a schedule for taking parts of his/her studies in the AP Programme abroad. Please contact the IBA international department for additional information.

#### 8.3. Approach to education and work

#### 8.4. Deltagelsespligt under uddannelsen

#### 8.5. Quality Assurance

The Financial Management AP Programme is quality assured in accordance with:

- "Ministerial Order on quality enhancement and quality control in Academy Profession programmes", Ministerial Order no. 635 of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2000
- "Act on revision of the Law on The Danish Evaluation Institute (accreditation of higher education programmes, composition of the governing board and board of representatives for the evaluation institute etc.), Legal Statute no. 209 of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008

The academies of professional higher education behind this national core curriculum have committed themselves to close co-operation with the aim of ensuring national recognition of competency and credits through a./o. the planning and implementation of common external and internal exams.

In addtion, it has been agreed that any changes to the national core curriculum must be commonly effectuated on a joint basis of the ongoing evaluation process and with the involvement of the national Advisory Board (for composition of the Board, see the Preface to this document).

#### 8.6. Special admission criteria

The Head of Studies responsible for the AP education programme at the individual education institution may, prior to admission, provide dispensation or award credits for parts of other education programmes, which correspond to subjects or elements of the Financial Management AP Programme. Normally, an individual assessment will be conducted.