



FINANCIAL ACUMEN: FP&A ESSENTIALS SERIES

The New Analyst: Essential Skills and Goals for New Corporate Finance Professionals

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COURSE LENGTH

Three 2-Hour Virtual Sessions or
One Full Day In Person

DESCRIPTION

The business world is changing and so are the qualifications of new financial analysts. The formal education analysts receive before entering the workforce is the best it has ever been, but there are still major gaps that exist when embarking upon that first job in finance. Ask experienced FP&A professionals where their practical learning occurred, and many will acknowledge it wasn't in school—it was on the job.

This interactive course serves as a first step in on-the-job training for new analysts. Participants start with an introduction to the ins and outs of FP&A. Gain skills you can immediately apply to your new position and learn what questions to ask your new employer about systems, procedures and resources. A relatively new field in finance, FP&A is the most forward-looking and strategic, as well as one of the most exciting and growing.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand the roles and responsibilities of FP&A practitioners
- Identify key areas of professional development, especially when it comes to finance's place in data and systems
- Learn key questions to ask a new employer regarding FP&A business partnering and your strategic role in the organization

AGENDA

- Unit 1: getting your feet on the ground
 - Key job tasks for analysts in following roles
 - Treasury management
 - Cash management
 - Risk management
 - Internal audit
 - Credit management
 - A/R management
 - A/P management
 - Tips for getting better
 - Understanding the organization & working with business partners
 - Improving your efficiency
 - Setting your career trajectory
 - Different career timelines

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- Unit 2: Systems and processes
 - What you will use?
 - Common systems: SAP/Oracle/etc.
 - Resources
 - Tips for how to learn the systems
 - Analysis principles
 - Basic principles in financial analysis systems
- Unit 3: Back to the basics
 - Working in Excel
 - Spreadsheet problems
 - Cash flow forecasting
 - DCF Analysis and project finance
 - Tips for improving analysis and using Excel's features
 - Modeling skills
 - Forecasting, tracking, analysis of KPIs
 - Statistics review and overview of statistics packages
 - Visualizing data and delivering results
 - Ratios
 - Understanding ratio analysis
 - When to apply ratio analysis
- Unit 4: Getting ahead - advanced analysis and tips
 - Advanced problems
 - Difficult Excel problems
 - Advanced scenarios
 - Looking ahead
 - Skills you need to be a manager
 - How to develop those skills