

This programme provides a broad overview of a variety of digital finance technologies, and the opportunities they offer to accounting and finance professionals who wish to participate effectively in their organisation's digital transformation.

This is designed to be a non-technical programme as it is important to grasp the fundamental principles before selecting and using specific platforms and tools. The programme provides a good starting point for accountants to build awareness across the increasingly important area of digital finance, and to consider how to further develop their knowledge.

Who is it for?

This programme is for accounting and finance professionals. It will be of value for anyone who is qualified, newly qualified or part-qualified as an accountant and is looking to build their awareness of the digital technologies which are relevant to the finance world, and the impact they are having on the business environment. This programme will help staff at all levels to develop a common frame of reference and terminology for improving their internal planning of how to adopt digital finance technologies with most impact.

- * Anyone who has recently qualified as an accountant and has had a taste of these topic areas within their qualification studies and is now ready to learn more about their practical implications.
- * Anyone who qualified as an accountant a number of years ago and is keen to maintain their relevance in a changing finance world.
- * Anyone who is leading or managing staff who are adopting new ways of working using digital finance technologies.
- * Anyone who will be leading strategic decisions about how their organisation will harness the benefits of digital finance opportunities.
- * Anyone whose finance role is changing and who is finding themselves more exposed to digital technologies in their own business and their clients' businesses.
- * Anyone who is aware of how technological change is improving accounting and finance processes and wants to find out more.
- * Anyone who can see the skills gap being created by digital finance technologies and who wants to understand how they can align their career development to this changing environment.

What will you learn?

Attendees will gain an awareness of:

- * The global business and technology shift.
- * The trends in accounting and finance technology.
- * How finance teams are adopting digital capability.
- * Our new digital capability in the finance function.
- * Our new digital risks in the finance function.
- * New digital skills and data roles in accounting.



Delivery

Online Live classroom learning

Duration

4 x 1/2 day sessions

Progression

Understanding Data Analytics

Focusing on three key areas:

- * Data Analytics.
- * Advanced Analytics.
- * Data Visualisation.

The course

Public course dates are available at regular intervals or bespoke dates can be arranged for larger internal cohorts.

Anyone interested in booking internal cohorts should contact crystalhaygreen@fi.co.uk

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What will we cover?

The global business and technology shift

We will look at the big technology trends in business, how these are changing the world of work generally and how they are particularly impacting accounting jobs and careers. There are widespread top-down pressures on businesses to change and we can look at how the pandemic has helped a whole industry shift “five years in a single year”. We introduce the meaning of the digitalisation of accounting and finance, and the technologies that are being used to enable this change. We also introduce common terms and definitions that learners can use going forward in their digital journeys.

The trends in accounting and finance technology

The commercial demand for better information and support is driving technological change. We will look at how accounting teams are responding to this demand and how it impacts the organisational design of teams operating in the finance world. We will explore the finance opportunities that are created by this technology and why this change is important to all businesses.

How finance teams are adopting digital capability

We look at the new technologies that are being used to improve accounting and finance processes and the use of data. This will create a common understanding of what each capability can help us to do, plus giving an overview of the market for platforms and tools. This is helpful not just to define the opportunity, but to be clear on your approach before time and money is spent on purchasing and adopting specific tools.

Our new digital capability in the finance function

We look at the data value chain and the market value of this asset. We will consider a range of capabilities such as automation, AI, robotics, workflow, process mining, data analytics, apps, no code/low code and their applications in accounting and finance, plus the role of data visualisation in finance decision-making.

Our new digital risks in the finance function

With new capability comes new risks, and some that need to be top priorities for the finance team, such as cybersecurity. We need to consider the new role of the finance professional as a risk manager responsible for safeguarding increasingly valuable intangible assets (such as data, reputation, processes and systems, our robot workforce) as well as traditional physical assets. We will also examine Blockchain and Cryptocurrency, two emerging trends in digital technology which are much-hyped, explaining what they are, where they are relevant, and where the risks lie with these technologies.

New digital skills and data roles in accounting

Technological change is changing the skills that are in demand, new roles that are emerging, and how individuals can align their career development to these trends. It can also in turn change the services finance professionals offer to internal and external clients and drive the need for creating talent programmes in conjunction with HR and L&D functions.

