



Legal, Regulatory & Societal Landscape (LRE)

Professional Certificate in Integrated Assurance | Module 2

This module builds the foundational knowledge required to understand the legal, regulatory, governance, and societal environment within which Australian organisations operate. It explores the complex system of laws, regulations, standards and expectations that shape organisational behaviour, decision-making, accountability, and assurance activities.

Learners will examine how legal and regulatory frameworks intersect with ethics, professionalism, sustainability, risk management and the broader community, and how these factors influence the role and responsibilities of Internal Audit.

This module is delivered through five microcredentials:

- IPPF and Application of Topical Requirements
 Understanding the International Professional Practices Framework and applying current and emerging requirements to assurance activities.
- 2. Ethics and Professionalism in Assurance Exploring ethical obligations, organisational ethics, professional conduct and evaluating ethical culture.
- Compliance and Regulation
 Covering the legal and regulatory environment, governance mandates, Internal Audit's role, compliance mapping and assurance mapping.
- 4. ESG and Sustainability
 Examining environmental, social and governance expectations, sustainability trends, and implications for Internal Audit.
- 5. Governance, Risk Management and Control Frameworks
 Understanding the structures and frameworks that guide governance, risk and
 controls assurance within organisations.

Upon completion of all microcredentials, students gain a comprehensive understanding of the regulatory, ethical and societal context that underpins effective internal auditing in Australia.

IPPF and Application of Topical Requirements

Zoom Online Classroom

The Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS) provide a comprehensive framework for internal auditors worldwide. These standards guide the professional practice of internal auditing, ensuring consistency, quality, and ethical conduct. Upon completing this 7-hour training program, participants will be well-equipped to apply the GIAS principles, enhance their audit skills, and contribute effectively to their organisations' governance and risk management.

The course incorporates the place of the Topical Requirements in supporting the Standards, providing practical insights for modern audit challenges including culture, cybersecurity, third-party risk, and sustainability.

Domain I: Purpose of Internal Auditing

In this domain, participants will gain an understanding of the fundamental purpose of internal auditing. Learning outcomes include:

Understanding the Role: Participants will comprehend the essential value of internal auditing within organisations.

Purpose Clarity: Participants will articulate the primary objectives of internal audit activities.

Public Interest: Participants will be able to analyse and evaluate the role of internal auditing in serving the public interest.

Domain II: Ethics and Professionalism

This domain emphasises ethical behaviour and professional conduct. Learning outcomes include:

Ethical Principles: Participants will grasp the core ethical principles governing internal auditors.

Conflicts of Interest: Participants will identify and address conflicts of interest in the context of internal auditing.

Confidentiality and Independence: Participants will appreciate the significance of maintaining confidentiality and independence.

Domain III: Governing the Internal Audit Function

Participants will explore the governance aspects of internal audit functions. Learning outcomes include:

Organisational Structure: Participants will understand the organisational placement and the necessary information necessary to establish the internal audit mandate

Audit Charter: Participants will be familiar with the purpose and content of an audit charter.

CAE Engagement: Participants will recognise the importance of effective CAE engagement.

Domain IV: Managing the Internal Audit Function

This domain focuses on effective management practices within internal audit. Learning outcomes include:

Strategic Planning: Participants will learn the how the internal audit function should be designed and equipped to provide the service required by the organisation.

Resource Allocation: Participants will understand the standards that address allocating resources efficiently for audit activities.

Audit Planning and Execution: Participants will gain an understanding of planning, executing, and documenting the internal audit program.

Quality Assurance: Participants will appreciate the need for quality assurance processes within the audit function.

Domain V: Performing Internal Audit Services

In this domain, participants will be taken into the Standards addressing practical aspects of performing internal audit services. Learning outcomes include:

Risk Assessment: Participants will understand the role and importance of engagement risk assessments.

Evaluation of Findings: Participants will understand the requirements related to evaluation of potential engagement findings, determination of their significance and obtaining management responses.

Reporting and Communication: Participants will learn reporting and communication requirements.

Ethics and Professionalism in Assurance

Self-paced Online Course

Ethics and Professionalism in Assurance provides internal auditors with the essential knowledge and practical understanding needed to uphold ethical standards, recognise conflicts of interest, and appropriately respond to ethical breaches. This course explores the foundations of ethical behaviour at both the individual and organisational levels, and demonstrates how internal audit contributes to evaluating, supporting and strengthening an organisation's ethical culture.

Participants will gain clarity on ethical principles, drivers of behaviour, and the IIA's expectations for ethical conduct, culminating in practical guidance for applying ethical judgement in real audit situations.

Tangible Outcomes

Upon successful completion, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of ethical principles, conflict of interest, and organisational ethical expectations
- Uphold and apply the IIA's Code of Ethics in all audit activities
- Apply ethical principles and values to the activities being audited
- Identify ethical breaches and determine appropriate auditor responses
- Analyse drivers of ethical/unethical behaviour and evaluate their impact on assurance work
- Assess the effectiveness of organisational ethics frameworks, including governance,
 culture, and controls
- Use IIA guidance to plan and conduct an evaluation of organisational ethics

Compliance and Regulation

Self-paced Online Course

This training course will enable participants to critically reflect on, understand and explain the regulatory and legal framework within which specific organisations operate. It will address the implications of the regulatory environment and approaches to addressing compliance obligations.

- What is compliance and what are compliance objectives?
- Assessing compliance risk?
- The compliance environment
 - Enabling legislation (eg Corporations Act, Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act, Local Government Act etc)
 - Legislative/regulatory requirements (eg APRA, WHS, EPA)
 - The role of Standards
 - Contractual requirements
 - Voluntary obligations
- Analyzing compliance obligations
- Control processes and procedures achieving compliance
- Compliance Management Systems line 2 reviews
- The role of internal audit in compliance management considering compliance and regulatory matters in internal audit planning

A Practical Approach to ESG in Internal Audit

Zoom Online Course

This course provides internal auditors with a practical, integrated understanding of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) expectations, risks, reporting frameworks and assurance responsibilities. Participants will gain the confidence to identify ESG risks, assess organisational sustainability maturity, interpret reporting requirements and apply internal audit techniques to ESG-related engagements. The course blends theory, case insights and hands-on exercises to ensure internal audit teams can apply ESG principles in real organisational environments.

Benefit from the Right Topics

- The changing ESG landscape
- Sources of ESG Assurance
- Internal Audit's Role in ESG
- Key ESG Risks: Climate, Modern Slavery and Responsible Sourcing
- Risk Identification in ESG
- Reporting frameworks, legislation and regulatory expectations
- Wider internal audit considerations

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Explain ESG concepts and why they matter
- Describe how ESG expectations and standards have evolved
- Identify and assess ESG risks, including climate and modern slavery
- Understand sources of assurance and internal audit's role in ESG
- Assess organisational sustainability maturity
- Interpret and compare ISSB, GRI and EFRAG frameworks

- Understand materiality assessments and how they influence assurance
- Scope ESG internal audits and design detailed audit procedures
- Develop observations, risks and recommendations for ESG audits
- Confidently apply internal audit techniques to ESG subject matter

Governance, Risk Management and Control Framework

Zoom online Course

This course provides participants with a practical and integrated understanding of governance, risk management and control (GRC) frameworks and how they collectively support organisational purpose, performance and accountability. This course strengthens participants' ability to critically assess organisational systems, frameworks and behaviours, and apply this knowledge directly to internal audit planning, fieldwork and reporting.

Participants will explore the principles underpinning GRC frameworks, examine leading global standards, and deepen their capability to evaluate the design, implementation and effectiveness of organisational controls and assurance systems.

Benefit from the Right Topics

- Organisational Purpose
- Governance
 - Definition and principles of good governance in the corporate environment
 - Components of governance frameworks
 - Global reference frameworks (e.g., OECD, ASX Corporate Governance Principles, COSO)
 - How governance influences risk management, control and assurance
- Risk Management
 - Definition and purpose of risk management
 - Relationship between governance, risk and control
 - o Reference frameworks (e.g. ISO 31000, COSO ERM)
 - o Underlying risk management principles
 - Assessing risk maturity and organisational risk culture
- Control
 - o Relationship of control to risk response
 - Control reference frameworks (e.g. COSO Internal Control Framework)

- Understanding management systems and their components
- Assurance and the Role of Internal Audit
 - o Internal audit's responsibilities in evaluating governance, risk and control
 - o Assessing system design, implementation and monitoring
 - o Applying GRC frameworks to audit planning and engagement execution

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the concepts of governance, risk management and control and how they interrelate
- Identify and interpret leading governance, risk and control frameworks
- Critically reflect on organisational governance and risk maturity
- Assess control frameworks, including design, implementation and operational effectiveness
- Evaluate management systems and their alignment with organisational purpose
- Apply GRC principles to internal audit engagements
- Strengthen assurance planning and reporting through effective use of GRC frameworks