

DIGITAL ASSETS, BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND THE FUTURE OF FINANCE

About

This course studies digital assets and the underlying blockchain technology and their likely impact on finance. The course is organized in five sessions: (1) introduction to blockchain technology and distributed ledgers, (2) central banking and payments with digital assets, (3) investing in digital assets, (4) Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) and the future of venture financing, (5) blockchain use cases in banking. The content is delivered through pre-readings, class-room presentations, case studies, and discussions with guest speakers. Grading will be based on an individual paper describing and evaluating a start-up or incumbent internal project/initiative in the field.

Learning objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand the fundamentals of blockchain technology through a deep dive on Bitcoin
- Articulate the concept of smart contracts using the example of Ethereum
- Discuss regulatory approaches to blockchain technology and digital assets
- Understand the challenges of investing and trading in digital assets
- Compare an Initial Coin Offering (ICO) with traditional venture capital financing
- Understand the potential for blockchain technology in banking
- Discuss the broader impact of digital assets and blockchain technology on the future of finance

Key concepts

- Blockchain technology and distributed ledgers
- Valuation and trading of digital assets
- Regulatory approaches to blockchain and digital assets
- Initial coin offerings compared to traditional venture capital finance
- Blockchain applications to banking

Faculty



Prof. Dr. Axel Wieandt - “Excellence in Teaching Award” Goethe Business School 2017

Axel Wieandt is a senior financial services executive. Until mid-2015, he was CEO of Valovis Bank AG. Other prior full-time positions he has held include Head of Corporate Development and Corporate Investments of Deutsche Bank AG, CEO and CFO of Hypo Real Estate Holding AG, and CEO and CFO of pbb Deutsche Pfandbriefbank AG, as well as Managing Director in Investment Banking with Credit Suisse Securities. His current portfolio of activities includes advisory mandates for VC and PE funds.

After graduating as a scholar of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes from WHU Otto-Beisheim School of Management (Diploma and Doctorate, both summa cum laude) and as a DAAD

scholar from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University (Master of Management with honors), Axel Wieandt began his career with McKinsey & Company in Düsseldorf and Boston, MA, and subsequently with Morgan Stanley Ltd. in London. He is currently Professor for Financial Intermediation (Bachelor Program, Master in Finance Program) at WHU Otto-Beisheim School of Management and Lecturer (Part-time Master in Finance Program) at Goethe Business School, Frankfurt University.

In the spring of 2016, Axel Wieandt served as adjunct professor of finance at the J.L. Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University where he taught a thought leadership seminar on "European Banking and the Financial Crisis".

He has published extensively in German and international peer-reviewed journals and is the author of "Unfinished Business: Putting European Banking (and Europe) Back on Track".

Axel Wieandt is a long-time member of the advisory board of auxmoney GmbH in Düsseldorf, the leading European consumer lending market place. He is senior advisor to Corestate Capital S.A., the leading S-DAX listed Luxemburg headquartered integrated real estate investment manager, and currently serves as chairman of the advisory board of Hannover Leasing GmbH & Co. KG and chairman of the supervisory board of Hannover Leasing Investment GmbH, both in Pullach near Munich. Axel Wieandt is also member of the advisory board of Debitos GmbH, the online marketplace for non-performing loans in Frankfurt, and chairman of the advisory board of Mehrwerk GmbH in Bielefeld, a leading provider of value-added services in Germany. Since 2010, Axel Wieandt serves on the Board of Trustees of the „Europäische Stiftung Kaiserdom zu Speyer“.

His public profiles can be found at:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/axel-wieandt/>

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Axel_Wieandt

Course format

This course is offered in the part-time Master in Finance program and may be attended on a “**no credit**” basis by individuals not enrolled in the program. Course participants are visitors who are not responsible for assignments and do not take an exam or earn academic credits. As the number of seats in the course is limited, we recommend to [register online](#) early.

Course materials

Course materials except books will be provided in electronic form.

Language

English

Course schedule

Date	Sessions
Fri., July 12, 2019	13:00-15:00 15:30-17:30
Sat., July 20, 2019	09:00-11:00 11:30-13:30
Fri., July 26, 2019	13:00-15:00 15:30-17:30

Course fee*

€ 950 (fee is exempt from VAT). Goethe Business School students and alumni receive a **20% discount** off the regular fee.

Certificate of participation

A Goethe Business School certificate of participation is awarded upon completion of the course.

Venue

House of Finance (Room tba), Goethe University, Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 3, 60323 Frankfurt am Main.

***Withdrawal and fee refund**

In case the course withdrawal request is received two weeks prior to the start of classes, we will retain a withdrawal fee of EUR 50. In case the course withdrawal request is received less than two weeks prior to the start of classes, we will retain 50% of the payment made.

Contact

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