

Team Courses and Online Courses

For All Internal Audit, Assurance, Compliance, Risk
and Governance Teams

Catalogue

Our most popular training courses appears in this catalogue; however, we can also provide other learning programmes or customisation of courses on request.

Please note: we do not feature any open public course in this catalogue, hence there are no public courses dates. In-house courses are run at mutually agreed dates and all our online self-study courses are completely flexible and can be undertaken at any time.

Course Updates

We update our courses regularly, and completion of any of our courses will result in a certificate to help you meet your **CPD/CPE** requirements.

Training for Individuals

For individuals who want the flexibility of learning at their own pace, we provide a range of interactive and practical online learning units via our state-of-the-art cloud-based platform.

Training for Groups

Where you have a team of five or more delegates with similar needs, we deliver training to your team using TEAMS, ZOOM or WEBEX video conferencing. This avoids the need for travel and accommodation (for both presenter and delegates) and helps you to match training to your budget and work timetable.

Content Creation

If you need self-hosted in-house online training, then our team can design and create online content to be hosted on your own Learning Management System.

Share

Please help promote training, as others have done before, by circulating this catalogue in soft copy form to your colleagues.

For more information, including costs for group learning, please contact us:

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Part 1: Virtual Classroom Instructor-led Training

In this part of the catalogue, you will see the courses that we are most often requested **for in-house groups** using virtual conferencing software TEAMS, ZOOM or WEBEX. These courses run on dates mutually agreed between us and you.

All courses are designed by Mindgrove's team of experienced audit and risk specialists, and we regularly blend elements from courses, both instructor-led and online, to create unique training programmes.

Part 1: Virtual Classroom Instructor-led Training

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Engagement

On many occasions and dependent on course context, we may offer supplementary online self-paced training or testing to augment the training delivered via virtual conferencing.

CPD/CPE

All our instructor-led virtual classroom courses and online courses deliver CPD/CPE credits.

More for less

If you compare our video conferencing-based instructor-led training to conventional face-to-face training, you will be in for a pleasant surprise.

Learning via virtual classroom eliminates the cost of venue hire, travelling to training locations and the cost of overnight accommodation for your staff or the training presenter.

Pricing

Contact us for prices of virtual classroom-based courses, as these will be specific to your requirements and the number of delegates involved.

However, you can anticipate that the costs will be significantly lower than for open public courses.

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM INSTRUCTOR-LED TRAINING

THE CHANGING WORLD – AI & MACHINE LEARNING – 1 DAY	5
THE AUDIT OF STRATEGY – 1 DAY - KEY TOPIC FOR 2026	6
IMPROVING AUDIT EFFICIENCY – 1 DAY	7
CULTURE, ETHICS AND VALUES – 1 DAY	8
THE AUDIT OF CONDUCT RISK – 1 DAY	8
AUDITING TRANSFORMATION, PROJECTS AND CHANGE – 1 DAY	9
AUDITING PROJECTS, PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PROJECT RISK – 2 DAYS	10
AUDITING CONTRACTS, OUTSOURCING AND PROCUREMENT – 2 DAYS.....	12
AUDIT REPORT WRITING – 1 DAY	14
DEALING WITH DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS AND CHALLENGING SITUATIONS – 1 DAY	15
INTERNAL AUDIT DATA ANALYTICS – ‘HANDS ON’ – 1 DAY	17
CYBERCRIME AND CYBER CRISIS MANAGEMENT – 1 DAY.....	18
IT AUDITING – BASECAMP – RISK-BASED IT AUDITING – 3 DAYS	18

The Changing World – Artificial Intelligence, Robotics & Machine Learning – 1 day

The Media has been filling our screens with news of robots taking over the world and disrupting our way of life. The course will tune you in to current developments and suggest how internal audit functions may adjust to a new reality.

Who should attend?

Open to everyone, no technical knowledge is necessary.

What will I learn?

Upon completion you will be able to:

- Understand developments stemming from innovative technologies;
- Understand how auditing these technologies may be both simple and complex; and
- Understand how audit might have to change to adjust to a new reality.

The course is accompanied by an indexed manual that includes full course text and examples.

Course programme

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, ROBOTICS & MACHINE LEARNING – WHAT ARE THESE TECHNOLOGIES?

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) – what is it and how does it work?
- Examples of AI – how advanced are today's AI systems?
- What are the predictions for AI?
- What are the issues for AI?
- Machine Learning – what is it and how does it work?
- Examples of Machine Learning and how far can Machine Learning go?
- What are the issues for Machine Learning?
- Robotics – what sort of robots exist outside of the movies?
- What are the issues that will need to be dealt with in Robotics?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, ROBOTICS & MACHINE LEARNING – HOW MIGHT THESE BE AUDITED?

- How do I know what instances of AI, Robotics and Machine Learning are designed to do?
- How do I know what control structures have been built into solutions?
- What documentation and process guides might I get?
- How do designers and engineers work with AI, Robotics and Machine Learning test their creations?
- Can I replicate or duplicate what the designers and engineers are doing in testing?
- How could I conduct my own independent tests?
- What if I find risks that are hard to quantify or express?
- How might controls be fixed if I uncover un-remediated risks?
- How can I audit a system that is constantly learning or changing?
- Can I get independent assurances from other sources?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, ROBOTICS & MACHINE LEARNING – HOW MIGHT THESE CHANGE THE AUDIT ROLE?

- What does an auditor do that might be better done by machine?
- What might an auditor do that could be better aided by intelligent systems?
- Will we still need auditors in the future?

An online version of this course is available for self-study – see the second half of this catalogue.

The Audit of Strategy – 1 day – key topic for 2026

Success or failure of an organisation's chosen strategies has an enormous impact on the organisation's reputation, longevity, performance and the confidence of its stakeholders. This intensive short course provides an ideal introduction to the complex subject of auditing strategy and strategic risk.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all.

What will you learn?

After completion you will be able to:

- Identify the critical differences between strategic objectives and other types of organisational objective;
- Understand strategic plans, business cases and how strategy can be measured; and
- Be able to undertake an audit of organisational strategy.

The course is accompanied by a manual that contains course notes, examples, and a work programme.

Course programme

ABOUT STRATEGY

- What constitutes strategy – how do you define strategy?
- Why do organisations need to articulate strategy if they are already successful?
- What is the difference between strategic risk and other types of risk?
- How do you measure strategic outcomes?
- Why should auditors bother themselves with organisational strategy?

AUDITING STRATEGY

- Is auditing strategy any different from auditing any other process?
- Auditing strategic objectives and strategic plans – what should I examine?
- How strategic objectives are created and set – what is the process?
- How to assess initial strategic risk: good and bad strategies; tangible and intangible business cases; costs – benefits – and measurable outputs and outcomes
- Key targets, critical success factors and other indicators of strategic progress
- Factoring in complexity – dealing with the unknown or uncontrollable risks
- Locating and uncovering the unintended effects of strategic choices
- Strategy reassessment and measuring of variance
- Auditing strategies mid-term
- Auditing strategy post completion yields
- Lessons learnt from strategic failure

Improving Audit Efficiency – 1 day

This course highlights ideas, tools, processes, and strategies to help you to improve your efficiency as an audit team and help you improve the value and business relevance of your work.

Who is this course for?

This intensive course is open to all-comers.

What will you learn?

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

- Use techniques to improve both the efficiency and relevance of internal audit;
- Execute proven strategies to help optimise the audit process;
- Deploy thoughtful techniques and tools to help improve audit engagement and performance;
- Overall, grasp and explore the evolution of internal audit.

Delegates will spend a large amount of course time dealing with the realities of auditing. The course is accompanied by a manual that has detailed course notes, examples, and practical work.

Course programme

HOW AUDIT IS EVOLVING – AGILE AND FLEXIBLE APPROACHES

- Can we transpose AGILE into an audit context?
- Key questions and ideas for exploration by the Audit Team
- Delivering better value
- Making better connections with management
- Further application of AGILE – consultative approaches
- Optimising workflow – LEAN – disintermediation and creating flow
- Alternative workflows – efficiency and speeding up decision-making

TOOLS THAT DELIVER VALUE AND ENGAGEMENT: VISUAL IMAGERY

- Why use process models as part of the audit process?
- Uncovering a story, a bit at a time
- An internal audit ‘house style’ theme for process maps
- Process mapping to help focus on the most likely risks
- Process quantification using ordinary tools
- Using specialist mapping software with calculating capabilities
- Drawing management into the conversation using imagery
- Getting the best out of your time: interviewing and imagery

TOOLS AND PRACTICES THAT CAN IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF AUDIT INFLUENCING

- Tools to aid conversation – data analytic functions and Power BI
- Tools to aid retrieval of text from documents
- Tools to aid fuzzy data matching
- Tools for speech to text
- Tools to help paperless working

TECHNIQUES THAT TARGET THE REPORT WRITING PROCESS

- Superior design sells conclusions faster
- Report writing quality improvements – self checking guidelines
- Checklist for executive summaries
- Checklist before final distribution
- Report writing speed improvements – sparse reporting – use of AI

Culture, Ethics and Values – 1 day

The culture, ethics and the values that organisations claim to champion often conflict with the actions that they execute in practice. This is because establishments struggle to recognise, check, or deal with behaviours or actions that are different to those claimed. This course takes this difficult and challenging subject and helps to turn the invisible into the visible.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all.

What will you learn?

After completion, you will be able to:

- Identify and explore the differences between culture, ethics, and value;
- Understand how culture, ethics and value can be assessed; and
- Undertake an audit of culture, ethics, and values within your organisation.

This course is accompanied by a manual that has course notes, examples, and practical exercises.

Course programme

ABOUT CULTURE, ETHICS AND VALUES

- Culture, ethics, and values – are these different words for the same thing?
- Culture, ethics and values - how do behaviour and these three areas intertwine?
- Do you have only one culture in an organisation?
- What is the culture-behaviour pyramid?
- Culture, ethics, and value - what are the key issues that are found?
- What is meant by integrity, transparency, sharing and respect?
- Reliance on risk management to drive appropriate behaviour – does this work?

AUDITING RISK CULTURE, ETHICS AND VALUES

- An overall approach – who to talk to, what to look at, what to look for?
- What is expected, what should be reviewed?
- Do behaviours apply to all, what should be reviewed?
- How do we differentiate between high and low-risk behaviour, what should be reviewed?
- Who challenges the organisation's approach, what should be reviewed?
- The ephemeral, what should be reviewed?
- What are the people stressors that affect their behaviour, what should be reviewed?
- How do third parties interoperate with the organisation, what should be reviewed?
- How do we manage customers, what should be reviewed?
- How does changing corporate strategy impact culture, what should be reviewed?
- What to do with evidence that is intangible?
- What to do with evidence that gives rise to concern?

Auditing Transformations, Change and Projects – 2 day

Organisations are moving rapidly to digitise and enhance their operations. This includes migrating data, adopting cloud services, and coordinating multiple teams toward a shared objective.

This course uniquely brings together the key issues, risks, and practical ideas involved in evaluating major, complex initiatives. It provides an intelligent, structured approach to help auditors confidently navigate this challenging area.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all.

What will you learn?

On completion you will know how to investigate these questions:

- What lessons have been learnt from past experiences surrounding complex initiatives?
- Is it better to replace or augment an existing system? What are the challenges of transitioning to a new environment? Does the scale and type of change affect success?
- How might change impact availability and integrity of other unconnected operations?
- What are the issues when a transition involves third parties or cloud based environments?
- What are the risks when migrating data from an old to a new platform – how do we ensure that data is not lost?
- What are the expectations for digital operational resilience and the support of services?
- How might day-to-day working environments change and how do staff transition to new working arrangements?
- What type of testing gives confidence in a new system? What are the risks with different approaches to implementation: big bang, stepwise, evolutionary?

This course will be accompanied by a training manual containing full course text and practical advice.

Course programme

THE WORLD OF TRANSFORMATION, CHANGE AND PROJECTS?

- How do these three elements relate to each other
- What lessons have been learned from past complex initiatives

THE AUDIT ROLE

- Where does audit fit into this world of complex changes
- What do we mean by 'foresight' and 'strategic understanding'
- What might we challenge, verify, assess and review?

INITIATIVES

- Is it better to augment or replace what we have? How should the decision be made?
- What might be the impact on operations unconnected with the change? What do we mean by 'Blast radius'
- What might be the issues when dealing with third parties or cloud based solutions? What could and should be done about them?
- What are the risks when migrating data from an old to a new platform? How can these be controlled?
- What are the expectations for digital operational resilience by stakeholders and customers? What should we do in order to comply?
- What are the implications of change on working methods and on staff? What is a cause for concern and what should we do about it?

Auditing Projects, Project Management and Project Risk – 2 days

Failure of a project can have a massive impact on an organisation's reputation and the confidence of its stakeholders. This course gives a good introduction to projects and project risk for any auditor.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all and is intended for auditors that are less familiar with project auditing.

What will you learn?

Upon completion you will be able to:

- Understand the language of projects and programmes;
- Review the roles and services that support programmes and projects;
- Understand project decision making and different approaches to managing projects;
- Evaluate the risks associated with projects and programmes;
- Plan for project and programme audits using realistic engagement strategies; and
- Execute project audits at the beginning, middle and end stages of project and programmes.

The course is accompanied by an indexed manual that has course text, examples, and practical work.

Course programme

THE BASICS – MANAGING SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

- The vocabulary of projects, key roles, and key governance structures
- Project management methods ranging from the formal to the informal, from Waterfall to AGILE
- Can all projects be executed using the same approach?
- Project diversity – different project management approaches depending on the nature of the project
- How projects and programmes put organisations at risk

AUDITING PROJECTS OVERALL

- The auditor's involvement in projects – driven by risk
- Allowing for the project team's approach – formal or Agile?
- A multi-audit requirement

PROJECT INITIATION – WHAT CAN BE REVIEWED?

- How projects are initiated
- Good and bad business cases: the tangible and intangible; costs and benefits
- Key targets, critical success factors and indicators
- Project plans: the slim and the detailed, what might be vital?
- Auditing project plans – what can I do look at?
- I only have limited resources – what could I look at?
- I have more time – what could I look at?

TEAMS AND PEOPLE – WHAT CAN BE REVIEWED?

- Risks associated with speed of working, amount of work and stress
- Risks to do with communication and quality
- Auditing people factors – does culture and behaviour matter, do I comment?

PROJECTS GOING ADRIFT – WHAT CAN BE REVIEWED?

- Risk management within and between projects
- Better risk registers
- Dealing with expanding time and costs
- Dealing with change and quality management
- Plan reassessment and reappraisal
- Auditing mid–stage projects – are targets being met?
- Auditing mid–stage projects – what decisions are being made?
- Auditing mid–stage projects – why are these choices being made?

PROJECTS: TESTING, ROLLOUT, AND COMPLETION – WHAT CAN BE REVIEWED?

- Testing and acceptance – what are critical?
- Rollout what are the choices?
- Auditing end–stage projects – are we operationally ready?
- Auditing end–stage projects – are controls embedded in the structure?
- Auditing end–stage projects – can we deal with contingency?

BENEFIT AND OUTCOMES – WHAT CAN BE REVIEWED?

- Checking benefits and outcomes
- Deciding on project contributions
- Measuring success and failure
- Post project reviews and lessons extraction
- Auditing – post–implementation – did we achieve what we set out to do?

An online version of this course is available for self-study – see the second half of this catalogue.

Auditing Contracts, Outsourcing and Procurement – 1 or 2 days

In the news you see organisations being criticised for their mediocre performance in the handling of contractors. When your organisation decides to outsource activities or infrastructure, uncertainties over delivery, cost and quality become a key threat. This course highlights best practice and steers you through the audit of contracting, outsourcing or procurement activities.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all – the course has a major focus on contract and outsourcing management practices and a minor focus on procurement or tendering processes.

What will you learn?

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

- Appreciate how putting the right contract in place helps avoid future pitfalls when you collaborate with contractors;
- Understand and use best-practice knowledge for checking outsourcing operations; and
- Understand the weak points that cause outsourcing and contracting to end up as contentious issues.

This course is accompanied by a manual that includes full briefing notes.

Course programme

CREATING THE RIGHT CONTRACT – WHAT SHOULD I LOOK AT?

- Due diligence – is this only about money?
- Duration of contracts – long or short which is best?
- Assets, warranties, and survivorship – matters beyond the contract?
- Main contractors and sub-contractors – the supply chain
- Invoicing, payments, and performance
- Contract and relationship management

CONTRACT LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT – WHAT DOES GOOD LOOK LIKE?

- The contract and outsourcing life cycle
- Strategy decisions, the business case and analysis of the requirement
- Key preparations before tendering or negotiation begins
- Going to the market with a sound case
- Striking the deal
- Transitioning to new arrangements
- Day to day management of the contract
- End of contract

AUDITING NEWLY STRUCK OUTSOURCING OR SUPPLY CONTRACTS

- Is there a proper framework for contract and relationship management?
- Are our staff trained and in role?
- What are the key matters that need to be understood by our team?
- What are the areas that cause difficulty – teething problems?
- What about communications between both sides?
- What about invoicing, performance tracking and payment?
- Is there an effective way of setting up performance indicators?
- Can performance monitoring be counterproductive?
- What about risk management - are our risk registers complete?
- What if we want to stop the contract because of underperformance?

AUDITING MID-MATURITY OUTSOURCING OR SUPPLY CONTRACTS

- Is contract and relationship management working?
- Is the right business outcome being delivered?
- Is incentivisation working?
- Does the contract measure up to expectations?
- Can more be obtained from the contract?
- Are we still communicating?
- What if the contractor or we want to exit the contract?

AUDITING END-OF-LIFE OUTSOURCING OR SUPPLY CONTRACTS

- Was the business case delivered?
- Was the contract good value-for-money?
- What did we learn from the contract?
- Should we extend, in-source or re-tender?
- Exit strategies – what are our options?

AUDITING PROCUREMENT PROCESSES – THE APPROACH

- Management and the procurement process
- Controls over procurement
- Tendering processes
- On-going due diligence
- Evaluation of value delivered.

Audit Report Writing – 1 day

This one-day event, designed by auditors for auditors, provides a stimulating introduction to audit report writing. The heart of the day is in the correct presentation and sequencing of observations and findings to create compelling content. The goal is to produce reports that contribute significant value.

Who is this course for?

This practical course is open to everyone but is most suited to those with less report writing experience. This course does not set out to teach spelling or grammar.

What will you learn?

After completion, you will be able to:

- Write a report using information that meets target audiences' requirements;
- Deploy a structure for writing up observations that maximise acceptance of the audit viewpoint; and
- Apply strategies to maximise conciseness and improve readability.
- Consider AI as a helper feature.

This course is accompanied by an indexed manual that includes full course text, examples, and strategies for use in audit report writing on return to work.

Course programme

COURSE INTRODUCTION

- Good and bad reporting
- Take care of what is important!

AUDIENCE AND FRAMEWORK: EMPATHY WITH YOUR AUDIENCE

- The target audience
- Structure of audit reports
- Style expectations
- Amount of Detail
- Action Plans
- Process-enhancements
- Corrective action taken during the audit
- Integrating writing into the audit process – synergy
- The universal five C's approach – for recording issues
- The condition
- The criterion or comparator
- The consequence (the impact)
- The cause
- Causes – include root and secondary considerations
- The conclusion (recommendation + action or action plan)
- Use of words
- Co-operative conclusions
- Prioritisation of recommendations
- Quality Check on Detailed Findings

Please note that there are numerous variations of this course, depending on organisational report structuring.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

- Top level information
- Audit and scope statements
- Introductions in executive summaries
- Audit opinions

CONCISENESS, PRECISENESS AND READABILITY

- Phrasing
- Jargon
- Check spelling and structure

AI AND REPORT WRITING

- What is helpful and useful?
- What skills should you retain?
- What might cause problems?

An online version of this course is available for self-study – see the second half of this catalogue.

Dealing with Difficult Conversations and Challenging Situations – 1 day

Another day in the office and another pushback occurs – sounds familiar? Most internal auditors meet non-co-operative subjects, managers that challenge their work, or staff that do not want to listen. This course gives you ten core strategies to deploy to help keep **you** in the driving seat.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all.

What will you learn?

Upon completion you will be able to:

- Keep calm and in control of demanding situations;
- Save energy and time in reaching agreements; and
- Understand better how to deal with difficult human beings.

The course is accompanied by a manual that contains key course notes.

Course programme

CORE STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH CHALLENGING SITUATIONS

- What is acceptable and what crosses the line – distinguishing between challenging and threatening behaviours?
- How proven behavioural strategies help you deal with tense situations
 - Strategy 1: Foundation tactics – sending out positive messages
 - Strategy 2: Making connections – people like people, like themselves
 - Strategy 3: Building trust between people – confidentiality and sharing
 - Strategy 4: Influencing – three ways of helping a less co-operative person to agree to something
 - Strategy 5: Persuasive writing – time for a different approach?
 - Strategy 6: Influencing to respond positively – reciprocity and social proof
 - Strategy 7: Listening intelligently – helping you to stay on top of things
 - Strategy 8: Location – how the meeting place can help or hinder your situation
 - Strategy 9: Defusing pushback – the iFeel approach and how to avoid the game – ‘yes, but...’

An online version of this course is available for self-study – see the second half of this catalogue.

Internal Audit Data Analytics – ‘hands on’ – 1 day

Internal auditors only use a fraction of the capability of software that sits on their PC. This course shows how to get the most out of Excel and is particularly useful for the controls testing phase of an audit.

Who should attend?

This course is open to all, and you will need access to a device that can run MS EXCEL so that you can work with supplied test data.

What will you learn?

After completion, you will be able to:

- Check up to 100% of the data available to you electronically;
- Put vital components of Office to work in the most efficient manner; and
- Manage data to create persuasive results during the fieldwork phase of an audit.

The course is accompanied by a manual that has course text and a practice data to take away.

Course programme - abbreviated

DATA ANALYTICS AND HANDLING – WORKING DIRECTLY WITH EXCEL

- Checking spreadsheet integrity – common sources of error
- Re-performance and virtual calculations – a key audit skill
- Excel statistics – what do you get out of the box?
- Filtering and stratification – how to do it?
- Pivot tables, Pivot charts and Slicers – what are they and how do they help?
- Creating an audit workpaper within Excel
- Simple and complex sortation, sorting by other than value

DATA ANALYTICS AND HANDLING – EXTRAS THROUGH EXCEL

- Fuzzy data matching – an explanation of how the tool works and how to acquire it
- Replicating what other paid-for software can do by substituting EXCEL
- Formulae – simple examples of how they work and how to put them into use

DATA GRAPHICS – COLOUR AND IMAGERY THROUGH EXCEL

- Conditional formatting – correct, incorrect, high and low values, special searches
- Using colour, icons, and thematic schemes
- Creating charts – what might be suitable?
- Embedding charts and images in your reports

EXTERNAL DATA SOURCES

- Connecting with external data – why do this?
- Data import into EXCEL from text, tables, proprietary databases, external websites
- The JET engine and MSQRY
- Creating a query from tables and fields and editing
- Editing queries using Power Editor and bringing results into EXCEL
- Transforming data and creating transformation rules
- Interacting with data sources to refresh data
- A helping hand from AI

Cybercrime and Cyber Crisis management – 1 day

High-profile technology issues are always in the news – a business being hacked, a company being stopped in its tracks because it is under attack, or somebody coming to harm because of a ‘fake’ or stolen identity. This course will help you better understand cybercrime and about the IT controls that should be in place to help protect your organisation.

Who should attend?

All are welcome to attend - including internal auditors who do not have any specialist IT auditing skills.

What will I learn?

Upon completion you will be able to:

- Understand more about the current nature of cyber-threats; and
- Know more about how the organisation can and should defend itself.

The course is accompanied by a manual that has full course text and useful guidance.

Course programme

CYBERCRIME ATTACKS ON CRITICAL BUSINESS AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

- What type of attacks are taking place and who has come to serious harm?
- Won't security software and IT specialists keep attackers out?
- Are there standards and best practices to deal with the problem?
- Configure best practice security across all devices and networks
- Best practice: vulnerability scanning
- Manage change in line with best practices, and patch systems rapidly
- Train – so that ordinary users are prepared
- Train – so that more specialist users know the symptoms of a potential attack

CYBER CRISIS MANAGEMENT

- Should we assume that we will be breached?
- What must we do – to deal with a cybercrime incident?
- Security incident detection and management
- Forensic evidence collection capabilities
- Preventing cyber problems – key review themes for auditors
- Theme 1: Culture from the top and from senior management
- Theme 2: Establishing the existence of best practice
- Theme 3: The testing of key cybercrime controls
- Theme 4: Third party considerations
- Theme 5: The proactive adaptation of new controls as needed
- Theme 6: Learning lessons from (the failings of) other organisations

An online version of this course is available for self-study – see the second half of this catalogue.

IT Auditing Base Camp – 2 or 3 days

If you have not conducted an IT audit before, or you have only been involved in a couple of IT audits, then this course is the ideal starting point. It aligns to the latest standards and best practice approaches and is updated each year to keep pace with emerging technology. The course will enable you to confidently perform a review of the impact of technology on your organisation.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to all but is best suited to those with limited IT Audit experience.

What will you learn?

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

- Understand the approach to IT Auditing and relevant best practices;
- Review best practice and regulations that affect IT Systems;
- Review application systems;
- Review systems under development;
- Review configuration and change management;
- Review physical security;
- Review logical security;
- Review contingency and continuity plans; and
- Perform basic network reviews.

The course is accompanied by an extensive indexed manual that contains full course text, examples, and practical work.

Course programme

IT AUDITING

- Introduction to IT auditing
- The IT auditor and risk-based auditing how they fit together
- High-level IT risks: Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability and Accountability
- Low-level risk connecting to high-level risk
- Creating, scoping, and documenting IT audit work

WORKING TO STANDARDS, BEST PRACTICES, AND THE LAW

- Governance: ISO/IEC 38500:2008 - what should be reviewed?
- COBIT, ITIL and ISO 27000 – what are these?
- PCI standard - what should be reviewed?
- Data Privacy - what should be reviewed?
- Other relevant legislation - what should be reviewed?

AUDITING LIVE SYSTEMS – USING A RISK-BASED APPROACH

- Applications and the distribution of controls
- IT directive, preventative, detective, and corrective controls
- User constraint and oversight controls
- What to look for in controls designed to offset application business process risks

AUDITING SYSTEMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

- Software development life cycles, what should be reviewed?
- Prototyping - rapid application development – agile development methods

AUDITING IT CONFIGURATION AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT

- Configuration management - what should be reviewed?
- Change management - what should be reviewed?

AUDITING KEY BUILDING BLOCKS OF IT CONTROL

- Physical and environmental security - what should be reviewed?
- Logical access control: registration, identification, authentication, authorisation, and logging - what should be reviewed?
- The user community – finding them, extracting them
- Passwords and biometrics, what should be reviewed?
- Systems administration, granting permissions, rights, and privileges
- Common handling procedures related to logical access – discussion
- Event logging – journals – trails - reporting on user activity, what should be reviewed?
- Contingency and disaster avoidance including ISO 27031, what should be reviewed?
- Support options to supplement organisational capacity
- Maintaining and testing the plan

BASIC NETWORKING

- Network terminology and Network Diagrams
- LANs, WANs and WLANs
- Switches, Routers and Firewalls - what should be reviewed?
- VPNs and Encryption - protecting data flowing across a network
- Networks overall - what should be reviewed?

An online version of this course is available for self-study – see the second half of this catalogue.



Online Courses 2026

For Internal Audit, Assurance, Compliance, Risk
and Governance Teams

May 2026

Online Learning

In this part of the catalogue, you will see courses for self-study. These are available to individuals or groups of individuals from a date or dates that you choose – they are not linked to a pre-set or fixed calendar date.

Once you are registered on our system the assigned learning programme stays open for self-paced learning for a minimum of 45 days in the case of simple or short learning modules and up to 180 days for larger or more complex bundled programmes.

There is no daily set start time and you can start and stop as you want spreading the training over the time window as you choose.

Platform and Interface

Mindgrove's online learning is hosted on a high availability cloud platform called TALENT LMS. You can access it at any time, from anywhere and using any device – phone, tablet, or screen. The connection is encrypted, and any captured data related to progress is protected within the meaning of the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations).

You only need your normal browser software to gain access – no other software is needed.

Interaction and engagement

Practical interaction is associated with every module, and this comes in one of more forms:

Knowledge Checks: these operate in line with learning and test knowledge at a point in time. A typical module will have a knowledge check about every 10 - 15 minutes of study.

Quizzes: these are timed and scored tests. Quizzes may be inline or in separate modules. If a quiz has a pass mark your score mark will be displayed and you can review the correct answers for the quiz.

Case studies / Scenarios/Tutor Feedback: practical work that has to be completed by studying review material and then responding via a quiz or knowledge check. Some of our report writing courses come with a tutor feedback option.

Key notes: all courses provide downloadable supplementary softcopy containing key subject matter notes, definitions and terminology, and, typically, questions worth raising by internal auditors, compliance, risk or control teams in the context of the subject matter.

Fixed Price - Low costs

Online learning modules are charged at £40 (+VAT if applicable) per 'rated hour' of on-line study content. The rated hour for modules is the average time we would expect a learner to take to complete the study of that module.

CPD/CPE and course completion

On completion of an online module learners will be able to download a **personalised completion certificate** for their online study.

Booking and paying for an online learning

If you are interested in arranging online training for yourself or a group of colleagues, please get in touch by emailing us at training@mindgrove.co.uk.

We can generate an invoice that can be paid with a personal credit/debit card, or an invoice that can be paid by an organisation through the organisation's standard payment function or by a business debit/credit card. Once payment is made you can choose the start date for the training to be provided to individuals or groups.

Online Self-Paced, Bundled and Blended Learning

1. CONFIGURATION AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	24
2. LOGICAL ACCESS CONTROL: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	24
3. CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER AVOIDANCE: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS.....	25
4.NETWORKS: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	25
5. CLOUD BASED SERVICES: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	26
6. CYBER PREPAREDNESS AND VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	26
7. PROCESS AUTOMATION – ROBOTICS – AI: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	27
8. AUDITING FORMAL AND SEMI-FORMAL PROJECTS: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS.....	27
9. AGILE SOFTWARE PROJECT MANAGEMENT: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS	28
10. BS-01 THE LANGUAGE OF TECHNOLOGY: WATERFALL, AGILE AND LEAN	28
11. BUND IT AUDIT 01 – LEARNING DURATION AVERAGE 16.5 HOURS EQUIVALENT TO THREE DAYS TRAINING.....	29
12. BUND IT AUDIT 02 – LEARNING DURATION AVERAGE 12 HOURS EQUIVALENT TO TWO DAYS TRAINING.	29
13. BUND IT AUDIT 03 – LEARNING DURATION AVERAGE 10 HOURS EQUIVALENT TO ONE AND THREE QUARTER DAYS TRAINING.....	30
14. ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS.....	31
15. AUDITING CULTURE	31
16. DEALING WITH DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS AND CHALLENGING SITUATIONS.....	32
17. BS-02 GETTING MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT IN MEETINGS	32
18. GT:01 ADVICE FOR NEW MANAGERS OR TEAM LEADERS	33
19. BS-03 UNDERSTANDING AND DEALING WITH COGNITIVE BIAS	34
20. LP:1.0 AUDIT REPORT WRITING FUNDAMENTALS – A COURSE FOR INDIVIDUALS.....	35
21. LP: 2.0 AUDIT REPORT WRITING: EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES AND REPORT REVIEW – A SHORT COURSE THAT FOCUSES ON SUMMARY WRITING AND PEER REVIEW	36
22. BL: 3.0 INTRODUCTION TO IT AUDITING – PLUS TUTOR FOR TEAMS OF SIX OR MORE.....	37

IT Hot Topics

1. Configuration and Change Management: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

The stability of modern IT Systems is heavily dependent on making changes at the right point in time. Organisations need to move fast enough to benefit from a change, but not so quick as to permit untested changes to go into live operation. And, some organisations have rushed into change only to discover, with the cleverness of hindsight, that a little more checking could have averted a clumsy disaster.

The objective for this module: To help you understand and know how to audit IT Configuration and Change Management. This objective is important to help you reinforce Basic IT Audit knowledge; help you sell meaningful conclusions stemming from your IT Audits, and to assist your personal development in this critical area of technology.

The four lessons within this module explain what Configuration Management and Change Management set out to do and how these disciplines, when effectively managed, bring benefits to the organisation. The module also sets out the key questions that auditors and reviewers will want to explore.

The module includes a course notes summary and a key question list for auditors, includes a passing out quiz based on a case study scenario assessment task and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements. The course is aligned to ITIL - the best practice standard for service selection, delivery, and support.

Course: CCM-AUD-001 Duration: 1.0 hours Cost £40

2. Logical Access Control: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

Step up to any system and what happens next? You must log in. Place an order and what happens next? You get sent a code that you must enter from your phone. It is all part of logical access control, but what is going on behind the scenes? Understanding logical access control is key to the modern workplace and it is time to find out more about what is going on to help you audit this area.

The objective for this module: To help you understand the foundations of Logical Access Control and User Administration as a key risk prevention strategy for organisations, and to know how to go about auditing Logical Access Control.

This objective is important as it will help you build up your IT Audit knowledge and will help you sell meaningful conclusions stemming from your audits. The content is aligned to ISO 27002 - The Standard for Information Security.

The eight lessons within this module explore and explain the basics of Logical Access Control and show how it is part of a hosted multi-layer security approach within modern systems. It explains how systems Register, Identify, Authenticate and Authorise users before admitting them to live systems. It further introduces multi-factor security and biometrics, and the granting of access to application and database resources via roles and permissions and how the process of user administration should function. Finally, this module explores the creation and use of logs and event trails and the deployment of software that assists logical access control.

The module includes a course notes summary and a key question list for auditors, includes a passing out quiz based on a case study scenario assessment task and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: LAC-AUD-001 Duration: 2.0 hours Cost £80

3. Continuity Management and Disaster Avoidance: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

When disaster strikes or the system fails to start it is too late to start thinking about continuity or disaster preparedness. The disaster is upon you and hard evidence shows that organisations that are unprepared for disaster, rarely survive a disaster. This is a key area for audit attention.

The objective for this module: To provide an overview of the planning, creation, management and update of organisational continuity and disaster recovery processes, and an introduction to the key questions that need to be asked concerning organisational continuity and disaster recovery processes.

The content of this training and learning is designed to be suitable for all staff within internal audit, compliance and risk functions and can be used to help scope a risk-based review of Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery. However, due to the heavy dependence of modern organisations on technology, the content is skewed toward IT Continuity and Disaster Management.

The six lessons in this module introduce the key terminology used in Continuity and Disaster Management and show the relationship between ISO 27031 and ISO 22301, they then go on to show the key phases of activity involved in planning, evaluating, building, and testing both disaster and continuity plans. The module includes key questions that an auditor or reviewer would want to probe and ask.

The module includes a course notes summary and a key question list for auditors, includes a passing out quiz based on a case study scenario assessment task and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning requirements.

The content is aligned to ISO 27031 and ISO 22301 - these standards being relevant to Continuity / Disaster Management.

Course: CMDM-AUD-001 Duration: 1.5 hours Cost £60

4. Networks: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

In today's digital era, networks are integral to our daily lives, facilitating interaction and communication at home, work, and play. However, networks also introduce complex risks related to security, operations, compliance, data integrity, and third-party interactions.

The objective for this module: To help you understand the world of networks and to know how to go about auditing Networking and Network Controls at a basic level.

This objective is important as, networks and networking are a huge topic and this introduction will help you build up your IT Audit knowledge and will help you sell meaningful conclusions stemming from your audits.

This seven-lesson training course will take you up to 2 hours to complete and is pitched at guiding reviewers and internal auditors to take their first steps towards network reviews within their organisations.

The initial part of this course will introduce you to our reliance on networks and familiarise you with essential terms and vocabulary related to the world of networking. Following this, the course will guide you through understanding how network devices, structures, topologies, and encryption work and function. In the concluding section, you will be encouraged to explore questions that are fundamental to your initial evaluation of networks within your organisation.

The module includes a course notes summary and introduces you to a carefully paced top-down five-step approach to direct you to ask relevant questions.

The module is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: ANIA-AUD-001 Duration: 2.0 hours Cost £80

5. Cloud Based Services: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

Increasingly organisations are hosting cloud content or providing cloud-based services to their customers, staff and stakeholders and, therefore, auditors and reviewers need to become familiar with the terminology and concepts surrounding cloud-based services and understand how to gain assurance about these services.

The objective for this module: To introduce the management of cloud-based services and provide an understandable introduction to key questions that will need to be raised about the use of cloud-based services.

This objective will help you sell meaningful conclusions stemming from your audits of this this critical and growing area of technology.

The five lessons within this module are pitched at Internal Auditors and Reviewers and do not assume any IT knowledge, the module defines the everyday key terminology, concepts and services that an auditor will encounter in auditing this topic, talk through the risks and benefits associated with cloud technology, and sieve through the key audit issues and matters to consider that an auditor will raise about their organisation's use of cloud-based services.

The module includes a course notes summary and a key question list for auditors, includes a passing out quiz based on a case study scenario assessment task and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

The content is aligned to ISO 27002 and NIST best practices.

Course Code: CBS-AUD-001 Duration: 1.0 hours Cost £40

6. Cyber Preparedness and Vulnerability Management: An Introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

Organised crime has been fast to target the technology that supports organisations and individuals. Criminal groups steal personal information in bulk, part cash from its owners or hold an individual or organisation to ransom.

The objective for this module: To introduce the topics of Cyber Attack, Cyber Preparedness, Cyber Vulnerability and Cyber Incident Management and to develop an understanding of the core controls that are needed to manage and deal with Cyber Risk. The unit raises the key questions that an auditor or reviewer will want to examine when conducting a review of these areas.

In this six-lesson module: you will get a brief insight into the attacks used by Cyber Criminals against the person; an in-depth insight into the attacks used by Cyber Criminals against the Organisation; the internationally recommended key Cyber Controls to defend against organisational Cyber-Attacks; an understanding of what Vulnerability Management is and how it should be operating; and the key preparations and planning that are needed for identifying and dealing effectively with Cyber Incidents.

As the content of this module is technical in part and to ensure that it is accessible to learners, care has been taken to explain terminology as it occurs and to use as much graphical content as possible.

The content of this training is designed to be suitable for all staff within internal audit, compliance and risk functions and can be used to help scope a risk-based review of Cyber Preparedness and Vulnerability management. During your interactions with this module, you will learn about the critical questions and themes that you should be exploring when performing a review of this area of great concern.

The multi-lesson module includes a scenario maze, multiple knowledge-checking quizzes, a downloadable course keynotes summary that includes a set of key questions for reviewers to deploy during an audit of this area, a scored passing-out quiz, and includes multiple references to internationally recognised support agencies that can be used to harvest further information.

This module furthers your competencies within the IIA Global competencies framework and is accompanied by a completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: CPVM-AUD-001 Duration: 2.0 hours Cost £80

7. Process Automation – Robotics – AI: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

TV screens and movies are filled with news of robots taking over the world and creating a dystopian future, but what is really happening? This course will bring you up to date with current developments in AI and machine learning and show you the difference between fact and fiction and how internal auditors may become involved.

The objective for this module: To provide an introduction and overview of Process Automation Robotics and AI and how to audit this growing area of technology.

This objective is important: to help you sell meaningful conclusions stemming from your audits; and assist your personal development in this critical area of technology.

In the five-lesson content of the module, you will explore the world of robotics and automation, learn the language of Automation and Robotics and be given an insight into the nature of operations within the fields of Automation, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Machine Learning.

The module will then move on to explore how automated workflows are appearing in finance and general service operations, show the basic ideas driving how workflow tools are deployed, describe how applications are joined to form a workflow, and dig into how machine learning works. This module then raises the key questions, risks, and issues that an auditor will want to raise and explore when the design, test and operation of automation and machine learning are being discussed within organisations.

The module includes a course notes summary, includes a passing out quiz and a key question list for auditors and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: PA-AUD-001 Duration: 1.5 hours Cost £60

8. Auditing Formal and Semi-Formal Projects: An Introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

Working in a changing environment brings opportunities and risks. In attempting to improve services many organisations live uneasily with the threat of projects bringing chaos, rather than success, to customers and clients. In an age where the news of corporate project failure goes viral, it is time for more internal audit teams to turn proactively to the audit and review of projects.

The objective for this module: In this module, you learn about the auditor's role in projects, how to perform a rapid health check on projects being initiated, how to audit projects during their initiation phase, understand about the identification and handling of project risk, understand what project plans and project documentation should contain and how to audit projects at an intermediate stage, understand how projects should deal with problems, and understand how to audit projects in their final stages before rollout.

The module concentrates on projects where outcomes and risks, cost and delivery date are key factors.

The multi-lesson module includes Knowledge Tests, a Terminology / Concepts guide, a Course Keynotes Summary, a Tool Kit that includes 5 Mind Maps to help you structure questions for your project audit, a template for a Project Risk Register, a template for a Lessons Learned Register and an end of course test. The module has lots of graphics and imagery and video sequences showing how to use the Mind Maps.

This module further enhances your competencies within the IIA Global competencies framework and is accompanied by a completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

This module does not cover Agile project management, that subject is dealt with separately in a partner module: Agile Software Project Management: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers. Ref: ASD-AUD-001

Course Code: APRO-AUD-001 Duration: 3.0 hours Cost £120

9. Agile Software Project Management: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

Agile Software Development – it is on everyone’s lips but what does it really mean in practical terms? What is wrong with conventional software project management? And how would you go about auditing this area of activity?

The objective for this module: To introduce the management of Agile Software Projects at both a simple level and at a scaled-up level and to provide an understandable introduction to the key questions that will need to be raised about the use of Agile development strategies.

The five-lesson content of the module includes key terminology, the differences between formal and agile methods, the details and roles behind SCRUM, KANBAN, SAFe (at four distinct levels) and DevOps, and includes key questioning strategies for auditors.

The module includes a course notes summary and a key question list for auditors, includes a passing out quiz based on a case study scenario assessment task and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

This would be a suitable partner module to ‘Auditing Formal and Semi-Formal Projects: An Introduction for Auditors and Reviewers’ Ref: APRO-AUD-001.

Course Code: ASD-AUD-001 Duration: 1.5 hours Cost £60

10. BS-01 The Language of Technology: Waterfall, Agile and Lean

This bite sized introduction to the language of technology is designed to help you to understand the differences between the meaning of Waterfall, Agile and Lean. In this bite size module you will learn: What Project Management processes called Waterfall, Agile and LEAN mean in practical terms.

If, however, you intend or need to review or audit projects, then we suggest you turn to our specialist courses Formal and Semi-Formal Projects – Page 27 and Agile Software Project Management – Page 28.

The course includes descriptive content, interactive elements, a short video and imagery and it should take you around 20-30 minutes to complete. Completion of this this course will enhance your competency and you will receive a certificate to support your CPD/CPE learning log.

Course Code: TLOT-001 Duration: 30 minutes Cost £20

IT Controls Guided by Standards and Best Practices

IT controls are essential for ensuring the integrity, confidentiality, and availability of information systems. They can be shaped through various standards and best practices, which provide frameworks and guidelines for organisations to follow. On this course you will examine:

ISO / IEC 38500 and COBIT (Control Objectives for Information and Related Technologies): These frameworks assist organisations in developing, implementing, and maintaining effective IT governance and management practices. It helps ensure IT aligns with business goals.

ISO / IEC 20000 and ITIL (Information Technology Infrastructure Library): These provide best practices for IT service management, focusing on aligning IT services with the needs of the business. It emphasises service quality and continuous improvement.

ISO/IEC 27001 and NIST SP 800-53: These provides a systematic approach to managing sensitive company information, ensuring security through risk management and mitigation strategies.

NIST CSF and CIS Cyber Controls: NIST and the Center for Internet Security have developed frameworks and a set of controls to help organisations mitigate the most common cybersecurity threats. These controls are actionable and provide a clear pathway for implementation.

PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) and GDPR: For organisations dealing with payment card information, adhering to PCI DSS and dealing with the requirements of the GDPR is crucial.

On this course you will also discover key questions that should be raised by an auditor or reviewer that needs to assess the approach taken by their organisation to the deployment of key standards and the generation of an appropriate control landscape.

Course Code: STBP-AUD-001 Duration: 2 hours Cost £80

Bundled IT Learning

11. BUND IT AUDIT 01 – Learning Duration average 16.5 hours equivalent to three days training.

CAT ITEM NO:	TOPIC	PRICE
1	Configuration and Change Management	£40
2	Logical Access Control	£80
3	Continuity Management and Disaster Avoidance	£60
4	Networks	£80
5	Cloud Based Services	£40
6	Cyber Preparedness and Vulnerability Management	£80
7	Process Automation – Robotics – AI	£60
8	Auditing Formal and Semi-Formal Projects	£120
9	Agile Software Project Management	£60
	All nine topics in bundle – catalogue price total	£580
	All nine topics in bundle – bundled price total	£520

12. BUND IT AUDIT 02 – Learning Duration average 12 hours equivalent to two days training.

CAT ITEM NO:	TOPIC	PRICE
1	Configuration and Change Management	£40
2	Logical Access Control	£80
3	Continuity Management and Disaster Avoidance	£60
4	Networks	£80
5	Cloud Based Services	£40
6	Cyber Preparedness and Vulnerability Management	£80
7	Process Automation – Robotics – AI	£60
	All seven topics in bundle – catalogue price total	£440
	All seven topics in bundle – bundled price total	£390

13. BUND IT AUDIT 03 – Learning Duration average 10 hours equivalent to one and three quarter days training.

CAT ITEM NO:	TOPIC	PRICE
1	Configuration and Change Management	£40
2	Logical Access Control	£80
3	Continuity Management and Disaster Avoidance	£60
4	Networks	£80
5	Cloud Based Services	£40
6	Cyber Preparedness and Vulnerability Management	£80
	All six topics in bundle – catalogue price total	£380
	All six topics in bundle – bundled price total	£340

Hot Topics

14. Root Cause Analysis: An introduction for Auditors and Reviewers

You have heard it before: 'Don't just treat the symptoms, find the underlying cause.' From health care to technology and from manufacturing to financial issues, root cause analysis is an essential tool for understanding risk and improving controls.

The objective for this module: This learning module will help you learn how to systematically go about finding the cause behind an issue or problem, help you to generate evidence that you can use to encourage management to fix issues in a manner that will be sustainable, and help you understand how an audit methodology can deliver more value to management by including root cause information in reporting.

These objectives are important to help you build your audit knowledge; help you sell meaningful conclusions stemming from audits, and to assist your personal development in this area of understanding.

This seven-lesson module explores and explains the basics of Root Cause Analysis (RCA). It introduces the key terminology used within the field of RCA such as proximate cause, root cause, secondary and exacerbating cause and goes on to show in some depth several alternative approaches to Root Cause Analysis including Cause-Effect modelling, Five-Whys modelling, Ichikawa Fishbone modelling, and Six-Question modelling.

The module includes many examples of root cause analyses and illustrates the differences between soft and hard causality. The module also illustrates how root cause information can be captured into an audit report.

The module includes multiple knowledge checks, multiple graphic images, some practical work, a course key-notes summary, includes a passing out quiz and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: RCA-AUD-001 Duration: 2.0 hours Cost £80

15. Auditing Culture

So many times, you will read or hear in the news about an organisation that has not behaved in line with its stated values. This is a pity as often if the organisation had been a bit more proactive they would have avoided any bad press.

An independent review of an organisation's culture is important. It will help ensure that its culture aligns with its vision, mission and values. Beyond this, a positive culture is known to improve employee engagement, productivity and retention, while a negative culture can lead to high turnover, low morale, and even ethical breaches. Conducting an audit of your organisation's existing culture can also uncover long-term issues that might not be visible, helping the organisation to deal with them proactively.

The objective for this module: On this course you will learn: how culture, values and behaviour are linked; How culture and values might be explored; How to set about conducting an audit of culture and values within your organisation; How whistleblowing fits into the picture of organisational culture.

The content of this training is suitable for all staff within internal audit, compliance, oversight and risk functions and can be used to help deal with the challenges faced by those of us that recognise that culture and behaviour, within an organisation, are not always as expected.

The course will typically take you around **1 hour to complete**. This is an average and it may take you more or less time, depending on your prior knowledge and experience.

The module includes a course notes summary and is accompanied by a personal completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: AC-AUD-001 Duration: 1.0 hours Cost £40

People Skills

16. Dealing with Difficult Conversations and Challenging Situations

So many times, in the workplace or outside of the workplace, conversations move from being calm and measured to being challenging or tense. Once this has happened you will need good interpersonal strategies to steer things back on course.

This course is designed to help you stay calm, focussed and in control when dealing with tricky conversations, tense meetings or other challenging situations in the workplace.

The objective for this module: On this course you will learn: How to send out positive messages; How to make connections and improve rapport; How to go about building trust; How to gain agreement; How to write to influence a report reader; How to influence through understanding human behaviour; How to listen and watch intelligently; How to defuse pushback and gamesmanship; and How to deal with aggression or bullying.

The course will show you nine proven strategies for you to use to help you influence others positively. These strategies, based on the psychology of human behaviour, will help you to engage with the people and personalities you will encounter in workplace settings.

At the end of the course there is a final passing out quiz, together with a course notes summary to help shape and focus your behavioural approaches.

The content of this training is suitable for all staff within internal audit, compliance, oversight and risk functions and can be used to help deal with the challenges faced by those of us that have to influence others to act for change.

Completion of this this course will also enhance your competencies within the IIA Global Competency Framework and you will receive a certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: DCCTS-AUD-001 Duration: 2.0 hours Cost £80

17. BS-02 Getting Management Agreement in Meetings

It is not always easy as a new consultant, auditor or reviewer to know how to get management to constructively agree to process improvements or recommendations in a call, conversation, or meeting. This short learning unit helps you to understand better ways to arrive at a consensus view.

In this bite size module you will learn about:

- The steps involved in gaining consensus in a meeting
- Strategies for reaching consensus faster

The course includes descriptive content, interactive elements, a short video and downloadable notes. The content of this training is suitable for any consultant, auditor or reviewer that wants to improve their chances of gaining agreement with recommendations, findings or other actions that need consent.

It should take you around 20-30 minutes to complete this module. Completion of this this course will enhance your competencies and you will receive a certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code : GMTA-001 Duration : 30 minutes Cost £20

18. GT:01 Advice for New Managers or Team Leaders

Taking the reins as a new Team Leader or New Manager is both exciting and challenging. The skills that brought you to this position as an individual, now need to be augmented by strategies and tactics that help you to lead your team to success.

The problem for many people put in this position is that there may be little guidance to help due to the size of their team or nature of their organisation. So, the first footsteps that are made are critical in the context of defining the future of the person, team or project.

This **four-part** course is distilled from advice gathered from leaders about becoming a new manager or team leader. It is particularly relevant to those that have not before led a team or group of staff.

The course explores:

Part 1

- Ethical Leadership – what does this mean, what are the four V's, and what do you have to do?
- Developing a Team – how to go about it.

Part 2

- Dealing with Gossip – the good and the bad.
- Common Mistakes to Avoid – the seven areas of concern that can trip you up.

Part 3

- Brainstorming – how to make it work for the individual and the team.
- Performance Reviewing – the steps to take – thinking through the process.

Part 4

- Managing Change – dealing with the team and the challenges of change.
- Recovering from a Mistake – you have blipped – what should you do?

The course will take an average learner around 150 - 180 minutes to complete and will deliver a personal certificate on completion that can be used to back up CPD self-assessment. You can access this course a chunk at a time, you do not need to complete it at a single sitting.

The course includes descriptive content, interactive elements, quizzes, short videos, imagery, and downloadable softcopy key notes.

The content of this training is suitable for all staff whether you are in internal audit, compliance, oversight or risk functions and can be used to help deal with the challenges faced by those of us that have to influence and manage others.

Completion of this this course will help enhance your competencies and you will receive a certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: GEN-ADNM-001 Duration: 2.5/3.0 hours Cost £100

19. BS-03 Understanding and Dealing with Cognitive Bias

Richard Feynman was once quoted as saying, "One of the biggest dangers of the human mind is that it sees what it wants to see and disregards the rest." Cognitive bias is a shortcut our brain takes to process information quickly — resulting in errors or distortions in memory, attention, and thinking. Left unchecked, cognitive bias can result in inaccurate judgments and irrational decisions.

Increasing our awareness is the first step to dealing with the problem and is critical to the work of a consultant, reviewer or auditor that needs to distinguish between personal opinion and objective facts.

In this bite size module you will learn:

- What cognitive bias is and how to recognise cognitive bias
- The common types of cognitive bias
- How to reduce the possibility of being influenced by cognitive bias

The course includes descriptive content, interactive elements, and a short video. It should take you around 20-30 minutes to complete this module. Completion of this this course will enhance your competencies and you will receive a certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

Course Code: UDCB-001 Duration: 30 minutes Cost £20

Special Online Learning Pathways (LP) and Blended Learning (BL)

Learning pathways are multi-module courses where the modules are linked together to form a complete unit, a 'Learning Pathway.' Blended learning combines both instructor led and online learning.

20. LP:1.0 Audit Report Writing Fundamentals – a complete course for individuals

A complete and up to date audit report writing course that aligns to best practice. The course flows through a sequence of modules, each in turn broken up into individual lesson units. The course embraces persuasive logical approaches to writing up issues or findings, in both the main body of the report and in the report's summary.

The objectives for this learning pathway: When you have completed all the course modules, including the knowledge checks, quizzes, and practical work, you will be able to:

- Draft a report that communicates your findings effectively to stakeholders.
- Use best practice techniques to improve the flow and wording of your report to maximise acceptance of the audit viewpoint and drive mitigation actions.
- Use writing tools and strategies to improve the clarity and business risk focus of your audit report.
- Review your own work to minimise management overheads and improve the efficiency of your audit.

The modules of the course are:

- Understanding the Needs of Your Readers
- Structuring Content
- The Five C's Reporting Framework
- Effective Written Communication
- Audit Findings Condition (C1) – what you found.
- Audit Findings Criteria (C2) – what you expected.
- Audit Findings Consequence (C3) – the harm that may occur as a result of the condition.
- Audit Findings Cause (C4) – what is causing the problem.
- Audit Findings Corrective Action (C5) – what needs to be done to rectify the problem.
- Writing An Executive Summary – telling the story of the review.
- The Art of Editing Audit Reports – improving the quality of your work.

The course also includes support notes and additional downloadable resources, such as guides and checklists, to enhance your learning.

This course is available in both a 'Red' and a 'Blue' package for individuals and a 'Green' package for teams.

Red Option – All modules above complete with practical exercises and model answers for self-assessment: Learning Pathway IARW-AUD-001 – Duration: 12 hours. **COST £480.** Equivalent to 2 full days training.

Blue Option – All modules above plus two additional practical exercises submitted to one of our tutors for marking and personal feedback: Learning Pathway IARW-AUD-002 – Duration: 12 hours. **COST £600.** Equivalent to 2 full days training with tutor feedback.

Green Option – All modules above plus two tutor led webinars to provide augmentation and summary of the modules studied. Duration 14 -15 hours. Please contact us to discuss.

21. LP: 2.0 Audit Report Writing: Executive Summaries and Report Review – a short course that focusses on summary writing and peer review

A complete and up to date Executive Summary writing course that aligns to best practice. This course explores summaries and helps you to develop the skills to create a good Summary through a sequence of modules.

The objectives for this learning pathway when you have completed all the course modules, including any knowledge checks, quizzes, and practical work, you will be able to:

- Draft an Executive Summary that communicates audit conclusions effectively to stakeholders.
- Use best practice techniques to improve the flow and wording of your Executive Summary to maximise acceptance of the audit viewpoint and drive mitigation actions.
- Use writing tools and strategies to improve the clarity and business risk focus of your Executive Summary.
- Review colleagues' reports and provide a positive and constructive contribution to their development.

The modules of the course are:

- Writing an Executive Summary
- Effective Written Communication
- Reviewing Reports and Guiding Writer Development

The learning pathway includes knowledge checks, written practical work with model answers, downloadable key-notes summaries, resources and guides, and a completion certificate to support your CPD/CPE personal learning log requirements.

This course is available in both a 'Red' and a 'Blue' package for **individuals** and a 'Green' package for **teams**.

Red Option – All modules above complete with practical exercises and model answers for self-assessment: Learning Pathway IAEW-AUD-001 – Duration: 3.5 hours. **COST £160**. Equivalent to 0.5 days training.

Blue Option – All modules above plus the practical exercises submitted to one of our tutors for marking and personal feedback: Learning Pathway IAEW-AUD-002 – Duration: 3.5 hours. **COST £220**. Equivalent to 0.5 days training with tutor feedback.

Green Option – All modules above plus a tutor led online seminar to provide augmentation and summary of the material studied. Duration 5.0 hours. Please contact us to discuss.

Auditing Reports - Consultancy

If you are interested in specialist help with audit reporting, whether it be advice on your audit templates or house style, help creating a new template, assessment and personal feedback on reports that you or your staff have written, or hands-on help in writing the report following an audit review, then please get in touch to discuss your needs.

We regularly collaborate with clients in this way and will always sign a full non-disclosure agreement.

22. BL: 3.0 Introduction to IT Auditing – including tutor for teams of six or more

Example programme:

1: TECHNOLOGY: CYBER BRIEFING: VIDEO WEBINAR

- What type of attacks are taking place?
- What defences do we need?
- Best practice: testing
- Best practice: vulnerability detection and correction
- Best practice: resilience and recovery
- What should my organisation track or follow and what must we do if we are breached?

2: TECHNOLOGY: THE OVERALL AUDIT APPROACH TO IT AUDIT: SELF STUDY BACKGROUND READING

- The IT auditor and risk-based auditing how they fit together
- What can a non-specialist auditor achieve in the field of IT Audit
- A view from the top – the high-level generic IT risks: Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability and Accountability
- A view from the bottom – low-level specific risks and how they connect to the high-level risks
- Risk based planning, creating, scoping, and documenting IT audit work

3: TECHNOLOGY: AUDITING LIVE SYSTEMS AND BUSINESS APPLICATIONS: VIDEO WEBINAR

- The multi-layer controls approach to IT – behavioural controls, physical controls, logical controls, application controls, infrastructure controls – how one layer reinforces the other to create a layered defence strategy
- How control layers contrive to protect the organisation from compliance, operational or financial risk
- IT based preventative, detective, corrective, and directive controls: which are most important to IT systems?
- Control architecture – what is meant by ‘control by design’ and why this is important
- Applications controls for business, internal controls that are embedded and protect, wraparound controls that inform and provide oversight
- In-line processing controls – technology helping to limit users to protect against compliance, operational and financial risks
- Supervisory controls – technology helping to provide management with the tools for oversight
- Automated controls – removing people from the scene to avoid variability in control

4: TECHNOLOGY: HEADING TOWARDS BEST PRACTICE – GOVERNANCE, STANDARDS AND PHYSICAL SECURITY: WEBINAR

- Key Governance Standards: ISO/IEC 38500:2008, ITIL and ISO 27000
- Physical and environmental security
- How does physical security fit in with other security controls?
- Working locations
- Protection of assets
- Intruder detection
- Environmental control
- Physical security case study
- Introduction to Configuration, Change Management and Business Resilience

5: TECHNOLOGY: ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM: CONFIGURATION AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS

- What Configuration Management and Change Management set out to do
- How these disciplines are part of best practice for business and are aligned to best practices (ITIL)
- Configuration management – how it works
- Configuration management – what should be reviewed?
- Change management – how it works and what should be reviewed

6: TECHNOLOGY: ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER AVOIDANCE: AN INTRODUCTION FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS

- Key terminology used in Continuity and Disaster Management
- ISO 27031 and ISO 22301 the differences between them
- How risks are evaluated, and an impact assessment is made
- How contingency and recovery facilities are planned and created
- Disaster and Continuity Plans
- Support options to supplement organisational capacity
- Maintaining and assessing the plan
- Key questioning strategies for auditors

7: TECHNOLOGY: TWO KEY AREAS OF CONCERN – LOGICAL ACCESS CONTROL AND NETWORKS

- How access control is part of a hosted multi-layer security approach within modern system
- How systems Register, Identify, Authenticate and Authorise users before admitting them to live systems
- How trails of user activity are created
- The Basics of Networking
- What do network diagrams show me?
- What are the most important network devices and what do they do?
- How do the devices provide defences for the organisation?
- I am not a specialist – what can I usefully contribute
- Key questions and questioning strategies for auditors

8: TECHNOLOGY: ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM: AN INTRODUCTION TO LOGICAL ACCESS CONTROL FOR AUDITORS AND REVIEWERS. THIS LEARNING REVISION MODULE IS DESIGNED TO REINFORCE AND ENHANCE THE PRIOR WEBINAR

- How access control is part of a hosted multi-layer security approach within modern system
- How systems Register, Identify, Authenticate and Authorise users before admitting them to live systems
- Multi-factor security and biometrics to improve control strength
- Granting of access to application and database resources via roles and permissions
- How the process of user administration should function in an ideal world
- The creation and use of logs and event trails – where are these captured and what will they show
- The deployment of software tools by the organisation to assist logical access control oversight
- Key questions and questioning strategies for auditors

9: TECHNOLOGY: CHALLENGING TIMES AND AN INSIGHT INTO THE FUTURE: VIDEO WEBINAR

- Where technology is going – AI and automation helping to drive business forward
- Automation of controls and continuous audit monitoring
- Plenary session; questions and thoughts that have been raised by the sessions (1 hour)
- Course wrap-up (15 minutes)

10: TECHNOLOGY: ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM: ITGC TEST EXAM

Course Code: ITGC-AUD-001 Duration: 24 hours equivalent. Cost per person depends on delegate numbers and content – price to be advised on application.

Some past clients

ABB
 ABERDEEN ASSET MANAGEMENT
 ABN AMRO
 AEROFLEX
 AQA
 ASPEN GROUP
 ASTRAZENECA
 AVIVA
 BAE SYSTEMS
 BAHRAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY (BATELCO)
 BANK OF CYPRUS
 BANK OF ENGLAND
 BANK OF KUWAIT & THE MIDDLE EAST
 BANCO SANTANDER
 BBC
 BENTLEY JENNISON
 BNFL
 BRITISH AIRWAYS
 BRITISH MUSEUM
 BRITISH WATERWAYS
 BUTTERFIELD BANK BERMUDA
 CABLE & WIRELESS
 CAPITA BUSINESS SERVICES
 CAREERS DEVELOPMENT GROUP
 CEL HONG KONG
 CENTRAL BANK OF MALTA
 CHARITIES INTERNAL AUDIT NETWORK
 CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS
 CHESHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY
 CIMA
 CIPFA
 COMMERCIAL INTERNATIONAL BANK (EGYPT)
 COOPERATIVE GROUP
 COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION INTERNAL AUDITORS
 DELOITTE
 DEUTSCHE BANK
 EDF ENERGY
 EUROCONTROL
 EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK
 EXPERIAN
 GRANT THORNTON
 HOGG ROBINSON
 HOUSING ASSOCIATION IA FORUM
 HSBC
 HUTCHISON WHAMPOA
 ICAEW
 INNOGY
 INTERPOL
 ISACA
 KASPERSKY LAB UK
 LEAD INTERNATIONAL
 LLOYDS TSB
 MBNA
 MITSUBISHI TRUST & BANKING CORPORATION
 NATIONAL GRID
 NFU MUTUAL
 NORWICH & PETERBOROUGH BUILDING SOCIETY
 NOVAE GROUP PLC
 NSPCC
 OPEN UNIVERSITY
 ORANGE LTD
 PALL EUROPE

PROGRESS HOUSING
 RABOBANK
 RMC GROUP
 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND
 ROYAL LONDON GROUP
 SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY
 SKY
 SONY ERICSSON
 SWISS RE
 TESCO BANK
 THE UNITED NATIONS
 WATERFORD WEDGWOOD
 WELSH WATER
 W H IRELAND STOCKBROKERS
 YORKSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC BODIES

EUROCONTROL
 EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK
 EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
 GIBRALTAR AUDIT OFFICE
 INTERPOL
 OFID
 OSCE
 UNITED NATIONS (FAO)
 WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT:

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION
 CROWN ESTATE
 DEPT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
 DEPARTMENT FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY
 DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT
 DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS
 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NORTHERN IRELAND
 DVLA
 ENGLISH PARTNERSHIPS
 EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
 GCHQ
 HIGHWAYS AGENCY
 HM REVENUE & CUSTOMS
 NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
 NATIONAL ROADS AUTHORITY – IRELAND
 RURAL PAYMENTS AGENCY
 THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
 THE INSOLVENCY SERVICE
 TREASURY & RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, JERSEY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

BASILDON DISTRICT COUNCIL; BLACKPOOL COUNCIL
 BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL; CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL
 CITY OF WAKEFIELD MBC; CONGLETON BOROUGH COUNCIL
 CRAWLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL; CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL
 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; DERBYSHIRE COUNTY
 COUNCIL; DONCASTER MBC; DUDLEY MBC
 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL; HERTFORDSHIRE C. COUNCIL;
 HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL; INVERCLYDE COUNCIL;
 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; LINCOLNSHIRE C. COUNCIL;
 NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL; NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
 SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL; SOUTHEND BC
 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL; TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL
 TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL; WARRINGTON BC
 WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; WOLVERHAMPTON CITY
 COUNCIL; WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



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