

Course Descriptions None 2025-2026

Course Title	Managing Takeovers							
Course Code	EBS2017							
ECTS Credits	4,0							
Assessment	Pass / Fail							
Period	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	3	12-1-2026	23-1-2026	C				
Level	Intermediate							
Coordinator	Sanne Jongen For more information:s.jongen@maastrichtuniversity.nl							
Language of instruction	English							
Goals	<p>The purpose of this skills course is to become familiar with Mergers and Acquisitions (M&As) from a valuation perspective.</p> <p>After completing the course, you:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) understand how M&As can be valued using common scientifically valid valuation approaches; 2.) develop skills to apply valuation techniques to M&A related investment opportunities; 3.) be able to judge whether M&A's add value; 4.) understand the difference between DCF valuation and real-option approach to valuation; 5.) further develop your presentation and communication skills 							
Description	<p>Mergers and acquisitions (M&As) have become key drivers of growth and transformation in the modern economy. They offer companies opportunities to expand, achieve synergies, enhance operational efficiency and more.</p> <p>Despite their prevalence, M&As remain a subject of significant debate. A central question is whether these transactions genuinely create value for the firms involved. Do they lead to measurable increases in firm value and generate wealth for shareholders? While M&As often result in larger and seemingly more influential companies, their actual impact on value creation requires careful examination.</p> <p>The purpose of this skills course is to become familiar with M&As from a valuation perspective. You will explore the principles of valuation in case studies focused on valuing and assessing M&A deals, identifying synergies, analyzing leveraged buyouts, and evaluating option-like deals.</p> <p>Through this course, you will develop practical skills to analyze and assess the financial and strategic implications of M&As in the corporate world.</p>							
Literature	<p>Selection from:</p> <p>Berk, J. and DeMarzo, P. (2019). Corporate Finance. Global Edition. Pearson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Chapter 8: Fundamentals of Capital Budgeting * Chapter 18: Capital Budgeting and Valuation with Leverage * Chapter 19: Valuation and Financial Modeling: A Case Study * Chapter 20: Financial Options * Chapter 21: Option Valuation * Chapter 28: Mergers and Acquisitions <p>Bruner, R. F. (2004). Applied mergers and acquisitions (Vol. 173). John Wiley & Sons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Chapter 10: Valuing options * Chapters 14: Real Options and Their Impact on M&A <p>Alternative textbooks and chapters that are made freely available online by the authors can be valuable resources:</p> <p>Welch, I. (2009) Corporate Finance: An Introduction. (Links to an external site.) New York: Prentice Hall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Chapter 4: A first encounter with Capital Budgeting Rules * Chapter 12: Pitfalls in Capital Budgeting * Chapter 13: From financial statements to economic cash flows * Chapter 20: ProForma Financial Statements <p>Damodaran, A. (2002). Investment Valuation, Wiley.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Chapter 2: Approaches to Valuation: ch2.pdf (nyu.edu) (author website) * Chapter 5: Option pricing theory and models: ch5.pdf (nyu.edu) * Chapter 25: acquisitions and takeovers: ch25.pdf (nyu.edu) <p>Damodaran, A. (2005). "The Value of Synergy", The Value of Synergy by Aswath Damodaran - SSRN</p> <p>Malmendier, U. and G. Tate (2008). 'Who Makes Acquisitions?' CEO Overconfidence and the Market's Reaction', Journal of Financial Economics. See Canvas for access details.</p>							
Prerequisites	<p>Exchange students need to have taken at least one introductory finance course, sufficient first-year finance skills, passing criteria are that all three cases must be completed with a "sufficient" grading.</p> <p>An advanced level of English</p>							
Transitional Regulations								
Teaching methods	Presentation / Assignment / Papers / Groupwork							
Assessment methods	Attendance / Assignment							
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	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics			Year 2 Elective Skills				
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Emerging Markets			Year 2 Elective Skills				
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics and Management of Information			Year 2 Elective Skills				
	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - International Business Economics			Year 2 Elective Skills				
	Bachelor International Business			Year 2 Elective Skills				
	SBE Exchange Bachelor			Bachelor Exchange Skills				
	SBE Exchange Master			Bachelor Exchange Skills				
	SBE Non Degree Courses			Bachelor Skills				