

Event Information

ACC 676

Case Studies on Consulting in Financial Services Firms (Spring Semester 2025)

In spring of 2024 the module ACC 676 was offered with great success for the sixteenth time in cooperation with KPMG. The consistently positive feedback from students, for example when asked what they particularly liked, was as follows: "Practical relevance was great", "realistic course design and close collaboration", "many opportunities for initiative and creativity". We are therefore very pleased that Mr. Gero Wiechens, Partner at KPMG AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, will again be offering the course in the coming semester as a lecturer at the Chair of Auditing with the support of relevant partners and consultants at KPMG AG.

In this interactive event, students will work in small groups on case studies from the areas of accounting, management consulting, risk management and deal advisory with a focus on the financial services sector. Previous case study topics included, amongst others, the accounting for crypto assets and consulting on the establishment of a regulated crypto bank.

In groups of three to five students, participants will discuss case studies from the consulting practice with the help of practical and technical approaches. The results will be summarized in the form of a consulting report (20 pages) and presented in an interim and final presentation.

While working on the case studies, participants will be guided and supported by KPMG consultants. To ensure an optimal supervision ratio and a high level of interactivity throughout the event, the number of participants is limited to 16 students.

The event takes place on 7 March, 4 April, and 23 May. All events will take place in person either at the University of Mannheim or the offices of KPMG in Frankfurt.

Short description of the case studies

Case A

You have been hired as consultants by FinCorp, a globally operating bank, to assist in making a strategic decision between two potential acquisitions. The bank is considering either acquiring an asset that enhances their product offering or an asset that expands their regional footprint. Your role is to analyze both options and prepare a comprehensive decision presentation for the shareholders of the Private Equity (PE) firm that owns the bank. The presentation should cover financial, commercial, and operational aspects of the potential acquisitions.

Case B

You have been hired as consultants by FinCorp, a globally operating bank, to assist in making a strategic decision on the number of shares to acquire based on financial / accounting implications. Your role is to analyze various options for take-over and evaluate accounting implications for the transaction. The tasks are separated into two parts:

Part 1:

FinCorp needs support in deciding how many shares in the target company lead to the intended accounting implications. . The management would like to have an analysis of the decision-making options depending on the impact on the financials.

Part 2:

Assuming FinCorp banks proceed with a 75% acquisition of TechPay for €2.25 billion, conduct a company and financial statement analysis to evaluate the fair value of the acquired assets, with particular emphasis on intangible assets.

The study will be created in cooperation with and under the guidance of KPMG consultants.

The learning objective of the course is to learn how a consulting project works within the framework of a realistic case study and to develop solutions to current challenges in the finance industry.



Course Registration

The course requires that you have already successfully completed at least one of the following courses: ACC 510, ACC 520, ACC 530, ACC 540, ACC/TAX 550 or ACC 560.

The obligatory course registration is conducted via Portal2 during the regular registration period running until 06 February 2025. Students will be able to see whether they have been admitted to the course approximately on 7 February 2025. As per standard registration guidelines withdrawals are possible until 16 February 2025. Please note that once you have been assigned to a case study group during the kick-off workshop you will be formally registered for the exam in ACC 676 and can only withdraw under extenuating circumstances. We therefore ask all students to formally commit to the class during the regular registration period.

Dates

Kick-off workshop	7 March 2025
Interim presentation	4 April 2025
Final presentation	23 May 2025

There will be coaching calls before both presentations, the dates are coordinated with the groups.

Examination

Presentation (interim & final)	30 minutes + 15 minutes Q&A
Report	20 pages

Participants

Gero Wiechens, Partner, KPMG
Max Eberle, Senior Manager, KPMG
Karina Ludwig, Senior Manager, KPMG
Johannes Gorouhi, Assistant Manager, KPMG
Anne Winzer, Assistant Manager, KPMG
Kitti Harmati, Assistant Manager, KPMG