COURSE DETAILS

Course Code: F71PD
Full Course Title: Pensions B
SCQF Level: 11
SCAF Credits: 15
Available as Elective: No

DELIVERY LEVEL

Undergraduate: Yes | Postgraduate Taught: Yes | Postgraduate Research: No

Additional Information:

COURSE AIMS

The aims of this course are:

• To provide a good understanding of the risks and uncertainties facing the parties involved in pension provision
• To provide a thorough understanding of actuarial models used in the management of pension schemes
• To provide an understanding of risk management in pension schemes, including the use of reinsurance

To provide an understanding of how to monitor the experience of pension schemes

LEARNING OUTCOMES – SUBJECT MASTERY

On completion of this course the student should be able to:

• Describe the risks and uncertainties affecting benefits, contributions, returns on assets and security
• Describe the process of population projection and its main determinants
• Discuss the use of actuarial models for decision making purposes in non-state pensions
• Discuss the application of actuarial methods and techniques to the financial management of a social security scheme
• Discuss the principles behind the determination of assumptions for valuing future benefits and contributions
• Discuss the principles behind the determination of discontinuance terms in respect of benefits
• Discuss how to determine values for assets, future benefits and future contributions
• Discuss the application of actuarial methods and techniques to the financial management of defined contribution pension schemes
• Analyse the asset-liability matching requirements of a provider of pensions and related benefits
• Discuss the principles underlying the use of re-insurance
• Identify the sources of surplus/deficit for a benefit provider
• Explain why and describe how the actual experience of a pension scheme should be monitored and assessed

LEARNING OUTCOMES – PERSONAL ABILITIES
F71PD Pensions B

- Show an appreciation of the interface between academic theory and industrial practice
- Demonstrate the ability to learn independently and as part of a group
- Manage time, work to deadlines and prioritise workloads
- Present results in a way that demonstrates that they have understood the technical and broader issues of the pensions environment
- Show an appreciation of the various potential conflicts between pensions stakeholders

**SYLLABUS**

**Risks and Uncertainties**

- Benefits and Contributions
- Returns on Assets
- Security
- Risk Management including Reinsurance

**Population Projections**

- Models and their Weaknesses
- Socio-economic Factors

**Models**

- Objectives
- Features
- Uses
- Sensitivity Analyses

**Managing a Social Security Scheme**
F71PD Pensions B

- Evaluating Liabilities
- Assessing Contributions

Valuation of a Pension Scheme

- Selecting Assumptions
- Calculating Values for Benefits, Contributions and Assets
- Applying Results
- Analysing Asset-Liability Matching
- Analysing Surplus or Deficit
- Analysing Experience

Discontinuance

- Determining Benefits

COURSE RELATIONSHIPS

N/A

LOCATION AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

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