COURSE SYLLABUS

Quick Response Auditing Course

Learn to conduct quick response audits that deliver timely, focused, and meaningful results while adhering to Government Auditing Standards.

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/quick-response-auditing



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Course Outline

Module 1: The Mandate for Timeliness

- Discuss the relationship between the information revolution and expectations of audit clients
- Discuss the typical areas of emphasis in completing audit engagements
- Define audit cycle time and identify the primary factors that contribute to long cycle times
- Identify the consequences for audit organizations that have consistently long audit cycle times

Module 2: Assessing Conditions for Quick Response Audits

- Identify conditions when a quick response is easiest
- Identify keys to success of quick response audits
- Identify key features for quick response audits and strategies for successful completion
- Identify circumstances under which quick response audits should be undertaken only after careful consideration or avoided completely
- Identify tradeoffs between such factors as speed, cost, and risk when completing audit engagements

Module 3: Framing Objectives for Timely Audit Results

- Identify the primary reasons why government audit organizations are emphasizing audit timeliness
- Discuss the correlation between audit objectives and audit cycle times
- Identify the common strategies for limiting audit objectives to achieve timeliness
- Identify how the breadth of audit objectives can be limited when certain finding elements are known
- Identify the potential for limiting the aspects of performance to include in the audit
- Write precise audit objectives when the condition or extent of the condition is unknown, when the cause of a condition is unknown, when the effect of a condition is unknown, that cite the aspect(s) of performance to be addressed, and to identify recommendations for corrective actions

Module 4: Narrowing the Scope to Audit Quickly

- Identify the relationship between audit objectives and audit scope
- Identify the various aspects of scope and articulate how the aspects can be limited to enhance timeliness
- Identify typical audit design constraints, and discuss how audit scope can be limited to accommodate the constraints

Module 5: Quick Response Audits in Accordance with GAGAS

- Understand flexibility in the General Standards of the Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS) that can facilitate quick responses in performance audits
- Understand flexibility in the GAGAS Field Work Standards that can facilitate quick responses in performance auditing

Module 6: Reporting Results Quickly — The Final Hurdle

- Discuss the inefficiency in the reporting processes of many government audit organizations
- Identify strategies for successful reduction of time required to report audit results
- Identify the Yellow Book reporting requirements and how they should be addressed to report audit results quickly

Module 7: Non-audit Services — An Alternative Solution

- Identify the key provisions of Yellow Book guidance for nonaudit services by government auditors
- Apply the conceptual framework when considering nonaudit services
- Discuss the nonaudit services that impair auditor independence
- Discuss the benefits and risks from nonaudit services