

Private Markets and Alternative Investments Certificate

Syllabus

Course 1: Introduction to Private Markets and Alternative Investments

This course is the first of the five-course Private Markets and Alternative Investments Certificate and has the following learning outcomes.

- Explain the various roles that private markets and alternative investments play in multi-asset portfolios.
- Discuss key investment considerations for allocating funds to private equity, private debt, hedge funds, commodities and natural resources, real estate and infrastructure.
- Describe the potential benefits and challenges associated with investing in private markets and alternative investments.

Module 1: Why Invest in Private Markets and Alternatives

- Lesson 1: The Role of Alternative Investments in Multi-Asset Portfolios
- Lesson 2: Investment Considerations for Allocating to Alternative Investments
- Lesson 3: Benefits and Challenges of Alternative Investments

Module 2: Survey of Private Markets and Alternative Investments

- Lesson 1: Categories and Features of Alternative Investments
- Lesson 2: Investment Methods and Ownership Structures
- Lesson 3: Risk Management and Portfolio Construction

Module 3: Alternative Investment Performance and Returns

- Lesson 1: Performance Appraisal of Alternative Investments
- Lesson 2: Calculating Alternative Investment Returns
- Lesson 3: Analyzing and Interpreting Investment Performance

Module 4: Practitioner Perspectives

- Lesson 1: Practitioner Perspectives on Private Markets
- Lesson 2: Practitioner Perspectives on Real Estate and Infrastructure
- Lesson 3: Practitioner Perspectives on Commodities and Natural Resources
- Lesson 4: Practitioner Perspectives on Hedge Funds

Course 2: Private Equity and Private Credit Investments

This course is part of the five-course Private Markets and Alternative Investments Certificate and has the following learning outcomes:

- Learners will gain an understanding of the features and characteristics of private equity and private credit investments.
- Learners will gain an understanding of value creation, costs and risks, fund structures, terms and interpreting performance of venture capital and buyout private equity investments.
- Learners will gain an understanding of value creation, costs and risks, fund structures, terms and interpreting performance of various private lending and credit investments.

Module 1: Introduction to Private Equity and Private Credit Investments

- Lesson 1: Features of Private Equity and Investment Characteristics
- Lesson 2: Features of Private Credit and Investment Characteristics
- Lesson 3: Diversification Benefits of Private Capital

Module 2: Private Equity Investments

- Lesson 1: Value Creation and Risks in Private Equity
- Lesson 2: Leveraged Buyout and Venture Capital Investments
- Lesson 3: Private Equity Funds and Their Valuation

Module 3: Private Credit Investments

- Lesson 1: Value Creation and Risks in Private Credit Investments
- Lesson 2: Types of Private Credit Investments
- Lesson 3: Private Credit Funds and Their Valuation

Module 4: Practitioner Perspectives

- Lesson 1: Current and Future States of Private Equity and Private Credit Investing
- Lesson 2: Private Equity and Private Credit – Reasons for Investing
- Lesson 3: Due Diligence in Private Equity and Private Credit Investing

Course 3: Real Estate and Infrastructure Investments

This course is the third of the five-course Private Markets and Alternative Investments Certificate and has the following learning outcomes:

- Learners will be able to explain the characteristics and features of the various investment structures of real estate and infrastructure as asset classes.
- Learners will be able to explain the sources of return, risks, and diversification benefits from both direct and indirect investments in real estate and infrastructure.
- Learners will be able to discuss the due diligence and valuation processes for both asset classes.

Module 1: Introduction to Real Estate and Infrastructure

- Lesson 1: The Different Types of Real Estate

- Lesson 2: The Unique Features of Real Estate
- Lesson 3: The Major Categories of Real Estate Investment Structures
- Lesson 4: An Introduction to Infrastructure as an Asset Class

Module 2: Real Estate

- Lesson 1: The Sources of Return, Risks, and Diversification Benefits of Real Estate Investment
- Lesson 2: Direct Real Estate Investment and Indirect Real Estate Investment
- Lesson 3: Due Diligence of Real Estate Investments
- Lesson 4: Valuation of Real Estate Investments

Module 3: Infrastructure

- Lesson 1: The Unique Features of Infrastructure
- Lesson 2: The Lifecycle of Infrastructure Investment
- Lesson 3: The Operational Dynamics of Infrastructural Investment
- Lesson 4: Introduction to Project Financing of Infrastructure Investment

Module 4: Practitioner Perspectives

- Lesson 1: Practitioner Perspectives on Real Estate as an Asset Type
- Lesson 2: Practitioner Perspectives on Infrastructure as an Asset Type

Course 4: Commodities, Natural Resources and Digital Assets

This course is the fourth of the five-course Private Markets and Alternative Investments Certificate and has the following learning outcomes:

- Learners will be able to compare the characteristics of commodity, natural resource, and digital asset investments and understand their role in diversified portfolios.
- Learners will gain an understanding of the key drivers of risk and return across commodities, natural resources, and digital assets.
- Learners will gain an understanding of the methods used to obtain exposure to commodities, natural resources, and digital assets and evaluate their risk and return implications.

Module 1: Introduction and Terminology

- Lesson 1: Introduction to Natural Resources and Commodity Investments
- Lesson 2: Types of Natural Resource Investments
- Lesson 3: Inflation Hedging and Portfolio Diversification Benefits of Natural Resources and Commodities

Module 2: How to Invest in Commodities and Natural Resources

- Lesson 1: Categories and Features of Alternative Investments
- Lesson 2: Commodity Derivatives
- Lesson 3: Commodity Indexes, Their Uses and Investment Implications

Module 3: Factors Affecting Commodity and Natural Resources Prices

- Lesson 1: Valuation of Commodities
- Lesson 2: Natural Resources and Economic Growth
- Lesson 3: Understanding Factors Affecting Commodity Prices

Module 4: Digital Assets in Private Markets

- Lesson 1: Introduction to Digital Assets
- Lesson 2: Digital Asset Investment Characteristics and Risk
- Lesson 3: Digital Asset Implementation Considerations

Course 5: Hedge Fund Investments

This course is the fifth of the five-course Private Markets and Alternative Investments Certificate and has the following learning outcomes:

- Learners will gain an understanding of the features, forms and structures, and risk and return characteristics of hedge fund investments.
- Learners will gain an understanding of equity-related, event-driven, relative value, opportunistic, and multi-manager hedge fund strategies.
- Learners will gain an understanding of performance appraisal issues, calculating and interpreting investment returns, and performing diligence of hedge fund investments.

Module 1: Introduction to Hedge Fund Investments

- Lesson 1: Hedge Fund Investment Features Compared to Those of Other Asset Classes
- Lesson 2: Hedge Fund Investment Vehicles
- Lesson 3: Risk and Return Characteristics of Hedge Fund Investments

Module 2: Hedge Fund Strategies

- Lesson 1: Classification of Hedge Fund Strategies
- Lesson 2: Key Types of Hedge Fund Strategies
- Lesson 3: Role of Hedge Fund Strategies in Traditional Investment Portfolios

Module 3: Hedge Fund Performance Appraisal, Investment Returns, and Due Diligence

- Lesson 1: Performance Appraisal Issues in Hedge Funds Investments
- Lesson 2: Understanding Hedge Fund Investment Returns
- Lesson 3: Due Diligence of Hedge Funds Investments

Module 4: Practitioner Perspectives

- Lesson 1: Current and Future States of Hedge Fund Investing
- Lesson 2: Different Types of Hedge Funds – Reasons for Investing
- Lesson 3: Due Diligence in Hedge Fund Investing