Universidad Zaragoza

Academic Year/course: 2024/25

61425 - Financial Markets and Microfinance

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2024/25
Subject: 61425 - Financial Markets and Microfinance
Faculty / School: 109 - Facultad de Economía y Empresa
Degree: 526 - Master's in Accounting and Finance
ECTS: 6.0
Year: 1
Semester: First semester
Subject type: Compulsory
Module:

1. General information

The objective of this subject is to enable students to identify and use the tools available in the financial and microfinance markets in order to make financial, investment and financing decisions, taking into account the characteristics of the agent who must assess such decisions. Most of the contents developed in this subject will be implemented by means of spreadsheet programs (Excel).
These approaches and objectives are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030(https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/), so that the acquisition of the learning results of the subject provides training and knowledge, skills and competencies to contribute to the achievement of target: 4.7 of Goal 4, Quality Education.

2. Learning results

- To design and apply different integrated management strategies in fixed income and equity financial markets.
- To identify and quantify the relevance of the different management stages in the overall results of a financial portfolio.
- To know the microfinance market from an institutional, financial and social point of view.

3. Syllabus

MODULE I- Management strategies in fixed income and equity markets: characteristics of fixed income markets; Management tools and strategies; Portfolio structure and performance attribution.
MODULE II- Evaluation and attribution of management results: asset allocation; Stock selection and timing; Management styles.
MODULE III- Microfinance markets: Financial mathematics with spreadsheet; Alternative financial instruments; Socially responsible investment; Ethical banking; Microfinance

4. Academic activities

The subject consists of 60 hours of classroom sessions, both theoretical and practical.
In Module I classes, students will solve cases based on available materials and market information using a spreadsheet. In Module I they will prepare a technical report based on a scenario presented in the context of the fixed income market.

In Module II, different practices related to the management of equity portfolios will be implemented through computer tools using real market data.

In Module III, students will solve the tasks based on available materials and information from the Internet using the spreadsheet.

The distribution of the workload is as follows:
-Theoretical classes: 30 hours
-Practical classes: 30 hours
-Study and personal work: 84 hours
-Assessment tests: 6 hours

5. Assessment system

The grade for the subject is distributed as follows:
Module I: 30%
Module II: 35%
Module III: 35%
For the first call, a continuous assessment process is proposed for each module, with the following possible elements: individual or group work, periodic reports and/or completion of questionnaires (multiple-choice and open-ended).
In order to pass the subject by this means, the grade obtained must be higher than 5 points out of 10. In order for the assessment to be positive, it is also necessary that the students deliver all the works and reports within the established deadlines.

Students who do not opt for continuous assessment, do not pass the subject according to this system or would like to improve their grade are entitled to take a global test. In any case the best of the grades obtained will prevail. This overall test will consist

of an exam on the contents of the subject. The grade achieved in the exam must be higher than 5 points out of 10.

For the second call, the assessment will be global. In order to pass the subject by this means, the grade obtained in the exam must be higher than 5 points out of 10.

6. Sustainable Development Goals

4 - Quality Education