Course Descriptions None 2024-2025

Course Title	Assurance Services and Audit Analytics
Course Code	EBC4037
ECTS Credits	6,5
Assessment	Whole/Half Grades

Period

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2-9-2024	20-10-2024	X			X	

Level	Advanced
Coordinator	Ann Vanstraelen For more information:a.vanstraelen@maastrichtuniversity.nl
Language of instruction	English
Goals	Solid knowledge of different types of assurance services; Deepen insight on the audit process with a particular emphasis on the use of data analytics and digital auditing; Develop understanding of auditor behavior and the functioning and regulation of the audit market with a particular emphasis on the concept of audit quality; Advanced knowledge of the academic literature on auditing and assurance services; Sharpen problem solving skills in auditing and assurance services settings and further develop experience in using and interpreting data in common decision contexts. Students who successfully complete this course will have sufficient knowledge of the process of assurance services to effectively perform entry-level assurance work in professional accounting firms. Furthermore, students will be able to read and critically evaluate audit research, and report the results of research on current and fundamental issues in the accounting profession. Graduates have profound, evidence-based and up-to-date academic knowledge and understanding of theories, methods and tools in business/economics. This includes demonstrating the ability to develop new ideas. Graduates can apply their profound knowledge and understanding to identify and solve also unstructured or semi-structured real life business/economic problems in unfamiliar environments within broader multidisciplinary contexts. This includes demonstrating analytical skills and a problem-solving attitude. Graduates can integrate various perspectives to formulate judgments even with incomplete information on complex theoretical and practical business/economic issues. Graduates can effectively communicate both to specialist and nonspecialist audiences. This includes demonstrating strong presentation skills, project- management skills, interpersonal skills, a high level of argumentation and context sensitivity. Graduates have self-directed learning skills and the ability to regulate their own learning process.
Description	This course is organized around 3 key themes: 1) Different types of assurance services; 2) The audit process; and 3) Auditor behavior and the functioning and regulation of the audit market. For the first theme, the course focuses on those assurance services that improve the reliability of information (financial and non-financial) as perceived by decision makers such as shareholders. For the second theme, the course is aimed at deepen students insight on the different stages of the audit process with a particular emphasis on the use of data analytics in the audit of financial statements and digital auditing. For the third theme, academic research will be used to develop students' understanding of auditor behavior and the functioning and regulation of the audit market with a particular emphasis on the concept of audit quality. This will include a discussion of topics such as professional judgment and judgment biases; professional skepticism; ethical decision making; auditor independence; audit firm culture and governance; quality control; public oversight; audit market structure, concentration, competition and pricing. The course is linked to audit practice by means of case-studies, a workshop in collaboration with a large audit firm and/or a guest lecture.
Literature	Textbook and articles
Prerequisites	This course is in transition for the master Business Research. See the Master Education and Examination Regulations for more information. The following rule applies to master Business Research students who started the programme prior to academic year 2024-2025. TRANSITIONAL REGULATION (EBC4037): The master Business Research has been discontinued. Courses of the Business Research master's programme will continue to be offered until and including academic year 2025-2026 with exam opportunities running until and including 2026-2027. This course is in transition for the master Fiscal Economics. See the Master Education and Examination Regulations for more information. The following rule applies to master Fiscal Economics students who started the programme prior to academic year 2024-2025. TRANSITIONAL REGULATION (EBC4037): The master Fiscal Economics has been discontinued. Courses of the Fiscal Economics master's programme will continue to be offered until and including academic year 2024-2025 with exam opportunities running until and including 2025-2026. PREREQUISITES: * Exchange students need to have obtained a bachelor degree with a major in Business. * Exchange students need to major in accounting in their Master. * An advanced level of English. Note that courses and workload are very demanding for all IB Master courses.
Teaching methods	PBL / Lecture / Assignment
Assessment methods	Participation / Written Exam
Evaluation in previous academic year	For the complete evaluation of this course please click http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Master Business Research - No specialisation	Transitional Regulation
Master Business Research - Operations Research	Transitional Regulation
Master Fiscal Economics	Transitional Regulation
Master International Business - Accounting and Business Information Technology	Compulsory Course(s)
Master International Business - Accounting & Control (parttime/NL)	Compulsory Course(s)
SBE Exchange Master	Master Exchange Courses
SBE Non Degree Courses	Master Courses