# CERTIFICATE IN FINANCIAL MODELLING



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# Introduction

Certificate in Financial Modelling Training Course builds the practical modelling skill that finance professionals use in forecasting, budgeting, and valuation work. A financial model is a working tool, and its value depends on structure rather than complexity: a model with tangled formulas and undocumented assumptions misleads the people who rely on it. Method separates a model that supports a decision from one that quietly distorts it. This course builds that method from the ground up. It covers workbook design, forecasting, and statement linkage. Furthermore, it applies valuation, sensitivity analysis, and scenario design. In addition, it develops error checking and documentation standards. As a result, participants build models that can be reviewed, trusted, and handed over.

# Certificate in Financial Modelling Course Objectives

- Design clean, transparent model architecture and workbook layout.
- Apply consistent formula structures and modelling best practices.
- Build driver-based revenue and cost forecasts with clear assumptions.
- Link income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow correctly.
- Model working capital, depreciation, tax, and dividend mechanics.
- Apply net present value, internal rate of return, and payback calculations.
- Build sensitivity tables, data tables, and scenario switches.
- Construct a discounted cash flow valuation with terminal value.
- Audit models for errors using trace and consistency checks.
- Document assumptions and prepare models for handover.

# Course Methodology

- Interactive lectures with practical model review and critique sessions.
- Step-by-step model building workshops on live spreadsheets.

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- Formula structure and error-checking exercises.
- Valuation, sensitivity, and scenario modelling practice.
- Structured peer review with facilitator feedback on model quality.

## Who Should Take This Course

- Financial analysts and corporate finance professionals.
- Budgeting, planning, and forecasting specialists.
- Management accountants and controllers.
- Investment and transaction analysts.
- Treasury and corporate development staff.
- Professionals building spreadsheet models regularly.

## Certificate in Financial Modelling Course Outlines

## Day 1: Model Architecture and Best Practice

- Model purpose, scope, and design principles.
- Workbook structure: inputs, calculations, and outputs.
- Formula consistency and avoiding hard-coded values.
- Named ranges, flags, and switch mechanisms.
- Timeline construction and date function use.
- Colour coding, formatting, and navigation design.
- Case study: critiquing a poorly structured financial model.

## Day 2: Forecasting and Integrated Statements

- Driver-based revenue modelling and assumption setting.

- Cost forecasting: fixed, variable, and semi-variable.
- Capital expenditure phasing and depreciation modelling.
- Working capital, receivables, payables, and inventory.
- Income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow integration.
- Balance proofing and reconciliation checks.
- Workshop: building an integrated three-statement model.

## Day 3: Valuation and Investment Analysis

- Free cash flow derivation and modelling approach.
- Discounted cash flow valuation and mid-year convention.
- Terminal value using growth and exit multiple methods.
- Weighted average cost of capital calculation in model form.
- Net present value, internal rate of return, and payback.
- Multiples valuation integration within the model.
- Workshop: completing a valuation and investment analysis.

## Day 4: Scenarios, Sensitivity, and Risk Modelling

- Scenario switches and case management design.
- Data tables, sensitivity analysis, and tornado charts.
- Debt scheduling, interest, and covenant modelling.
- Tax loss carry-forward and deferred tax modelling.
- Dividend and distribution modelling.
- Monte Carlo simulation integration basics.
- Workshop: building a scenario and sensitivity module.

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## Day 5: Audit, Documentation, and Delivery

- Error checking techniques and common modelling mistakes.
- Formula auditing, consistency checks, and balance proofing.
- Model review, peer challenge, and quality assurance.
- Documentation, assumption registers, and audit trails.
- Version control and model handover standards.
- Model governance and approval frameworks.
- Course review, assessment, and action planning.

## Conclusion

By successfully completing Certificate in Financial Modelling, participants will gain a thorough understanding of model architecture, driver-based forecasting, integrated statement construction, valuation and investment analysis, scenario and sensitivity modelling, and model audit and documentation. They will also acquire practical skills in financial model architecture and construction, integrated forecasting and statement linkage, valuation, scenario and sensitivity modelling, and model error auditing, documentation and handover. In addition, the course prepares them to produce models that review teams and decision-makers can rely on. Gentex Training Center delivers this programme with a strong focus on hands-on model building and quality assurance discipline.

## FAQs for Certificate in Financial Modelling course

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## Q1 What is the "Certificate in Financial Modelling" course about?

It is a five-day programme on building financial models properly. It covers model architecture and best practice, driver-based forecasting, integrated three-statement construction, valuation, scenario and sensitivity design, error auditing, and documentation and handover.

## Q2 What are the key benefits of the "Certificate in Financial Modelling" course?

Participants build models others can review, trust, and take over. The course reduces structural and formula errors, improves forecast realism through driver-based design, ensures statements balance and reconcile, strengthens valuation and scenario accuracy, and improves documentation and version control for audit and handover.

## Q3 What skills will I gain from the "Certificate in Financial Modelling" course?

Participants gain financial model architecture and construction, integrated forecasting and statement linkage, valuation, scenario and sensitivity modelling, and model error auditing, documentation and handover. These four skills cover the practical core of financial modelling.

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## Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "Certificate in Financial Modelling" course?

The course covers model design principles and workbook structure, formula consistency and hard-code avoidance, named ranges, flags and switch mechanisms, timeline and date function construction, colour coding and navigation design, driver-based revenue modelling, fixed, variable and semi-variable cost forecasting, capital expenditure phasing and depreciation modelling, working capital, receivables, payables and inventory modelling, income statement, balance sheet and cash flow integration, balance proofing, free cash flow derivation, discounted cash flow valuation, mid-year convention, terminal value using growth and exit multiple methods, weighted average cost of capital calculation, net present value, internal rate of return and payback, multiples valuation integration, scenario switches and case management, data tables and sensitivity analysis, tornado charts, debt scheduling, interest and covenant modelling, tax loss carry-forward and deferred tax modelling, dividend and distribution modelling, Monte Carlo simulation basics, error checking techniques, formula auditing and consistency checks, model review and peer challenge, documentation and assumption registers, version control, and model governance frameworks.

## Q5 How is the "Certificate in Financial Modelling" course applied in real-world practice?

Participants apply the methods by building complete models during the course. They structure workbooks, build driver-based forecasts, link the three statements, handle working capital, tax, depreciation, and debt, produce DCF valuations, run sensitivity and scenario tables, audit their own models for errors, and document assumptions for handover. Many leave with a reusable model template, an audit checklist, and a scenario module ready to adapt.

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