

AUDITING AND GOVERNANCE RISK AND COMPLIANCE | COURSE BROCHURE

Adding Value in Internal Audit

5 days | Classroom training | English

SMART HORIZON

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Course content

Why attend

This course equips internal audit professionals with advanced skills to enhance the value of their audits. Participants will learn to identify risks, improve processes, and communicate findings effectively, ultimately driving organisational improvement and stakeholder confidence.

Internal auditors face increasing pressure to demonstrate their value beyond compliance. Many struggle to align audit activities with strategic objectives, leading to missed opportunities for organisational improvement. This course addresses these challenges by equipping participants with the skills to identify and communicate risks effectively, ensuring audits contribute to business success. Participants will engage in practical exercises that simulate real-world audit scenarios, enabling them to apply techniques for risk assessment, process improvement, and stakeholder engagement. By developing these capabilities, auditors can enhance their influence within the organisation, ensuring that their work not only meets regulatory requirements but also drives strategic objectives and adds tangible value.
The ability to provide actionable insights from audit findings is crucial for internal auditors. This course focuses on developing skills to create value-added recommendations that resonate with stakeholders. Participants will practice constructing clear audit reports and facilitating discussions that lead to informed decision-making. By mastering these communication techniques, auditors can ensure their findings lead to meaningful changes within the organisation.
Additionally, the course will cover methods for integrating audit recommendations into business processes, fostering a culture of continuous improvement. Ultimately, participants will leave equipped with the tools to elevate their role and contribute significantly to their organisation's success.

Professional Problems This Course Is Designed to Solve

• Difficulty translating subject knowledge into practical workplace decisions.
• Inconsistent approaches to the activities covered in the course outline.
• Lack of a structured plan for applying and reviewing new skills.

Course methodology

The course employs a blend of case studies, role-playing, and group discussions to facilitate learning. Participants will work on real-life audit scenarios to practice risk assessment and process improvement techniques. Each session includes hands-on exercises where participants will develop audit reports and recommendations, providing tangible outputs that demonstrate their learning and application of concepts. By engaging in collaborative activities, participants will also enhance their communication skills, ensuring they can effectively convey audit findings and recommendations to stakeholders. The focus on practical application ensures that participants can immediately implement their new skills in their workplace, thereby increasing the overall value of the internal audit function.



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Course objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:
• Analyse organisational risks to determine audit priorities and focus areas.
• Design audit plans that align with strategic objectives and stakeholder needs.
• Assess internal controls and identify areas for process improvement.
• Communicate audit findings effectively to stakeholders, ensuring clarity and actionability.
• Construct value-added recommendations based on audit results and best practices.
• Evaluate the impact of audit recommendations on organisational performance.

Target audience

This course is suitable for:
• Internal Auditors seeking to enhance their professional skills and impact.
• Audit Managers responsible for leading audit teams and aligning audits with business strategy.
• Compliance Officers aiming to integrate compliance into broader organisational goals.
• Risk Managers focused on identifying and mitigating risks through effective audits.

Target competencies

Participants will develop competencies in:
• Conducting comprehensive risk assessments to inform audit planning.
• Developing strategic audit plans that align with organisational objectives.
• Implementing process improvement methodologies within audit practices.
• Communicating audit findings and recommendations to diverse stakeholders.
• Evaluating the effectiveness of internal controls and risk management processes.
• Facilitating workshops to engage stakeholders in the audit process.

Course outline

Day 1: Understanding the Value of Internal Audit

Applied activity: Participants will assess their organisation's current audit practices against a value creation framework. They will identify gaps and opportunities for improvement through group discussions, analysis, and presentations to peers, fostering collaborative learning.
Output: A gap analysis report highlighting areas for enhancing audit value.

09:00–09:54	Defining the role of internal audit in value creation and stakeholder engagement.
09:54–10:48	Identifying key stakeholders and their expectations for audit contributions.



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10:48–11:00	Exploring the relationship between risk management and audit effectiveness.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Exploring the relationship between risk management and audit effectiveness. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Understanding the audit process lifecycle and its impact on organisational performance.
13:06–14:00	Assessing the current state of internal audit in your organisation and identifying improvement areas.

Day 2: Risk Assessment and Audit Planning

Applied activity: In groups, participants will develop a risk-based audit plan for a fictional organisation. They will consider stakeholder input and strategic objectives, presenting their plans to the class for feedback and discussion, enhancing collaborative skills.
Output: A comprehensive risk-based audit plan document with stakeholder engagement strategies.

09:00–09:54	Conducting comprehensive risk assessments to inform audit priorities and focus areas.
09:54–10:48	Utilising risk assessment tools and techniques to evaluate organisational risks.
10:48–11:00	Aligning audit plans with organisational strategy and stakeholder needs.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Aligning audit plans with organisational strategy and stakeholder needs. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Engaging stakeholders in the audit planning process for better alignment.
13:06–14:00	Developing a risk-based audit plan that addresses identified risks.

Day 3: Enhancing Audit Processes

Applied activity: Participants will analyse a fictional audit process, identify inefficiencies, and propose improvements using process improvement methodologies. They will present their findings to peers for feedback, encouraging critical thinking and collaborative learning.
Output: A process improvement proposal with actionable recommendations and metrics for success.

09:00–09:54	Identifying inefficiencies in existing audit processes and areas for improvement.
09:54–10:48	Applying process improvement methodologies (e.g., Lean, Six Sigma) to audit practices.
10:48–11:00	Integrating technology into the audit process for efficiency and effectiveness.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Integrating technology into the audit process for efficiency and effectiveness. (continued)



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12:12–13:06	Developing metrics to measure audit effectiveness and impact on the organisation.
13:06–14:00	Creating a culture of continuous improvement within audit teams and processes.

Day 4: Effective Communication of Audit Findings

Applied activity: Participants will create and present an audit report based on a fictional audit scenario. They will focus on clarity, stakeholder engagement, and actionable recommendations, followed by a Q&A session to enhance understanding and communication skills.
Output: A presentation of the audit report with feedback from peers and facilitators.

09:00–09:54	Understanding the importance of clear communication in audits and its impact on stakeholders.
09:54–10:48	Developing effective audit reports and presentations tailored to various audiences.
10:48–11:00	Utilising storytelling techniques to convey audit findings and recommendations.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Utilising storytelling techniques to convey audit findings and recommendations. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Engaging stakeholders in discussions about audit results to foster collaboration.
13:06–14:00	Practicing active listening and feedback techniques to enhance communication.

Day 5: Integrating Audit Recommendations for Value Creation

Applied activity: In teams, participants will develop an action plan for implementing audit recommendations from a fictional audit. They will include stakeholder engagement strategies and success metrics, presenting their plans to the class for collaborative evaluation.
Output: An actionable implementation plan with defined metrics for success and stakeholder involvement.

09:00–09:54	Evaluating the impact of audit recommendations on organisational performance and strategic goals.
09:54–10:48	Developing actionable plans for implementing audit recommendations effectively.
10:48–11:00	Facilitating workshops to engage stakeholders in the implementation process and gather feedback.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Facilitating workshops to engage stakeholders in the implementation process and gather feedback. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Measuring the success of implemented recommendations through defined metrics.
13:06–14:00	Creating a feedback loop for continuous improvement and future audits.



Course content

The timings provided are estimates and may vary depending on the number of participants and the discussions taking place during the sessions. They are indicative only and do not constitute a binding commitment.

Dates, venues and fees

Current published course plans. Fees are per participant in EUR, excluding unconfirmed taxes.

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Istanbul Confirmed dates	9 Nov 2026	13 Nov 2026	**€2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	9 Nov 2026	13 Nov 2026	**€1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	**€2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	**€1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	30 Nov 2026	4 Dec 2026	**€2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	30 Nov 2026	4 Dec 2026	**€1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**€2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**€1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
London Confirmed dates	14 Dec 2026	18 Dec 2026	**€2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	14 Dec 2026	18 Dec 2026	**€1,250.–**
Dubai Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**€3,150.–**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**€1,250.–**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	25 Jan 2027	29 Jan 2027	**€2,650.–**
Online Confirmed dates	25 Jan 2027	29 Jan 2027	**€1,250.–**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	8 Feb 2027	12 Feb 2027	**€1,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Feb 2027	12 Feb 2027	**€1,250.–**
Paris Confirmed dates	22 Feb 2027	26 Feb 2027	**€2,860.–**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Online Confirmed dates	22 Feb 2027	26 Feb 2027	**€1,250.-**
Barcelona Confirmed dates	1 Mar 2027	5 Mar 2027	**€2,840.-**
Online Confirmed dates	1 Mar 2027	5 Mar 2027	**€1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**€2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Mar 2027	12 Mar 2027	**€1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	22 Mar 2027	26 Mar 2027	**€2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Mar 2027	26 Mar 2027	**€1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	12 Apr 2027	16 Apr 2027	**€2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	12 Apr 2027	16 Apr 2027	**€1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Vienna Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**€2,940.–**
Online Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**€1,250.–**
London Confirmed dates	26 Apr 2027	30 Apr 2027	**€2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	26 Apr 2027	30 Apr 2027	**€1,250.–**
Dubai Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**€3,150.–**
Online Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**€1,250.–**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**€2,650.–**
Online Confirmed dates	24 May 2027	28 May 2027	**€1,250.–**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**€1,450.–**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Online Confirmed dates	14 Jun 2027	18 Jun 2027	**€1,250.–**
Paris Confirmed dates	21 Jun 2027	25 Jun 2027	**€2,860.–**
Online Confirmed dates	21 Jun 2027	25 Jun 2027	**€1,250.–**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	28 Jun 2027	2 Jul 2027	**€1,890.–**
Online Confirmed dates	28 Jun 2027	2 Jul 2027	**€1,250.–**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	12 Jul 2027	16 Jul 2027	**€2,650.–**
Online Confirmed dates	12 Jul 2027	16 Jul 2027	**€1,250.–**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	26 Jul 2027	30 Jul 2027	**€2,540.–**
Online Confirmed dates	26 Jul 2027	30 Jul 2027	**€1,250.–**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Singapore Confirmed dates	9 Aug 2027	13 Aug 2027	**€2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	9 Aug 2027	13 Aug 2027	**€1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	23 Aug 2027	27 Aug 2027	**€2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	23 Aug 2027	27 Aug 2027	**€1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	30 Aug 2027	3 Sept 2027	**€2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	30 Aug 2027	3 Sept 2027	**€1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	13 Sept 2027	17 Sept 2027	**€3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	13 Sept 2027	17 Sept 2027	**€1,250.-**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**€2,650.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Online Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**€1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**€1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Oct 2027	15 Oct 2027	**€1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	18 Oct 2027	22 Oct 2027	**€1,890.-**
Online Confirmed dates	18 Oct 2027	22 Oct 2027	**€1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	25 Oct 2027	29 Oct 2027	**€2,860.-**
Online Confirmed dates	25 Oct 2027	29 Oct 2027	**€1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	8 Nov 2027	12 Nov 2027	**€2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	8 Nov 2027	12 Nov 2027	**€1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (EUR)
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**€2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**€1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**€2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**€1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	13 Dec 2027	17 Dec 2027	**€2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	13 Dec 2027	17 Dec 2027	**€1,250.-**



Course content

Plan your next step

Dates, availability, exact venue, taxes, inclusions and payment terms require written confirmation. This brochure is not a quotation, registration, booking confirmation or visa invitation. Participants receive a Smart Horizon certificate of attendance; programmes are not externally accredited and do not award a professional qualification or designation. Confirm arrangements before booking travel.

For group or in-house training, contact our learning team to discuss your objectives and delivery arrangements.

Contact Smart Horizon

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