BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Specialized Internal Auditing Program

28 June – 9 July 2027
Rome (Italy)



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Ref: 3255269_336813 **Date:** 28 June – 9 July 2027 **Location:** Rome (Italy) **Fees:** 9400 GBP

Introduction

In today's fast-changing and complex corporate world, internal auditors play a critical role in ensuring transparency, accountability, and sustainable business practices.
This 2-week intensive program offers participants a comprehensive and practical journey through modern internal auditing — blending theory, real-world case studies, and hands-on simulations.

Participants will master the design and implementation of risk-based audits, learn data-driven audit tools, and perform specialized audits covering IT systems, fraud, ESG, and compliance, all aligned with international standards such as IPPF and COSO.

Course Objectives

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

- Apply global auditing frameworks IPPF, COSO effectively in various contexts.
- Design and execute comprehensive, risk-based audit plans.
- Conduct specialized audits IT, fraud, ESG, compliance with confidence.
- Use advanced data analytics tools to detect anomalies and improve reporting.
- Communicate audit results effectively and influence management decisions.
- Build a culture of governance, accountability, and continuous improvement.

Course Outlines

Day 1 - The Strategic Role of Internal Audit

- Evolution of the internal audit function in the modern organization.
- The link between internal audit, governance, and risk management.
- Understanding IPPF structure, principles, and standards.
- Introduction to the COSO framework and its five key components.
- Workshop: Mapping internal audit objectives to organizational strategy.



Day 2 - Fundamentals of Risk-Based Internal Auditing RBIA

- Core principles of RBIA and its advantages over traditional audits.
- Identifying and prioritizing risks: enterprise and operational perspectives.
- Building an audit universe and aligning it with corporate objectives.
- Developing an annual audit plan based on risk ranking.
- Exercise: Creating a risk-based audit matrix for a sample organization.

Day 3 - Audit Planning and Scoping

- Developing audit charters and defining audit scope.
- Audit lifecycle: from planning to reporting and follow-up.
- Control design vs. control effectiveness: how to evaluate both.
- Techniques for collecting audit evidence efficiently.
- Case study: Planning an internal audit for a procurement process.

Day 4 - Advanced Risk Assessment Techniques

- Identifying key risk indicators KRIs and control weaknesses.
- Using qualitative and quantitative risk scoring.
- Interviewing techniques and stakeholder engagement during audit planning.
- Integrating risk management with internal audit reporting.
- Practical exercise: Perform a live risk assessment on a chosen process.

Day 5 - Specialized Audit: IT and Cybersecurity

- Overview of IT audit objectives and frameworks COBIT, NIST.
- Assessing IT general controls and application controls.
- Cybersecurity audits and data protection compliance.
- Evaluating system access, integrity, and change management controls.
- Hands-on: Audit a simulated IT environment for control weaknesses.

Day 6 - Specialized Audit: Fraud Detection and Investigation

- Understanding fraud risk factors and red flags.
- Designing anti-fraud audit procedures.
- Using forensic audit techniques and digital forensics tools.
- Handling whistleblowing, evidence collection, and confidentiality.
- Case study: Investigating a fraud scenario using real-world examples.



Day 7 - Specialized Audit: ESG & Regulatory Compliance

- Introduction to ESG Environmental, Social, Governance frameworks.
- Conducting ESG audits and sustainability reporting reviews.
- Auditing for compliance with laws, regulations, and ethical standards.
- Evaluating third-party and supplier compliance programs.
- Workshop: Performing an ESG audit on a sample company.

Day 8 - Audit Analytics, Automation, and Continuous Auditing

- Introduction to data analytics in auditing: principles and tools.
- Using CAATs Computer-Assisted Audit Techniques to identify anomalies.
- Continuous monitoring and real-time risk dashboards.
- Introduction to agile auditing and audit automation platforms.
- Practical session: Build a data-driven audit report using sample data.

Day 9 - Audit Reporting, Communication, and Stakeholder Engagement

- Structuring impactful audit reports: clarity, brevity, and precision.
- Writing findings, recommendations, and root cause analyses.
- Communicating with management and audit committees effectively.
- Managing follow-up and corrective actions.
- Group exercise: Develop and present an audit report to a mock committee.

Day 10 - Simulation, Integration & Final Evaluation

- Full simulation: conduct an end-to-end audit on a selected business process.
- Applying IPPF and COSO principles in real audit scenarios.
- Integrating lessons learned across IT, fraud, and ESG auditing.
- Peer review and group feedback sessions.
- Final assessment and certification ceremony.

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.



Conclusion

This 2-week master program transforms auditors into strategic partners in governance and risk management.
Participants will leave equipped with modern audit tools, practical experience, and confidence to perform specialized audits that add real value and strengthen organizational resilience.

