Firms operating in the financial markets are among the most intensive and innovative users of information and technology. Over the years, voice and paper-based trading has been replaced with electronic channels linking up market participants from across the globe.

Traders are equipped with real-time pricing and market information, and are able to perform complex data analytics to sharpen their competitive edge. At securities exchanges, open outcry trading floors have been replaced with automated trade matching and straight-thru-processing (STP) has replaced error-prone paper-based settlements processing resulting in shorter settlement cycles.
Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the financial markets products and services, markets and market participants. Focus will be placed on the foreign exchange and equities products and the processes that support the trading and settlement of these instruments. The course also includes the architecture and design of the IT application systems that support these processes. It will cover how the deployment of STP has enabled efficiencies and eliminated risks by the end-to-end streamlining of operations within and across firms from trade initiation to settlement.

Course Outline

Financial Markets Essentials

I. Market Structure and Participants
   • What are “Markets”
   • Types of Markets, Exchanges and Execution Venues
   • Market Participants – Organizations and Roles
   • Asset Classes and Products
   • Transaction Lifecycle (Pre-Trade, Trade and Post-Trade)

II. Solution Architecture and Design Considerations
   • Order Management System functions and considerations
   • Price Feed Engines functions and considerations
   • Risk Management Systems functions and considerations
   • Overview of the common Order Management, Price Feed and Risk Management Systems in the market
   • Clearing and Settlements
   • Overview of the common Clearing and Settlement Systems in the market
   • Typical System Architecture for a Financial Institution Exercise: Foreign Exchange Trading, Order Routing and Internalization

III. Algorithmic Trading and Complex Event Processing (CEP)
   • Introduction to Algorithmic Trading and some common algorithms
   • Infrastructural Requirements for algorithmic trading
   • CEP Engines
   • Current trends in Algorithmic trading - The Race to Zero

IV. Financial Markets Product Lifecycle Development and Implementation
   • Business Infrastructure and environmental factors (Sell-side support, buy-side demand)
   • Design Considerations
   • Development and Testing
   • Integration with internal systems
   • Integration with external systems
   • Regulatory Approvals
   • Measurements of success (Delivery vs Spec, Return on Investment)

Trainer’s Biography

Gerard is an industry professional with over 20 years’ financial markets experience in Singapore and London. His wealth of experience is built on interbank trading and treasury sales to corporates and financial institutions, specialising in foreign exchange, derivative products, and financial IT solutioning.

Gerard is currently the principal at Epitrain, a training and consultancy business that specialises in Banking and Treasury Risk Management, Financial IT, Corporate Finance, Project Management and Business Management. Before Epitrain, he spent seven years at the Singapore Exchange providing oversight and governance on portfolio risk management, IT system design, dynamics and requirements, efficiency improvements solutions as well as the design of rigorous but efficient testing processes to ensure system robustness.

*Please note that the trainer conducting this course is subject to change without prior notice.
Lab exercises and activities are designed to assess your ability to employ the Financial Market concepts, models and strategies taught in the course. There will also be a demonstration of order placing application and various case studies.

Pre-requisites

- Possess at least a basic diploma or equivalent qualification
- Possess a good command of the English language
- Possess good analytical and evaluation skills
- Possess good problem-solving skills and communication skills

Certification

Upon successful completion of the NICF accredited course, you will receive a certificate from Singapore Management University.

Course Fee

S$3,210* (inclusive of GST)

*70% CITREP II funding capped at $3,500 per trainee is available. Singaporeans and PRs only. See overleaf for details.

Terms and Conditions apply. For details, visit www.ida.gov.sg/citrep

GROUP DISCOUNT

10% for 3 or more participants from same company for the same course.

Register Now

To register for the course or to view the latest class schedule, visit www.fita.smu.edu.sg
Funding and Claims Process

CITREP funding is available for Singapore citizens and PRs for this course. Participants will pay the course fees in full upfront and claim up to 70% of the nett payable fees. Applications for claims are to be submitted via Infocomm Competency Management System portal www.idaicms.gov.sg within 3 months from the actual completion date.

Terms and conditions apply. For more details, visit www.ida.gov.sg/citrep

Have a question?

Get in touch with our friendly staff.

+65 6808 5458
www.fita.smu.edu.sg
fita_admin@smu.edu.sg

About Financial IT Academy @SMU

Located at the Singapore Management University, the Financial IT Academy @SMU (FITA) is the first-of-its-kind academy in Singapore set up to support the evolving needs of the financial services industry. On 28 May 2013, SMU was appointed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore as the lead provider to design and deliver quality training programmes for Technology & Operations professionals in the financial services industry in Singapore.

FITA’s vision is to help strengthen Singapore’s position as a leading global financial hub by increasing the talent pool and improving the quality of financial IT professionals in the financial services sector. Utilising a flexible curriculum designed and delivered by SMU faculty members and industry practitioners and partners, FITA focuses on equipping mid-career professionals, and fresh graduates with useful and relevant skills, knowledge and capabilities, thereby laying a stronger foundation for and increasing the number of IT professionals for deployment in the financial services sector.