



SYLLABUS 2025-2026

Tax and Legal Aspects in Banking

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Module Code	2526_DFC_2_EN_034 / 2526_DFC_3_EN_011
Campus	Oxford
Department(s)	Law, Finance and Control
Level / Semester	Masters Year 2 (M2); Equivalent to FHEQ level 7 Semester 09
Language of Instruction	English
Teaching Method	☒ In-person (face-to-face) ☐ Distance learning (live online) ☐ e-Learning (asynchronous) ☐ Hybrid: _____
Pre-requisite(s)?	None
ECTS <i>Reminder: 1 ECTS = between 20 and 30hr- student workload</i>	3
Equivalent FHEQ credits	6
Study Hours	100 hours which comprise of 28 directed learning and 72 independent learning/assessment hours

MODULE DESCRIPTION

Module Aims	This module provides an in-depth understanding of the tax and legal frameworks governing banking operations. It explores key banking laws, financial regulations, and taxation policies that impact financial institutions. Students will examine corporate taxation, VAT on financial services, tax planning strategies, and international tax compliance, including OECD guidelines and FATCA regulations. The module also covers legal aspects such as banking contracts, dispute resolution, regulatory compliance, and consumer protection laws. Through case
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	studies and practical applications, students will develop the analytical skills needed to navigate the complex legal and tax environment in the banking sector.
Teaching Arrangement	The module will be delivered through lectures, seminars, and workshops.
Learning Outcomes	By the end of this module, students should be able to: 1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of banking laws and financial regulations, including key principles and their application in the banking sector. 2. Critically analyse the impact of corporate taxation and VAT on financial services within a national and international context. 3. Evaluate the role of OECD guidelines and FATCA regulations in shaping compliance practices in the banking sector. 4. Assess the legal implications of banking contracts and their relevance to dispute resolution mechanisms. 5. Apply basic regulatory compliance strategies in line with current legal frameworks relevant to financial institutions.
Competency Goals <i>(Knowledge, expertise and interpersonal skills)</i>	PGE_M_CG01 - To be equipped with efficient business skills
	PGE_M_CG02 - To be entrepreneurially-minded
	PGE_M_CG04 - To be a project manager with a strategic overview
Alignment with Programme Learning Goals	PGE_M_CG01_LO05 - To identify the appropriate methodology to solve a problem
	PGE_M_CG01_LO06 - To apply knowledge in order to meet the expectations of the professional world
	PGE_M_CG01_LO01 - To apply appropriate financial skills
	PGE_M_CG02_LO01 - To understand the environment of a company, whatever the activity sector
	PGE_M_CG04_LO01 - To do a global analysis of the firm in its environment
	PGE_M_CG01_LO05_I02 - To select the appropriate methodological approach & data processing
	PGE_M_CG01_LO06_I01 - To solve in a team an advanced professional issue
	PGE_M_CG02_LO01_I01 - To find the right information, describe & analyse the environment of a company, whatever the sector is

	PGE_M_CG04_LO01_I02 - To distinguish between what is a strategic situation and what is not
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SESSION TOPICS / MODULE SCHEDULE

(Please note, a session/sequence may be more than one scheduled class)

Session 1: Overview of Banking Laws and Regulations

Content:

- Key banking regulations and supervisory frameworks
- Regulatory bodies (e.g. FCA, ECB, Basel Committee)
- Role of international banking laws and global financial systems

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 2: Corporate Taxation in Banking

Content:

- Corporate tax structure for banks and financial institutions
- Taxation of financial products and services (e.g. interest, loans, derivatives)
- Tax compliance and reporting obligations for banks

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 3: Value Added Tax (VAT) on Financial Services

Content:

- VAT exemptions and rules specific to financial transactions
- Cross-border VAT considerations in banking operations
- Challenges in VAT compliance for financial institutions

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 4: International Taxation and Compliance

Content:

- OECD guidelines for international tax compliance
- FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) and its impact on banks
- Transfer pricing and tax treaties

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 5: Legal Aspects of Banking Contracts

Content:

- Key banking contracts and legal relationships (e.g. loan agreements, guarantees)
- Understanding terms and conditions in financial contracts
- Contract law and enforcement in banking

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 6: Dispute Resolution and Litigation in Banking

Last reviewed: 25/07/2025

Content:

- Mechanisms for resolving disputes in banking transactions
- Regulatory and legal procedures for resolving banking-related conflicts
- Role of courts and alternative dispute resolution (ADR)

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 7: Regulatory Compliance and Anti-Money Laundering (AML)

Content:

- Legal frameworks for compliance, including anti-money laundering (AML) and KYC regulations
- Compliance obligations for banks in preventing financial crime
- Regulatory reporting and enforcement actions

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 8: Consumer Protection in Banking

Content:

- Legal aspects of consumer rights in banking transactions
- Financial customer protection laws and regulations
- Role of consumer protection agencies in banking

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

Session 9: Tax Planning Strategies for Financial Institutions

Content:

- Developing effective tax planning and risk management strategies
- Structuring financial products to optimise tax efficiency
- Ethical considerations in tax planning within the banking sector

Assignments:

- Assignments will be announced closer to the relevant session dates

KEY TEXTS

1. Abolarin, J. (2025) *Banking law and financial regulations: The imperatives for managing stability in the banking sector*. London, United Kingdom: Austin Macauley Publishers.

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

1. Additional readings and materials will be provided closer to the relevant session dates.

MODES OF ASSESSMENT

Continuous Assessment (40%)	Research paper
Final Exam (60%)	Written exam

MODULE DESIGN TEAM

- Author: *Mitra Arami*
- Reviewer: *Vickneswaren Krishnan*
- External Reviewer: *Arun Chalise*