

Demystifying Cryptocurrencies



This is a foundation, introductory or refresher knowledge-based course. The course is also suitable for individuals wishing to “top-up” their knowledge by understanding the basic requirements and principles of good corporate governance. It provides insights to the breadth of the topic, its interconnectedness with culture and the need for defined roles and responsibilities.

Course Component (inc. hours)		Takeaways	Learning Objectives
Unit 1 – Introduction	30 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand how financial services and technologies interact• Recognise the benefits and opportunities of technology• Explore perceptions of financial crime and technology	Financial services and technology – Appreciate the relationship between financial services and technology is dynamic and comprises both risks and opportunities.
Unit 2 – Distributed ledger technologies	15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess the benefits of DLT• Explore how DLT work• Identify DLT’s use in financial services	Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLT) – Increase your understanding of exactly how DLT works, through the use of interactive graphics.
Unit 3 – Blockchains	50 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differentiate between different network components• Understand how consensus algorithms are used• Explain key features such as hashing, Merkle trees and mining	Blockchain – Explore what blockchain means and the components that make it up. Examine the ways that blockchains are used and demystifying the complex terminology associated with them, using current examples.

Course Component (inc. hours)		Takeaways	Learning Objectives
Unit 4 – Cryptocurrencies	50 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the features that make cryptocurrencies attractive to criminals • Deep dive into Bitcoin to explain it and its role in transactions • Recognise other cryptoassets and describe their features 	Cryptocurrencies – Analysing key areas such as the relationship between crypto and fiat currencies, their appeal to criminals. Bitcoin is explored as a prime example, with illustrated interactions unpicking how it is made up and how transactions using it work.
Unit 5 – Solutions to managing risk from crypto assets	35 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detect potential risks of cryptocurrencies • Adopt techniques to reduce financial crime through technology • Understand the regulatory landscape 	Crypto assets and their risks – Taking the learning from the rest of the course and applying it to understanding risk associated with cryptocurrencies and how it can be managed, including techniques for using technology to reduce financial crime.