



Weiterbildung

Merkblatt V. 1.0 – 07.11.2023 MBA Finance – Basel/Tilburg

Guideline for the Module Exams

1. Purpose

This guideline provides an overview of the module exams of the MBA Finance and is aimed at facilitating preparation for the students. Note that the specific format of assignments varies from module to module and is at the discretion of the module chair.

2. Exams and Assignments

- 2.1 The MBA includes eleven module grades, one for each module, apart from the grade from the Master thesis.
- 2.2 Module grading can be based on written pre-assignment(s), a written in-class/online exam, an oral exam, or take-home assignment(s), or combinations of it. The exams are generally taken individually. Details are announced by the module chair at the latest at the beginning of each module (the kickoff meeting).
- 2.3 Location and duration of exams are announced by the module chair at the latest at the beginning of each module.
- 2.4 The material relevant to examination is determined by the module chair, at the latest on the last day of teaching.
- 2.5 Assignments cover the following capabilities:
 - *Knowledge* problems are descriptive in nature and ask about the knowledge taught in the courses (e.g., "What are the essential building blocks of the CAPM?").
 - *Transfer* problems expect a transfer of the learning material into a new or unknown context (e.g. "Firm ABC plans a takeover of its major competitor. How should it determine the offer price of the target company?").
 - *Discussion* problems aim at critically examining a statement or a concept, balancing advantages and disadvantages or strengths and weaknesses ("Imposing ESG constraints in investment strategies leads to systematically higher returns. Discuss!").
- 2.6 If grading is entirely based on a written examination, the duration is 90 minutes.
- 2.7 Non-programmable pocket calculators may be used in written in-class exams. Other devices (books, printouts, laptops) must be explicitly approved by the module leader.



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3. Grading

- 3.1 The module examinations are graded by the responsible lecturers. The grading scale ranges from 6 (very good) to 1 (poor), with 4 being sufficient. Grading is done by decimal marks. The Appendix of this document shows the equivalence to the grading scale (from 1 to 10) at Tilburg University.
- 3.2 Each examination may be repeated once in the same academic year. If the student does not pass the module after this, the student shall be required to retake the module in the next academic year. For this retake the student is only allowed one examination (thus the student has a total of three attempts at passing the module¹).
- 3.3 In the event of a third failure, the student may continue to complete the MBA, but will not receive a diploma at the end, but a certificate of achievement.
- 3.4 The overall grade of the MBA is computed as a weighted average of the grades of each module and the master thesis, where weighting is based on the ECTS-points assigned to the 11 modules (each 4 ECTS, for one module 5 ECTS, a total of 45 ECTS) and the master thesis (15 ECTS).

4. Oversight and Appeal

- 4.1 Questions or complaints about exams and grading are discussed and decided by the Studiengangkommission, which takes the joint role as Examination Committee.
- 4.2 Decisions made on the basis of the MBA Finance program regulations can be appealed within 30 days to the MBA Finance program committee.
- 4.3 Appeal decisions must be communicated with instructions on how to appeal and can be appealed to the Appeals Commission appointed by the University Council.

¹ As an exception to the regulations of the *Reglement für das Weiterbildungsstudium an der Universität Basel vom 14. März 2023* due to international cooperation with Tilburg University.



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Appendix:

The underlying formula is applied by the University of Basel using for formula displayed in a document entitled "Umrechnung und Berechnung der Abschlussnote", as part of the Admission Rules (Zulassungsbestimmungen), and rounding.

Tilburg U grading scale		U of Basel grading scale	
10		6.0	
9		5.7	
8		5.3	
7		5.0	
6		4.7	
5		4.3	
4		4.0	
3		3.0	
2		2.0	
1		1.0	