

**FACULTY OF SOCIETY AND SCIENCE
STUDY COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Course Title:	Introduction to Fintech Business Models			
Course code (LAIS):				
Study programme:	Business Administration			
Level of Study programme:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Short-cycle professional higher education		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional Bachelor		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Master		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Master		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	PhD level		
Type of Study programme:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compulsory course (Part A)		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization courses (Part B, compulsory)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization optional courses (Part B, optional)		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective courses (Part C)		
Course Workload:	Credits/ ECTS	Academic hours	Contact hours	Independent work hours
	5	125	50	75
Course Author/ Tutor:	Name Surname: Sarmīte Rozentāle			
	Academical position, scien./acad.degree: Professor, Dr.oec.			
	e-mail: sarmite.rozentale@va.lv			
	Consultation: according to the schedule for each semester			
Study Form:	Full time studies			
Study year, semester:	4 th year, 7 th semester			
Language:	Latvian			
Prerequisites for the Course: <i>(if necessary)</i>	Basic understanding of business management and financial services.			
Course Summary:	The overarching goal is to acquaint students with the fundamental knowledge of FinTech business models and the rapidly evolving FinTech landscape as a whole. Through the study course, students will be able to take the first steps into the financial technology (FinTech) world. Students will learn how different technologies and new business models are shaping and challenging the financial sector, and get acquainted with various FinTech business models and current and future market opportunities. A core part of the study course will be learning through global and regional case study analysis and guest lectures from the financial technology sector.			
Assessment:	EXAM			
Requirements for Credits:	<p>The study course adopts a structured approach to learning, which involves independent preparation before lectures. Prior to lectures, students will often be tasked with engaging in self-directed reading of provided materials. This initial study establishes a foundational understanding of the upcoming lecture topic, enabling active participation in classroom discussions and facilitating the application of acquired knowledge during case study activities.</p> <p>The course assessment is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% active participation in the course 30% case analysis 20% independent work 30% midterm and final exam 			
Abiding by the Academic Ethics	<p>Students must abide by the academic and research ethics, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences Ethics Regulations, incl.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – study papers must be independently developed; – the study work should reference all statements, ideas and data used that have been authored by someone else; – appropriate data acquisition methods should be used in the acquisition of data, the research ethics must be respected, empirical data must be collected independently and cannot be distorted or falsified; – the examination must be carried out by the student independently, without the use of supporting materials and/or consultations with other students, 			

	<p>unless the lecturer states otherwise. In the event of non-compliance with the academic and research ethics, punishment is imposed in accordance with the ViA Ethics Regulations and the study course must be re-taken, unless the punishment is exmatriculation.</p>																		
Learning Outcomes; the evaluation methods and criteria	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Learning Outcomes</th> <th>The evaluation methods and criteria</th> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Knowledge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Knows the history and development of the field of financial technology, its current situation and potential development, including the role of technological innovations in it.</td> <td>Independent work, midterm and final exam.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Understands and is able to explain simple financial technology-related ideas, trends and business models both orally and in writing.</td> <td>Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Skills</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Able to use analytical tools and critical thinking to recognize and compare different business concepts in the field of financial technology.</td> <td>Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Able to recognize new trends and business opportunities in the field of financial technology.</td> <td>Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Competency</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Competence to develop business strategies based on the global situation in the field of financial technology and taking into account various market needs and regulatory frameworks.</td> <td>Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.</td> </tr> </table>	Learning Outcomes	The evaluation methods and criteria	Knowledge		Knows the history and development of the field of financial technology, its current situation and potential development, including the role of technological innovations in it.	Independent work, midterm and final exam.	Understands and is able to explain simple financial technology-related ideas, trends and business models both orally and in writing.	Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.	Skills		Able to use analytical tools and critical thinking to recognize and compare different business concepts in the field of financial technology.	Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.	Able to recognize new trends and business opportunities in the field of financial technology.	Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.	Competency		Competence to develop business strategies based on the global situation in the field of financial technology and taking into account various market needs and regulatory frameworks.	Independent work, case studies, midterm and final exam.
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Course Compulsory literature:	<p>Obligatory</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Skinner. Digital Bank Strategies to Launch or Become a Digital Bank Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Business, 2014 Brett King. Bank 4.0 Banking everywhere, never at a bank Newark: John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2018 																		
Course additional literature:	<p>Additional</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Agustín Rubini. Fintech Founders Inspiring Tales from the Entrepreneurs that are Changing Finance Berlin: De Gruyter, 2020 Chris Skinner. Digital Human The Fourth Revolution of Humanity Includes Everyone Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Business, 2014 David L. Shrier, Alex Pentland. Global Fintech Financial Innovation in the Connected World Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2022 																		
Course confirmation date:																			
Date of course description update:																			

Study Course Plan:

Date	Theme	Academic hours		Study Form/ Organization of independent work of students and task description
		Contact hours	Independent work hours	
<i>The date is specified before the implementation of the course</i>	Introduction to financial technology, current trends and cybersecurity.	2	3	Lecture, discussion Literature analysis
	Digital and mobile payments.	8	12	Lecture, discussion, case analysis, Literature analysis
	Traditional banks, online banks, neobanks and challenger banks and banking technologies.	8	12	Lecture, discussion, case analysis, Literature analysis
	Online lending, online markets and crowdfunding.	10	15	Lecture, discussion, case analysis, Literature analysis, Quiz
	Asset management and investment technologies	8	12	Lecture, discussion, case analysis, Literature analysis
	Web3, blockchain, decentralized finance (DeFi) and centralized finance	8	12	Lecture, discussion, case analysis, Literature

	(CeFi).			analysis
	Insurance technologies (InsurTech).	4	6	Lecture, discussion, case analysis, Literature analysis
	Summary	2	3	Exam
	Hours total:	50	75	