PwC Schools
Financial Modelling and Excel training for Analysts

by PwC Deals Modelling

pwc

Are you unsure how to maximise your modelling and analytical capabilities?

Would you like to develop your talent?

Modelling and analytics are both ways to derive insight to add value to your organisation, and are essential to support today's fast-paced decision making needs. However, many businesses lack the resources or expertise to develop their analysts to fully unlock their potential.

PwC's Schools program for analysts is drawn from the foundation of our experience, lessons learned and insights from across our global network. It is designed to:

- **Embed consistent skills and approaches**
- **Teach best practices**
- **Leverage a deep base of analytical experience**

What does PwC Schools training program for analysts involve?

Our three layered approach to training supports analysts to build their skills base as they progress in their career.

The program has been designed in a 'modular' format, so individual components can be delivered together or stand alone and can be tailored to your individual needs.

Our programme is mostly industry agnostic, and focuses on the core problem solving skills that can be deployed with agility everyday in your organisation. However, we often tailor it for the specific needs of clients and their industries.
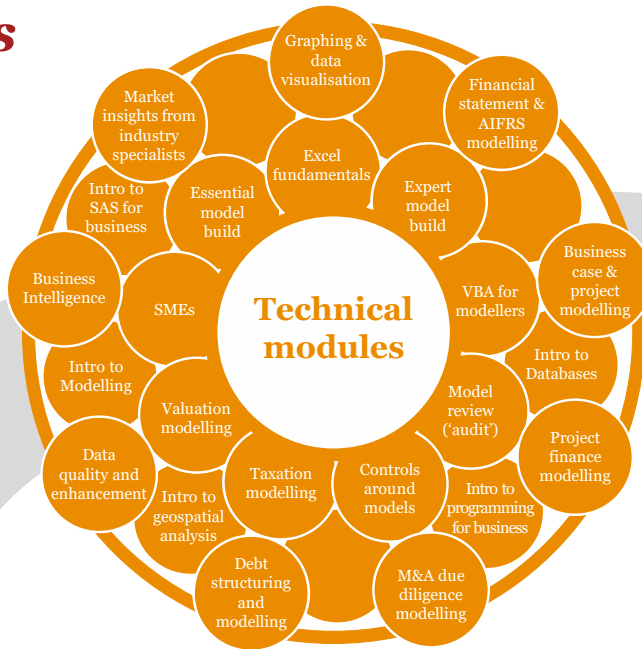
Where should you start?

Our courses provide the technical foundations to provide your analysts to develop their current skills, no matter what stage they are in their career journey.
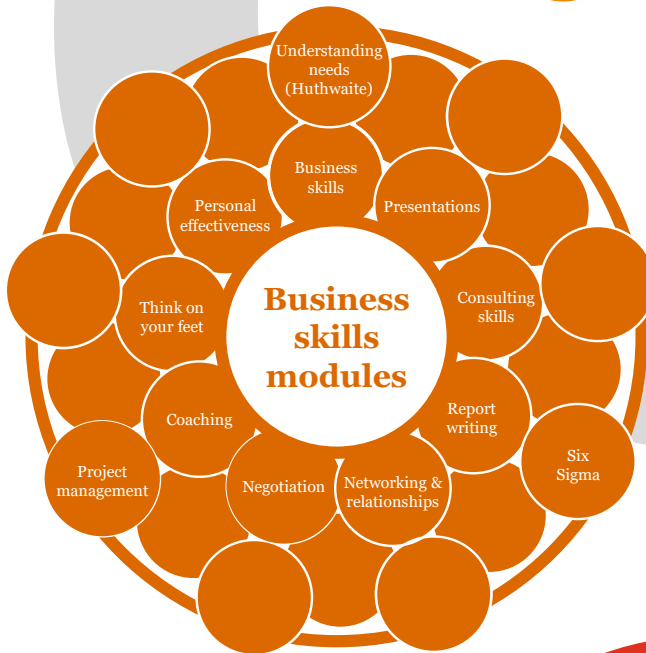
Course		Description	Duration	Analysts experience level
1.1	Introduction to modelling	A comprehensive excel overview including use of shortcut keys, customising Excel setup and PwC's top tips. It includes an introduction to best practice methodology for building robust, easy to use models.	2 days	Basic
1.2	Professional model build	An advanced course providing a comprehensive review of all phases of PwC's best practice modelling methodology, including advanced use of certain Excel functions including adding "navigation" and "error check" maps to models.	2 days	Moderate
1.3	Expert financial model build	The construction of more complex and specific models that incorporate integrated '3-way' financial statements, debt schedules, ratio and covenant modelling, sensitivity analysis and using data tables. Analysts will also be given an introduction to using VBA.	2–3 days	Advanced

PwC's analysts training approach

Career curriculum

Technical modules

- Graphing & data visualisation
- Market insights from industry specialists
- Financial statement & AIFRS modelling
- Intro to SAS for business
- Essential model build
- Excel fundamentals
- Expert model build
- Business Intelligence
- SMEs
- VBA for modellers
- Business case & project modelling
- Intro to Modelling
- Valuation modelling
- Model review ('audit')
- Intro to Databases
- Data quality and enhancement
- Intro to geospatial analysis
- Taxation modelling
- Controls around models
- Intro to programming for business
- Project finance modelling
- Debt structuring and modelling
- M&A due diligence modelling

A three layered approach

Business skills modules

- Understanding needs (Huthwaite)
- Business skills
- Personal effectiveness
- Presentations
- Think on your feet
- Consulting skills
- Coaching
- Report writing
- Project management
- Negotiation
- Networking & relationships
- Six Sigma

Adaptable to your needs

Leadership modules

- Talent management
- Inspirational leaders' business insights
- Public speaking
- Media skills
- Work life balance
- Mentoring
- Building your professional network
- Working with foreign cultures
- Excel for Executives
- Personal value proposition and plan
- Risk management

Start at the beginning. Our approach provides analysts with the core technical skills needed before developing business and leadership skills.

Financial Modelling and Excel training: course content details

Current courses available		
Course	**Description**	**Summary of key content**
1.1 *Introduction to modelling*	Builds on excel fundamentals and adds in some of the elements of Advanced Excel, but also introduces some core modelling approach	• Most of the elements of the Advanced Excel course • Does not include range names, arrays, offset, sumproduct, excel set-up, pivot tables • Practical introduction to PwC's 15 best practice top tips • Introduction of the Axis of Spreadsheet Evil • Introduction to PwC's Model Build methodology: Scope, Specify, Design, Build, Test, Handover
1.2 *Professional model build*	Building robust and flexible models in Excel for modellers already comfortable with using a lot of Excel's functionality	• Review, and some extension of, features from the Advanced Excel course • All phases of PwC's Best Practice Model Build Methodology including Scope → Specify → Design → Build → Test → Handover • Thorough review of PwC's 15 best practice top tips • The "Axis of Spreadsheet Evil" – which functions to avoid, how and why • Adding navigation features to models, including Error check "maps" • Building dynamic charts incorporating use of drop down menus and tick boxes • Introduction to customisation of charts and data visualisation concepts • Model review and audit: Using Excel's inbuilt functionality and beyond
1.3 *Expert financial model build*	Techniques for building more complex but efficient and usable financial models	• Review and extension of features from the Essential Model Build course including all phases of PwC's Model Build methodology Scope → Specify → Design → Build → Test → Handover • Thorough review of PwC's 15 best practice top tips • Specific techniques for integrated "3-way" financial models • Scenario modelling • Data tables • Ratio and covenant modelling • Introduction to VBA to provide additional levels of control, customisation, navigation, use and analysis
1.3 *Project Finance Modelling*	For modellers who are comfortable in build models and want to be empowered to build "Project Finance" models by covering comprehensive Project Finance logic and foundations	• Introduction to Theory of Project Finance • Forms of Lending • Components of a Project Finance model • The A-Z of Debt Sizing & Sculpting • DSRA and DSCR • Cash Waterfall • Common Solves • Leavers you can pull

Modules for bespoke training experiences

We have developed a wide range of courses to meet our client's bespoke training needs and draw on the courses outlined on previous pages, and the additional modules set out below.

All of our courses contain a case study, most of which are tailored to the client's industry and circumstances.

Course	Description	Summary of key content
Excel fundamentals	Entry level course to improve understanding of Excel as a modelling and analytical tool	• Understanding how Excel "thinks" • Shortcut keys • How to enter simple formulas • Simple formatting in Excel • Introduction to Range Names • Introduction to graphs
Advanced Excel	Designed to make people who are already using Excel far more efficient and effective	• Comprehensive overview of Shortcut keys, including functionality of Alt and Ctrl and advanced features of some of the function keys • "Moving fast" in Excel • Customising Excel default set-ups for more efficient world • Custom styles and number formatting • Conditional formatting • Logic functions and other advanced functions • Date functions • Advanced use of Range Names and associated risks • Use of "Masks" and flags • Efficient formula creation • Advanced use of F5 functionality • Introduction to Pivot tables

Graphing & data Visualisation	Complements a practical approach to graphing with a good-practice approach to data visualisation to add a valuable presentational layer to communicate results effectively	• Quick charts
		• Dynamic charts
		  › Use of drop down menus
		  › Dynamic data ranges
		• Customising charts
		• Determining the most appropriate and effective chart to use
		• Dual axis charts
		• Dashboard development

VBA for modellers	Using VBA to expand Excel's functionality and increase model power	• Understanding VBA, including: Modules vs. routines vs. functions; Variable types, Option Explicit • Risks of VBA • Building macros from scratch: layout and naming conventions • Use of VBA to add additional levels of performance and customisation: Disclaimers; Security; Printing; Navigation • Editing code • Methods to avoid circular references eg solvers • Use of the function keys for more efficient testing and review of VBA • Debugging techniques and use of the immediate window • Building and using forms

Model review	How to use Excel's specific in-built review tools effectively, plus how to use other Excel functionality to efficiently and effectively test models	• What do we mean by "review"
		  › The extent and limitations of a review
		  › Attributes of a good reviewer
		• Best practice review techniques and issues to be aware of
		• Quick testing through use of F2 and formula view
		• Tracing precedents and dependents using Excels inbuilt tools
		• Advanced use of F5
		• Specific tricks and techniques
		• List of specific common errors to check for
		• Discussion of some of bespoke tools available

Why PwC?

We take a business led approach to training as we believe analytics should tell an understandable story that both provides and embeds useable insight in an organisation to really drive value.

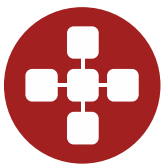This program has been delivered and refined over many years to ensure it is relevant and cutting edge.

Our trainers are real-world practitioners with 15 years of financial modelling experience and are actively delivering complex solutions across a range of industries.

Critical thinking and analysis is interwoven into each module to ensure practical application into everyday situations.

Our program can be tailored to match your enterprise and industry to maximise relevance and enable adoption of the learning's immediately.

The program has been designed in modular format, so that individual components can be either delivered together or stand alone.

Program delivery methods, styles and locations are flexible to match your needs.

Contacts

Contact us to discuss your needs and help us design a curriculum to add analytical power to your organisation.

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