

H8SI: Savings and Investments

Module Code:	H8SI
Long Title	Savings and Investments APPROVED
Title	Savings and Investments
Module Level:	LEVEL 8
EQF Level:	6
EHEA Level:	First Cycle
Credits:	10
Module Coordinator:	Deirdre Bane
Module Author:	TONY DELANEY
Departments:	School of Business
Specifications of the qualifications and experience required of staff	
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner will be able to:</i>	
#	Learning Outcome Description
LO1	Demonstrate an enhanced knowledge of how the financial services sector operates, identifying the key participants and the interrelationships between them.
LO2	Critique the range of asset classes and management styles and evaluate the pivotal role they play in meeting investment objectives
LO3	Critically assess the different types of risk associated with different classes of investments and evaluate methods of managing this risk.
LO4	Appraise the range of savings and investment products available in the Irish marketplace.
LO5	Evaluate the investment objectives and risk profile of a given client and demonstrate the analytical skills necessary to analyse and select appropriate investment assets to meet those objectives.
Dependencies	
Module Recommendations	
No recommendations listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Entry requirements	

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Module Content & Assessment			
Indicative Content			
The Financial Services Industry • Functions of Financial Markets, Participants and Service Providers and their Roles and Responsibilities • Introduction to Capital Markets –primary and secondary markets.			
Investment Needs and Risk Profiling • Investors – individuals, partnerships, limited companies, pension funds & institutional investors • Financial Needs – Investment and Regular Saving. Growth V's Income. Security V's Risk. • Risk Profiles-Risk and Return objectives of a client. Investment experience to date			
Introduction to Investments – Risk and Return • Main and Alternative Asset Classes • Different types of risk – Individual Stock, Market, Investment manager, Currency, Default, Inflation, Return and Interest Rate Risk. • Concept of Volatility of returns and differences in volatility according to class. • Risk and Return: Diversification and Security Correlation • Introduction to modern portfolio theory: Diversification • Optimising and maximising investment returns			
Bonds –Quoted and Tracker Bonds, Post Office Savings, Deposits • Introduction to Bonds, Bond Prices and Yields , Factors influencing bond returns • Risks associated with investing in bonds • Quoted bonds, Costs of bond transactions, Settlement procedures. • Tracker Bonds –Deposit and Assurance Tracker Bonds • An Post Savings and Saving Bonds, National Solidarity Bond. • Deposits – term, risk, rates of interest.			
Quoted and Unquoted shares • Private vs. public limited company • An introduction to investing in ordinary and preference shares, Dividend Income V's Capital Gain • The Irish Stock Exchange: Function & role. Market abuse regulations & Insider trading. • ISEQ indices and key performance indicators • Factors affecting share prices • Brokers: Discretionary, advisory and execution only services • Buy/Selling Shares, clearing, settlement and costs • Registering ownership of quoted shares • Risk of investing in shares - Yield gaps and Equity risk premiums • Costs, benefits and tax treatment of investing in unquoted public and private shares, including EII company shares and Irish Film shares • Employer incentivised schemes – SAYE and Share Options Scheme – features, compare /contrast, benefits, restriction & tax treatment.			
Collective Investment Schemes • Collective Investments vs. Individual direct investment – advantages and disadvantages • Collective Investment Funds: Open and Closed End Funds • Legal Structures and Regulatory Provisions applying to Life assurance investment bonds, unit trusts, exempt unit trusts, designated investment companies, investment limited partnerships • Undertakings for Collective Investments in Transferable Securities (UCITS) • Offshore investment, including intermediary responsibilities • Fund Management styles - active, passive and consensus investment, specialist management, multi-manager, core/satellite, top down/bottom up, value V's growth. Market Efficiency			
Investment Linked Life Assurance Policies • Savings plans, features, charges, limitations and risks • Investment bonds, features, charges, limitations and risks • Comparison between life assurance investments and collective investments • Arrangement and ownership of life assurance saving and investment policies			
Derivatives and Exchange Traded Funds (ETF's) • Derivatives – including options and Futures, CFDs • Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) • Advantages and disadvantages of ETFs as a means of investing in quoted shares • Irish Stock Exchange Traded Fund Plc. ISEQ 20 EFT			
Legislation and Regulation for Investments • Consumer Protection Code and investments • Trustee Authorised Investment Act 1958 • Credit Union investments			
Taxation of Investment Returns • Tax treatment on deposits and deposit based tracker bonds • Tax treatment on returns from collective investments, life assurance savings and investment policies and life assurance tracker bonds • Taxation of equity investments, capital growth and dividends, derivatives, EII and Film investment • Capital gains tax			
Personal Taxation • Income type and tax schedules • Tax reliefs and credits			
Economics and Investments • The Economy- GDP & GNP • Inflation and Deflation, Unemployment: Causes and Effects • Monetary and Fiscal Policy			
Financial Maths • Inflation, deflation, RIY, IRR & CAR • Accumulation & discounting • Impact of time on savings and investments			
Providing Advice in Savings and Investment • Concept and benefits of financial planning, life stages • Savings and investment needs, identify, quantify, recommend, and review • Compare and contrast various types of savings and investment products • Create a statement of suitability for savings and investment recommendations			
Assessment Breakdown			%
Coursework			40.00%
End of Module Assessment			60.00%
Assessments			
Full Time			
Coursework			
Assessment Type:	Assignment	% of total:	40
Assessment Date:	n/a	Outcome addressed:	2,3,4,5
Non-Marked:	No		
Assessment Description: Learners will be given a client profile and required to determine the appropriate risk profile and investment needs of the client. They will be required to select appropriate investments to match the investment needs of the client, taking account of time horizon of investment, if appropriate. The assessment will require learners to provide a detailed analysis of the process undertaken and a detailed rationale for the choice of investments. Learners will explain the risk return trade off in the portfolios, bearing in mind the risk profile of the client. The learner will be required to explain the investment products used in detail and the rationale behind their selection. Reference to class			
End of Module Assessment			
Assessment Type:	Terminal Exam	% of total:	60
Assessment Date:	End-of-Semester	Outcome addressed:	1,2,3,4,5
Non-Marked:	No		
Assessment Description: End-of-Semester Final Examination			
No Workplace Assessment			
Reassessment Requirement			
Repeat failed items <i>The student must repeat any item failed</i>			

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Module Workload				
Module Target Workload Hours 0 Hours				
Workload: Full Time				
Workload Type	Workload Description	Hours	Frequency	Average Weekly Learner Workload
Lecture	No Description	3	Every Week	3.00
Tutorial	No Description	1	Every Week	1.00
Total Weekly Contact Hours				4.00
Workload: Part Time				
Workload Type	Workload Description	Hours	Frequency	Average Weekly Learner Workload
Lecture	No Description	3	Every Week	3.00
Tutorial	No Description	1	Every Week	1.00
Total Weekly Contact Hours				4.00

Module Resources	
<i>Recommended Book Resources</i>	
<p>O'Loughlin B, O'Brien F. (2011), Fundamentals of Investment - an Irish Perspective, Gill & MacMillan, [ISBN: 978-0717149780].</p> <p>Zvi Bodie, Alex Kane, Alan Marcus. Investments, 10e. McGraw-Hill, p.1056, [ISBN: 9780073530700].</p>	
<i>Supplementary Book Resources</i>	
<p>Elton, EJ, Gruber MJ et al. (2014), Modern Portfolio Theory & Investment Analysis, 9e. Wiley.</p> <p>Richard H. Thaler, Cass R. Sunstein. (2008), Nudge, Yale University Press, New Haven, [ISBN: 9780300122237].</p> <p>Paul Krugman, Robin Wells,. Economics, 4e. Worth Publishers.</p> <p>Mankiw N.G. & Taylor M.P.. (2014), Economics, 3e. Cengage.</p>	
<i>This module does not have any article/paper resources</i>	
<i>This module does not have any other resources</i>	
Discussion Note:	