

Specialized Internal Auditing

12 – 16 October 2026
Accra (Ghana)

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Introduction

In today's complex and rapidly evolving business environment, the role of the internal audit function has expanded beyond traditional practices to include specialized areas that address emerging risks and enhance corporate governance. This intensive internal audit training course is designed to deepen the expertise of internal auditors by focusing on advanced audit methodologies, industry-specific areas, and modern tools that align with international internal auditing standards such as IPPF and COSO.

Participants will gain hands-on experience in risk-based auditing, IT audits, fraud detection, ESG compliance, and advanced data analytics to strengthen internal control and drive organizational value. This program is ideal for professionals aiming to excel in internal audit positions, as well as those looking to understand the internal audit process and deliver impactful internal audit reports that meet international best practices.

Course Objectives

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

- Understand and apply international internal auditing standards IPPF, COSO effectively.
- Differentiate between types of internal audits: operational, financial, IT, and compliance.
- Develop risk-based audit plans and conduct robust risk assessments.
- Gain hands-on skills in conducting IT audits, fraud detection, and ESG compliance audits.
- Utilize data analytics and automation tools in audit engagements to enhance efficiency.
- Improve internal audit reporting, communication with management, and follow-up mechanisms for greater accountability.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Foundations and Frameworks of Specialized Internal Auditing

- Overview of international standards: IPPF, COSO, and their applications.
- The evolving role of the internal audit function in corporate governance.
- Fundamentals of Risk-Based Internal Auditing RBIA and its strategic significance.
- Types of internal audits: operational, financial, IT, and compliance audits.
- Planning and scoping specialized audit engagements for maximum impact.

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (a king, a queen, a rook, and a pawn) positioned on it. The board is white and black, and the pieces are gold and silver. The graphic is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Day 2: Audit Methodology and Risk Assessment Techniques

- Developing a strategic internal audit plan that aligns with business goals.
- Techniques for risk identification and risk assessment in audit processes.
- Evaluating the design and effectiveness of controls across departments.
- Interviewing techniques and evidence gathering for precise auditing.
- Using audit programs, templates, and checklists to streamline processes.

Day 3: Specialized Audits - IT, Fraud, and Compliance

- Core principles of IT auditing: systems, cybersecurity, and application integrity.
- Conducting fraud risk assessments and applying forensic audit techniques.
- Auditing for regulatory compliance and maintaining ethical standards.
- Auditing procurement and contract management to ensure transparency.
- Introduction to ESG auditing: evaluating environmental, social, and governance ESG compliance.

Day 4: Tools, Techniques, and Emerging Trends in Internal Audit

- Leveraging data analytics to enhance the internal audit process.
- Applying Computer-Assisted Audit Techniques CAATs for improved accuracy.
- Conducting root cause analysis and adopting continuous auditing.
- Identifying and managing emerging risks: AI, cybersecurity, ESG, and third-party risks.
- Introduction to agile auditing and audit automation platforms for increased efficiency.

Day 5: Reporting and Communication for Impact

- Crafting clear, concise, and actionable internal audit reports.
- Presenting findings and recommendations to management effectively.
- Tracking and following up on corrective actions to ensure compliance.
- Reporting to audit committees and engaging stakeholders.
- Final simulation: Conduct a mini-specialized audit with group exercises.

Why Attend this Course: Wins & Losses!

- Master Advanced Internal Audit Techniques: Gain expertise in IT audits, fraud detection, and ESG compliance to enhance organizational control.
- Strengthen Risk Assessment Skills: Develop strategic risk-based audit plans for greater organizational impact.
- Enhance Data-Driven Auditing: Utilize data analytics to improve audit accuracy and reporting.
- Boost Organizational Governance and Compliance: Ensure internal audit and compliance with global standards.
- Deliver High-Impact Internal Audit Reports: Craft professional internal audit reports that influence decision-makers and support strategic goals.

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Conclusion

By the end of this course, participants will be equipped with advanced skills to conduct specialized internal audits across various domains, including IT, fraud detection, and ESG compliance. They will be empowered to deliver high-value audit insights, enhance compliance and accountability, and actively contribute to the strategic goals of their organizations through modern, risk-focused internal auditing practices.

Join this course to master the art of internal auditing, optimize your audit processes, and elevate your expertise in conducting effective, data-driven audits that add real value to your organization.

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