

Internal Audit: From Planning to Execution

Professional training programme



SPARK TRAINING

Professional training courses for leaders, specialists, and organizations seeking practical capability development.

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— Workshop Overview

This course aims to enable participants to develop the skills to meticulously plan, execute, and document audits, utilizing advanced methodologies and data analytics for efficient, accurate results. It will also allow them to confidently navigate complex scenarios such as fraud detection, IT audits, and cybersecurity assessments, contributing actionable insights for continuous organizational improvement.

Why Attend

The course uses interactive techniques, such as brief presentations and case studies by the consultant and participants. The course also features several group exercises and simulations to help participants consolidate their learning experience. Examples from various industries and sectors will be used to showcase practical

Who Should Attend

This course has been designed for audit practitioners, governance professionals, financial services regulators, finance managers, functional managers, senior managers, board members, and all individuals interested in the internal control environment within their organizations.

— Learning Objectives

- Develop the ability to formulate precise audit objectives, design a robust audit plan, and allocate resources effectively to ensure comprehensive institutional coverage
- Apply various audit methodologies, risk assessment techniques, and data analytics applications, enabling the selection and application of appropriate methods for different audit scenarios
- Demonstrate their skills in conducting effective interviews, performing control tests, and analyzing audit evidence to identify control weaknesses and deviations, ensuring a thorough and well-documented audit process
- Perform advanced audits, including fraud detection and prevention, IT audits, and cybersecurity assessments, while staying current with industry trends, enabling them to address emerging challenges in GRC
- Establish vigorous quality assurance practices and drive continuous improvement within the organization

Course Outline

DAY 1

Foundations of Internal Audit

- Introduction to Internal Audit
- Understanding the role and importance of internal audit in Governance, Risk, and Compliance
- Differentiating between internal and external audits
- Key principles and standards for internal auditing
- Planning the Audit
- Defining audit objectives, scope, and criteria
- Identifying risks and assessing their significance
- Building an effective audit plan and timeline

DAY 2

Audit Methodologies and Techniques

- Audit Methodologies and approaches
- Overview of different audit methodologies (e.g., risk-based, control-based)
- Selecting the appropriate methodology for different audit scenarios
- Integrating technology and data analytics into the audit process
- Data collection and evidence
- Techniques for collecting relevant and reliable audit evidence
- Sampling strategies and statistical methods in internal audit
- Documenting findings and maintaining audit trails
- Execution and Fieldwork

DAY 3

Conducting fieldwork

- Interviewing techniques for gathering information
- Performing walkthroughs and testing controls
- Addressing challenges and obstacles during fieldwork
- Communication and reporting
- Art of effective communication with auditees
- Structuring audit reports for maximum impact
- Presenting findings and recommendations to stakeholders

DAY

4

Advanced Topics in Internal Audit

- Fraud detection and investigation
- Recognizing red flags and signs of fraud
- Conducting fraud risk assessments
- Investigative techniques and legal considerations
- IT audits and cybersecurity
- Auditing IT systems, networks, and applications
- Evaluating cybersecurity controls and vulnerabilities
- Ensuring compliance with data protection regulations

DAY

5

Audit Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

- Quality assurance in internal audit
- Establishing an effective internal audit quality assurance program
- Peer reviews, self-assessment, and external assessments
- Incorporating feedback and enhancing audit processes
- Continuous improvement and future trends
- Leveraging audit findings for organizational improvement
- Keeping up with evolving GRC regulations and standards
- Embracing technology trends in internal audit

— Upcoming Classroom Dates

DATE	LOCATION	FEE
5 - 9 October 2026	Barcelona - Spain	€1,925
16 - 20 November 2026	Frankfurt - Germany	€1,625
7 - 11 December 2026	Rome - Italy	€2,125
11 - 15 January 2027	Cape Town - South Africa	€2,125
8 - 12 February 2027	Barcelona - Spain	€1,925
8 - 12 March 2027	Paris - France	€2,250
12 - 16 April 2027	Frankfurt - Germany	€1,625
10 - 14 May 2027	Barcelona - Spain	€1,925

— Certificate and Registration

Participants who attend and complete the full programme receive a SPARK Training Certificate of Completion. For registration, in-house delivery, or availability questions, contact info@sparktraining.eu or +31 85 115 0004.