COURSE SYLLABUS

Analysis Techniques for Auditors Course (Self-Paced)

Learn to apply quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques to assess performance, risks, and compliance in audits.

> Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://www.graduateschool.edu/courses/analysis-techniques-for-auditors-course-self-paced



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Course Outline

Module 1: Introduction to the Course

- Review the purpose of analytical techniques in audit engagements
- Identify criteria for selecting appropriate analysis tools
- Understand the audit context where visual analysis can improve findings

Module 2: Run Chart Analysis

- Create and interpret run charts for time-series data
- Identify patterns, shifts, and trends in performance over time
- Distinguish between common and special cause variation

Module 3: Control Chart Analysis

- Apply statistical control chart techniques to audit data
- Evaluate process stability and detect out-of-control conditions
- Use upper and lower control limits in risk assessment

Module 4: Radar Chart

- Visualize multidimensional performance or criteria
- Compare multiple data sets on a common scale
- Apply radar charts in benchmarking and internal control reviews

Module 5: Histogram

- Display frequency distributions to examine variation and central tendency
- Evaluate data skewness and detect unusual patterns
- Use histograms for compliance and quality control analysis

Module 6: Cause and Effect Diagram

- Construct fishbone diagrams to identify root causes of audit issues

- Organize contributing factors by category
- Use diagrams to guide further audit testing and inquiry

Module 7: Pareto Analysis

- Apply the 80/20 rule to audit findings and exceptions
- Identify key issues or causes driving most observed problems
- Prioritize audit responses based on frequency and impact

Module 8: Scatter Diagram

- Explore correlations between two data variables
- Detect possible cause-effect relationships for deeper analysis
- Support audit conclusions with visual evidence

Module 9: Sequence Flow Chart

- Map audit processes or operations visually
- Identify process inefficiencies, delays, or risk points
- Use for understanding procedures before designing tests

Module 10: Force Field Analysis

- Assess driving and restraining forces affecting a proposed change
- Use in organizational audits and change readiness evaluations
- Facilitate audit recommendations with stakeholder context

Module 11: Cost and Benefit Analysis

- Compare program or project costs to measured benefits
- Support economic conclusions in performance audits
- Apply return on investment (ROI) and break-even analysis

Module 12: Selecting Analysis Techniques

- Match audit objectives to the most appropriate analysis method
- Review strengths and limitations of each visual technique
- Integrate multiple tools to improve audit insight and communication