

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING | COURSE BROCHURE

Actuarial Concepts for Finance Professionals

5 days | Classroom training | English

SMART HORIZON

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Course content

Why attend

Finance teams in insurance, pensions and employee benefits increasingly work alongside actuaries but rarely share their language. This course explains the core actuarial ideas behind reserves, premiums and long-term liabilities: probability and mortality, discounting and the time value of money, cash-flow projection, assumption setting and sensitivity testing. Participants learn how actuarial results flow into financial statements, budgets and capital planning, and how to challenge assumptions with confidence.

Actuarial numbers drive some of the largest figures on the balance sheet, yet many finance professionals accept them without understanding how they were built. This course gives you the vocabulary and judgement to question, explain and use actuarial outputs.

Professional Problems This Course Is Designed to Solve

• Difficulty translating subject knowledge into practical workplace decisions.
• Inconsistent approaches to the activities covered in the course outline.
• Lack of a structured plan for applying and reviewing new skills.

Course methodology

Short concept sessions are followed by spreadsheet exercises, worked examples from insurance and pension schemes, assumption-challenge role plays and group discussion of real reporting cases.

Course objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:
• Explain the role of actuarial work in insurance, pensions and benefits
• Apply discounting and probability to value future cash flows
• Interpret reserves, technical provisions and pension obligations
• Assess the impact of key assumptions through sensitivity analysis
• Link actuarial results to financial statements and budgets
• Communicate actuarial findings to non-specialist managers



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Target audience

This course is suitable for:

- Finance managers in insurance and pension organisations
- Financial controllers and reporting accountants
- Internal and external auditors
- Risk and capital management professionals
- HR and benefits managers responsible for pension costs
- Analysts moving into insurance finance

Target competencies

Participants will develop competencies in:

- Actuarial literacy
- Cash-flow valuation
- Assumption analysis
- Financial reporting judgement
- Stakeholder communication

Course outline

Day 1: Foundations of Actuarial Thinking

09:00–09:54	Why actuarial valuation matters to finance
09:54–10:48	Probability, risk and uncertainty
10:48–11:00	Time value of money and discount rates
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Time value of money and discount rates (continued)
12:12–13:06	Mortality and survival tables explained
13:06–14:00	Exercise: valuing a simple annuity

Day 2: Insurance Liabilities and Reserves

09:00–09:54	Premium calculation principles
09:54–10:48	Claims reserves and incurred but not reported
10:48–11:00	Technical provisions and risk margins



Course content

11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Technical provisions and risk margins (continued)
12:12–13:06	Reinsurance and its effect on results
13:06–14:00	Case study: reading a reserving report

Day 3: Pensions and Employee Benefits

09:00–09:54	Defined benefit versus defined contribution schemes
09:54–10:48	Measuring pension obligations
10:48–11:00	Service cost, interest cost and remeasurements
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Service cost, interest cost and remeasurements (continued)
12:12–13:06	Funding plans and contribution schedules
13:06–14:00	Exercise: pension obligation roll-forward

Day 4: Assumptions and Sensitivity

09:00–09:54	Setting economic and demographic assumptions
09:54–10:48	Sensitivity and scenario testing
10:48–11:00	Experience studies and assumption review
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Experience studies and assumption review (continued)
12:12–13:06	Model risk and data quality
13:06–14:00	Workshop: challenging an assumption set

Day 5: From Valuation to Decisions

09:00–09:54	Actuarial results in financial statements
09:54–10:48	Capital, solvency and planning links
10:48–11:00	Presenting results to boards and auditors



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11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Presenting results to boards and auditors (continued)
12:12–13:06	Common pitfalls and red flags
13:06–14:00	Action plan for working with actuaries

The timings provided are estimates and may vary depending on the number of participants and the discussions taking place during the sessions. They are indicative only and do not constitute a binding commitment.

Dates, venues and fees

Current published course plans. Fees are per participant in GBP, excluding unconfirmed taxes.

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Rome Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**£2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**£1,250.–**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**£1,890.–**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**£1,250.–**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	4 Jan 2027	8 Jan 2027	**£2,650.–**
Online Confirmed dates	4 Jan 2027	8 Jan 2027	**£1,250.–**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Barcelona Confirmed dates	25 Jan 2027	29 Jan 2027	**£2,840.-**
Online Confirmed dates	25 Jan 2027	29 Jan 2027	**£1,250.-**
Vienna Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**£2,940.-**
Online Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**£1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	29 Mar 2027	2 Apr 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	29 Mar 2027	2 Apr 2027	**£1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	12 Apr 2027	16 Apr 2027	**£1,890.-**



Course content

Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	12 Apr 2027	16 Apr 2027	**£1,250.–**
Barcelona Confirmed dates	3 May 2027	7 May 2027	**£2,840.–**
Online Confirmed dates	3 May 2027	7 May 2027	**£1,250.–**
London Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**£2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**£1,250.–**
Dubai Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**£3,150.–**
Online Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**£1,250.–**
Vienna Confirmed dates	5 Jul 2027	9 Jul 2027	**£2,940.–**
Online Confirmed dates	5 Jul 2027	9 Jul 2027	**£1,250.–**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	19 Jul 2027	23 Jul 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	19 Jul 2027	23 Jul 2027	**£1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	9 Aug 2027	13 Aug 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	9 Aug 2027	13 Aug 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	30 Aug 2027	3 Sept 2027	**£2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	30 Aug 2027	3 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**£2,860.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**£1,250.–**
Rome Confirmed dates	25 Oct 2027	29 Oct 2027	**£2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	25 Oct 2027	29 Oct 2027	**£1,250.–**
Dubai Confirmed dates	15 Nov 2027	19 Nov 2027	**£3,150.–**
Online Confirmed dates	15 Nov 2027	19 Nov 2027	**£1,250.–**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**£1,890.–**
Online Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**£1,250.–**



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Plan your next step

Dates, availability, exact venue, taxes, inclusions and payment terms require written confirmation. This brochure is not a quotation, registration, booking confirmation or visa invitation. Participants receive a Smart Horizon UK certificate of attendance; programmes are not externally accredited and do not award a professional qualification or designation. Confirm arrangements before booking travel.

For group or in-house training, contact our learning team to discuss your objectives and delivery arrangements.

Contact Smart Horizon

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