

Mastering Excel for Planning, Forecasting & Budgeting

2027 26 – 22
Manchester (UK)

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Mastering Excel for Planning, Forecasting & Budgeting

~~R20221415_269120~~ Location: Manchester (UK) Fees: 5200 GBP

Why This Course

In today's data-driven business environment, Excel remains one of the most powerful and widely used tools for financial planning, forecasting, and budgeting. However, many professionals use only a fraction of its capabilities, limiting their ability to analyze data effectively, build reliable financial models, and support strategic decision-making.

The **Advanced Excel for Financial Planning, Forecasting & Budgeting Program** is an intensive five-day course designed to help finance and business professionals move beyond basic spreadsheet use and develop advanced, high-impact Excel skills. The program focuses on building robust financial models, improving forecast accuracy, and transforming complex data into clear, decision-ready insights.

Through hands-on exercises and real-world business scenarios, participants gain practical experience they can immediately apply in their roles.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By the end of this program, participants will be able to:

- Use advanced Excel functions and tools for financial analysis
- Build flexible, scalable spreadsheet models for planning and forecasting
- Develop accurate and adaptable budgets with variance analysis
- Apply scenario planning and sensitivity analysis to support decisions
- Visualize financial data clearly through dashboards and reports
- Improve the quality and credibility of financial insights shared with stakeholders

The Program Flow 5-Day Structure

Day 1 - Excel Fundamentals for Financial Modeling

- Advanced Excel functions commonly used in financial analysis
- Structuring, organizing, and managing financial data efficiently
- Creating dynamic named ranges and Excel tables
- Building flexible, scalable, and error-resistant spreadsheet models

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (king, queen, rook, knight, and pawns) in gold and silver, set against a background of concentric circles.

Day 2 - Planning & Forecasting Techniques

- Time series analysis and trend-based forecasting
- Regression analysis for sales, cost, and demand projections
- Using Excel statistical tools for more accurate forecasts
- Scenario planning and sensitivity analysis fundamentals

Day 3 - Budgeting & Financial Modeling

- Designing dynamic and driver-based budget models
- Flexible budgeting and variance analysis techniques
- Cash flow forecasting and working capital modeling
- Building integrated financial statements within Excel

Day 4 - Advanced Forecasting & What-If Analysis

- Monte Carlo simulation for risk and uncertainty assessment
- Using Goal Seek and Solver for optimization problems
- Data Tables for advanced sensitivity analysis
- Scenario Manager for comparing multiple financial outcomes

Day 5 - Data Visualization & Financial Reporting

- Creating clear, dynamic charts and management dashboards
- Using PivotTables and PivotCharts for advanced analysis
- Power Query for data cleansing and transformation
- Best practices for financial reporting and executive presentation

Individual Impact

Participants will leave the program with:

- Strong confidence in using Excel for advanced financial analysis
- The ability to build reliable financial models from scratch
- Improved forecasting accuracy and budgeting discipline
- Practical skills to analyze scenarios and assess financial risk
- Enhanced capability to present financial insights clearly and professionally

Organizational Impact

Organizations will benefit through:

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A large gold king piece is in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a silver knight behind it. In the background, there are concentric circles emanating from the center of the board.

- More accurate forecasts and budgets
- Stronger financial planning and decision support
- Reduced reliance on manual calculations and error-prone spreadsheets
- Improved financial transparency and reporting quality
- Faster, more informed strategic decision-making

Training Methodology

The program follows a highly practical, hands-on learning approach, including:

- Real-world financial modeling exercises
- Step-by-step guided Excel workshops
- Practical templates and reusable models
- Scenario-based analysis and problem-solving
- Expert-led instruction focused on real business applications

Beyond the Course

After completing the program, participants will be ready to:

- Build and maintain advanced financial models with confidence
- Support planning, forecasting, and budgeting processes effectively
- Analyze financial scenarios and risks with greater precision
- Deliver clear, data-driven insights to management and stakeholders

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