Instructions for course 28C34100 Project Work and 28E34100 Project Work

Learning outcomes: The objective is to apply theory to a practical problem in Finance. A project can be sponsored by a company (or another organization) and the project must be discussed in advance with Associate professor Elias Rantapuska

Content: an extensive, high quality report on the project. The subject and requirements must be approved in advance. Alternatively, participation in a case competition or research challenge can be accepted as a project work, which needs to be preapproved by professor Rantapuska. In order to receive the credits student is expected to write an essay/learning diary (3-5 pages) and provide an official proof of participation including the information on the workload.

Requirements for a project: students are expected to source the project themselves, typically the project might occur in connection to an internship or permanent employment. A suitable project is (1) clearly defined, (2) comprises of 160h independent work, (3) solves a challenging problem, (4) produces a self-standing final report to be shared with person in charge of Project Work course, and (5) has a contact person at the project organization who can verify individual contribution of the student.

Unsuitability for project: credit cannot be offered for a project for which the final report cannot be shared with the person in charge, for example because of client confidentiality or legal reasons. A project which would require signing an NDA cannot be accepted as project work. The person in charge also reserves the right to consult colleagues when grading the project work document, although the final project document will not be shared in public domain or any other outlet except between persons involved in the grading process.

Internship or work experience without clearly defined output document where the student's contribution cannot be pointed out does not constitute a suitable project. A large project / program is suitable, if student's contribution can be clearly identified and verified by the project organization representative (e.g., an independent section of a larger project document).

Process: send a free-format project plan email to Elias Rantapuska (about ½, no more than 1 page in A4-format). Project plan could include (1) project organization, (2) context (short description on the business context), (3) aims and scope of the project, (4) indicative timeline with milestones (if any), (5) workplan (what kind of analyses are expected), (6) data sources (e.g., interviews, commercial databases, company data), and (7) project outputs (e.g., a final steering committee document, white paper or other documentation). The project plan does not constitute a document to be assessed for grading. Rather, it is a short document which formulates what exactly are you planning to do. Not all of the points above have to be included (especially when not relevant) in the project plan.

Final project report should be submitted to the person in charge when complete.

Course code: For B.Sc. students, the course will be registered as 28C34100. For M.Sc. students, the course will be registered as 28E34100.