



Smurfit Executive Development

UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE



EXECUTIVE
EDUCATION
2024 RANKING



IN IRELAND
FOR OPEN ENROLMENT



GLOBALLY
FOR OPEN ENROLMENT



GLOBALLY
FOR CUSTOM PROGRAMMES



SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

3 DAY COURSE

COURSE OVERVIEW

Sustainable finance is permeating all the activities of organisations. Sustainable finance, taking account of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues in investment decisions, is a key focus for firms and their interaction with multiple stakeholders. This course is aimed at professionals who wish to develop their knowledge and skills for sustainable investment and risk assessment.

With the advent of regulation and reporting requirements surrounding climate risk, firms are finding themselves under increasing pressures to link fundraising to sustainability criteria. This course addresses the needs of managers looking to understand the complex landscape of sustainable financing.

The course will introduce the reporting requirements underpinning sustainability, how these can be linked to financing structures, developments in sustainable investing, and how companies and regulators assess climate-related financial risk.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this 3-day executive short course are to:

- **Explore** the relevance of sustainability (ESG) issues to business and the financial sector on investment decisions.
- **Develop** insights into sustainable assets and markets, their development, and their uses in business.
- **Develop** knowledge of asset pricing models relevant to socially responsible investment.
- **Introduce** climate-related physical and transition risks.
- **Assess** climate financial risk.
- **Understand** the implications of climate financial risk for companies and the public.
- **Introduce** the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.
- **Understand** how to internalise externalities.
- **Develop** an understanding of the stakeholder approach to governance and ESG.

COURSE CONTENT

Day 1

- Environmental, Social, and Governance Issues
- A stakeholder approach to governance and ESG
- Internalising externalities
- Introduction to the Corporate Sustainable Reporting Directives and challenges created for business

DAY 2

- Introduction to Sustainable finance and how its impacting business
- Develop insights into sustainable assets and markets, their development, and their uses in business
- Examine the performance and trends of sustainable vs traditional assets and markets
- Socially responsible ESG Investing
- Develop knowledge of risk, return and pricing relevant to socially responsible investment

Day 3

- Climate Risk
- Physical Risk
- Transition Risk
- Implications of climate risk for financial markets
- Implications of climate financial risk for companies

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Managers leading their organisation's sustainable finance initiatives.
- Managers seeking to learn about the opportunities afforded by sustainable finance investments.
- Managers looking to know and understand their firm's corporate sustainability reporting requirements.
- Managers who are either responsible for, or aspire to, shape their organisation's sustainable finance strategy.
- Managers looking to gain a detailed understanding of sustainable finance and climate-related financial risk.
- Appropriate for managers working in banking, insurance, service providers, law, asset management, financial regulation, NGOs, and government.

KEY BENEFITS

- **Acquire** detailed knowledge of sustainable finance investing.
- **Introduction** to tools to analyse the risk and return of ESG assets.
- **Recognise** relevant data, its strengths and weaknesses, and the opportunities and challenges it provides for sustainable investment analysis.
- **Appreciate** important lessons in sustainable finance from research and practice.
- **Understand** key sustainability trends.
- **Gain insights** into quantifying qualitative data for sustainability reporting.
- **Understand** the challenges of physical and transition risks to banks, companies, and the public.
- **Learn** about the latest ways to measure climate-related financial risk.
- **Appreciate** the implications of climate-related financial risk for companies.

FACULTY

John Cotter is Full Professor of Finance and the Chair in Quantitative Finance at University College Dublin. He is Chairperson of the Banking and Finance Department at UCD and is a Member of the Group of Economic Advisers for the European Securities Markets Authority (ESMA), the supra-national supervisor of European financial markets. John has had visiting positions at UCLA, London School of Economics, Yale University, University of British Columbia, Victoria University Wellington and ESSEC Business School. An expert in Sustainable Finance, especially ESG investing and sustainable assets, he is Director of the Financial Mathematics and Computation Cluster (FMC2) a multi-university, multi-disciplinary research body examining issues in this space.

Tom Conlon is Professor of Finance at the UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business. A leading authority on sustainable finance risk management, he is lead Scientist for an NGO setting emissions reporting standards appropriate for financial contracts. His research studies the management of risks arising from anthropogenic climate change. He regularly engages in industry-led thought leadership covering all aspects of sustainable financing.

Julie Byrne is Associate Professor of Finance at the UCD Michael Smurfit School of Business. She is co-PI and finance theme lead on the €16million Next Generation Energy Systems (NexSys) Partnership Programme, a leading researcher at the UCD Energy Institute, and the co-Director of the UCD Centre for Business and Society. Her research incorporates ethical and moral considerations, as well as financial considerations into the decision-making process to deliver solutions for a Just Transition.

Course Fees

The course fee of €3,500 or €3,150 (UCD Business Alumni Rate) is a comprehensive cost that includes your tuition and all course related materials. Please note that fees must be paid in advance to secure a place. No VAT is charged.

Application Procedure

A completed application form and digital photograph are required.

How to apply

To apply for any of our short courses please email exec.dev@ucd.ie or contact a member of our team on +353 1 716 8889.

Certificate of Completion

This course provides participants with a soft copy of their *Certificate in Sustainable Finance awarded by UCD Smurfit Executive Development.

* Non accredited certification

Admissions Criteria

Applicants must have at least 5 years professional experience to be eligible for this course. All candidates must apply to ensure a qualified, executive-level cohort experience. This course is delivered in person where you will engage with faculty and peers in an interactive, high-impact classroom environment.



Smurfit Executive Development

As part of Ireland's leading business school, Smurfit Executive Development programmes are designed to provide the business leaders of today and tomorrow with a transformational experience. We are one of an elite group of schools worldwide to hold triple accreditation from AACSB (US), EQUIS (Europe) and AMBA (UK) and are the only Irish member of the leading international business school alliances CEMS, GNAM and PIM.

UCD Smurfit Executive Development is a member of UNICON, an invitation-only alliance of the world's leading university-based executive education providers. UCD Smurfit Executive Development has been ranked 1st in Ireland, 19th in the EU and 31st in the world for its Open Enrolment programmes according to the prestigious 2022 Financial Times Executive Education Rankings. By offering a world-class range of customised, diploma and open enrolment programmes, Smurfit Executive Development helps executives and their organisations create new opportunities to drive growth and create value.



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Please note that every effort has been made to ensure the information in this publication is correct. However, details may be subject to change without notice.