BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Excel VBA Mastery: Advanced Modeling and Automation Techniques

19 – 23 April 2027
Lyon (France)



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Introduction

The Advanced Excel Modeling and VBA Automation course is designed to help professionals move beyond standard spreadsheet use and build powerful, flexible, and automated Excel-based solutions for financial modeling, business analysis, reporting, and decision support.

Excel remains one of the most widely used tools for financial analysis, data modeling, scenario planning, dashboards, and operational reporting. However, many users only rely on basic formulas and manual spreadsheet work, which can limit accuracy, slow down reporting, and make complex analysis difficult to maintain. By combining advanced Excel techniques with Visual Basic for Applications, participants can transform spreadsheets into automated analytical tools that save time, reduce errors, and improve business insight.

This intensive one-week program focuses on advanced Excel formulas, financial modeling techniques, scenario analysis, macro recording, VBA programming, custom functions, user-defined functions, automated reporting systems, interactive dashboards, and long-term model maintenance. Through hands-on exercises, coding workshops, real-world case studies, and practical projects, participants will learn how to design professional spreadsheet solutions that are efficient, scalable, and reliable.

Course Objectives

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

- Apply advanced Excel formulas and modeling techniques for complex financial analysis.
- Build advanced financial models using structured spreadsheet design.
- Use data tables and scenario analysis tools to evaluate business outcomes.
- Apply advanced conditional formatting, data validation, array formulas, and dynamic named ranges.
- Understand VBA fundamentals and the Excel object model.
- Record, edit, optimize, and manage macros effectively.
- Use variables, data types, loops, arrays, collections, and programming structures in VBA.
- Develop user-defined functions to extend Excel functionality.
- Create procedures and subroutines for automated calculations and reporting.
- Design custom user forms and input controls for better spreadsheet interaction.
- Apply event-driven programming within Excel applications.
- Integrate Excel with other Office applications using VBA.
- Build dynamic dashboards, charts, PivotTables, and automated reporting tools.
- Improve spreadsheet efficiency through automation, testing, documentation, and model maintenance.



Course Outlines

Day 1: Advanced Excel Modeling Techniques

- Understanding the structure of professional Excel models.
- Applying complex financial functions for advanced modeling.
- Using data tables to compare assumptions and outcomes.
- Applying scenario analysis tools for financial and business planning.
- Building structured assumptions, calculations, outputs, and summary sections.
- Implementing advanced conditional formatting for better model visibility.
- Applying data validation to improve accuracy and control inputs.
- Working with array formulas and dynamic named ranges.
- Improving spreadsheet efficiency through clear model design.
- Practical exercise on building an advanced financial modeling template.

Day 2: Introduction to VBA and Macro Recording

- Understanding VBA fundamentals and how automation supports Excel productivity.
- Exploring the Excel object model and its main components.
- Recording macros to automate repeated spreadsheet tasks.
- Editing and improving recorded macros.
- Understanding variables, data types, and basic programming logic.
- Using conditional statements to control macro behavior.
- Applying loops to automate repeated actions.
- Debugging VBA code and identifying common errors.
- Implementing basic error handling techniques.
- Practical workshop on creating and improving a VBA macro.

Day 3: Custom Functions and Procedures

- Creating user-defined functions to extend Excel functionality.
- Developing procedures and subroutines for automated calculations.
- Understanding the difference between functions, procedures, and macros.
- Applying loops and decision-making structures in VBA.
- Working with arrays and collections in programming tasks.
- Automating calculations across multiple worksheets.
- Building reusable VBA code for repeated analysis.
- Improving code readability through naming, comments, and structure.
- Testing custom functions and procedures for accuracy.
- Practical project on developing automated calculation tools.



Day 4: Advanced VBA and User Interface Design

- Designing custom user forms for Excel applications.
- Adding input controls such as text boxes, buttons, dropdowns, and checkboxes.
- Validating user inputs to reduce errors.
- Implementing event-driven programming in Excel.
- Creating interactive spreadsheet tools with VBA.
- Integrating Excel with Word, Outlook, or PowerPoint using VBA.
- Applying advanced error handling and input validation techniques.
- Improving user experience in automated Excel models.
- Developing controls for report generation and model navigation.
- Practical workshop on building a user interface for an Excel-based tool.

Day 5: Building Automated Models and Reports

- Designing automated financial reporting systems.
- Generating charts dynamically with VBA.
- Creating PivotTables and updating reports automatically.
- Building interactive dashboards for business analysis and reporting.
- Automating data refresh, formatting, calculations, and report outputs.
- Applying best practices for documenting automated models.
- Testing automated reporting systems for accuracy and reliability.
- Maintaining Excel and VBA models for long-term use.
- Final project on building an automated model or reporting dashboard.
- Review of practical frameworks for advanced spreadsheet applications.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Strengthen advanced Excel and VBA programming capabilities.
- Build professional financial models with stronger structure and control.
- Automate repetitive spreadsheet tasks and reduce manual effort.
- Improve the accuracy and reliability of financial and analytical models.
- Create custom functions and user-defined functions for complex calculations.
- Build automated reporting systems and dynamic dashboards.
- Use macros, VBA procedures, arrays, loops, and event-driven programming effectively.
- Improve decision-making through better scenario analysis and financial modeling.
- Develop custom Excel tools and user interfaces.
- Reduce time spent on manual reporting and repeated data processing.
- Improve model documentation, testing, and long-term maintenance.
- Build scalable spreadsheet solutions that support business analysis and reporting.



Conclusion

The Advanced Excel Modeling and VBA Automation course provides a practical framework for developing advanced spreadsheet solutions that combine financial modeling, business analysis, automation, and professional reporting.

The course begins with advanced Excel modeling techniques, including financial functions, scenario analysis, data tables, conditional formatting, data validation, array formulas, and dynamic named ranges. It then introduces VBA fundamentals, macro recording, programming logic, variables, loops, debugging, and error handling.

Participants then move into custom functions, user-defined functions, procedures, subroutines, arrays, collections, user interface design, user forms, input controls, event-driven programming, and Office integration. The final day brings these skills together through automated financial reports, dynamic dashboards, charts, PivotTables, and long-term model maintenance.

By the end of the program, participants will be able to build advanced financial models, automate complex calculations, create custom Excel tools, design automated reporting systems, and develop dynamic dashboards that support better business decision-making.

