ISFT

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF FINANCIAL TRAINING

ISFT-SERIES-1 · JOB-READY

Financial Markets Foundations Certificate

Your job-ready start in financial markets: understand how markets work and place your first orders with confidence.

8	16	160 hrs	Online
MODULES	CREDITS	LEARNING	LIVE WEEKLY



OCN London

www.derivion.in

Centre: Derivion International Private Limited (trading as ISFT) · Enquiries: info@derivion.in

WHY THIS PROGRAMME

Job-ready skills for financial markets, in one course.

One complete programme that takes you from how shares, currencies, commodities and bonds work, who takes part and how regulation protects traders, to placing and managing orders with sensible risk limits: the practical base employers look for in entry-level market roles.



01

One complete certification

Eight modules, two practical projects and a final case, certified through OCN London and ISFT.

02

Built for true beginners

No finance background or trading account needed. Practice uses demo accounts.

03

Practitioner-designed

Authored by Head Educator Neil Crammond, a practising markets trader with 40+ years across LIFFE, CBOT and CME.

04

Applied, not just informational

You place and justify an order and risk plan, then compare two asset classes using real market data.

WHO IT IS FOR

Built for anyone starting out.

For anyone who wants a job-ready base in financial markets: one structured course from how markets are built to placing your first orders.

Students and graduates

New to financial markets and ready to start.

Career changers

Professionals moving into finance.

Job seekers

Aiming for entry-level roles in financial markets.



Entry requirements

There are no formal entry requirements.

- Basic literacy, numeracy and English
- No prior knowledge of financial markets needed
- A device with internet access to reach the learning platform

WHAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO

Four things you will be able to do.



Read market structure

Describe how financial markets are structured and regulated.

MODULES 2 & 4



Compare asset classes

Compare the five main asset classes and what moves each.

MODULES 5–8



Place and manage orders

Place and manage orders on a trading platform.

MODULE 3



Read the bond market

Explain how interest rates drive bond prices.

MODULE 8

ABOUT US

Who's behind it.

ISFT
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF FINANCIAL TRAINING

ISFT, the International School of Financial Training, teaches financial markets online through structured, assessed programmes. ISFT is the education brand of Derivion International Private Limited, a DPIIT-recognised EdTech company in Gurugram, and an approved centre of OCN London.

WE TRAIN FUTURE LEADERS ACROSS

- Trading
- Broking
- Research
- Portfolio management
- Risk management
- Investment banking

OCN London

OCN London is an established awarding organisation. ISFT-Series-1 is quality-assured by OCN London, and successful learners receive OCN London certification alongside the ISFT certificate.

GUIDED BY VALUES OF

- Social justice
- Diversity
- Integrity
- Quality

AWARDING ORGANISATION

For ISFT-Series-1

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

The numbers behind the programme.

One complete programme: 8 modules, 16 credits and 160 learning hours, at about 10 hours a week including the live session.

16	8	160	~16
CREDITS	MODULES	LEARNING HOURS	WEEKS TYPICAL



8 modules

About 20 hours each, 160 hours in total

2 projects

Plus a quiz per module and a one-hour final case

SERIES	ISFT-Series-1: Financial Markets Foundations
CERTIFICATION	OCN London · ISFT
CENTRE	Derivion International Private Limited (trading as ISFT)
DELIVERY	Online, recorded lessons + one live session a week
START DATES	A new batch starts on the 1st of every month

HOW IT WORKS

Five steps to job-ready.

Step one is simply choosing your batch: a new batch starts on the 1st of every month. Study at about 10 hours a week and most learners finish in around 16 weeks.



02

Learn online

Recorded lessons and notes for every module, at your own pace.

03

Weekly live session

Ask questions and work through examples with a trainer.

04

Prove what you know

A quiz after each module, two practical projects, and a final case.

05

Get certified

Your ISFT-Series-1 certificate, OCN London certification and a statement of results.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone
- An internet connection
- No trading account: practice uses demo accounts

YOUR LEARNING JOURNEY · ONE PROGRAMME, EIGHT MODULES

Eight modules, one clear path to job-ready.

1

Financial Markets and Asset Classes

20 HOURS · QUIZ

2

Market Structure and Trading Instruments

20 HOURS · QUIZ

3

Trading Platforms, Orders and Risk Management

20 HOURS · QUIZ + PROJECT

4

Financial Markets Overview and Structure

20 HOURS · QUIZ

5

Equities and Stock Markets

20 HOURS · QUIZ

6

Foreign Exchange and Currency Markets

20 HOURS · QUIZ

7

Commodities and Energy Markets

20 HOURS · QUIZ

8

Bonds, Interest Rates and Derivatives

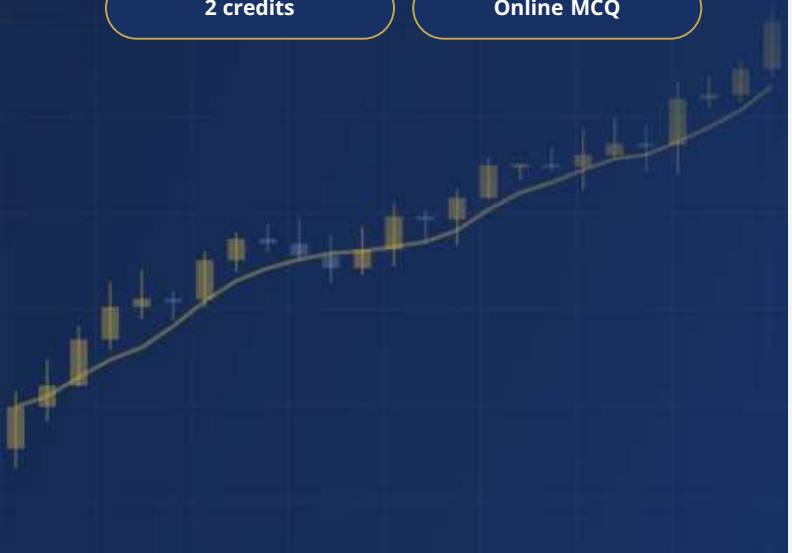
20 HOURS · QUIZ + PROJECT

MODULE 1

Financial Markets and Asset Classes

The map of the market before you trade in it: how global financial markets are structured, the main asset classes traded in them, and who participates and why.

10 GLH | 10 self-study | 2 credits | Online MCQ



Purpose and structure of markets

- Explain the role financial markets play in the wider economy
- Identify the main types of financial markets
- Describe the difference between primary and secondary markets

The main asset classes

- Describe the characteristics of equities, bonds, currencies and commodities
- Identify examples relevant to Indian and global markets
- Explain the basic risk and return of each asset class

Who participates, and why

- Identify the main categories of market participants
- Explain the different motivations for participating in markets

Global financial markets | **Equities** | **Bonds** | **Currencies** | **Commodities** | **Market participants** | **NSE and BSE in a global context**

MODULE 2

Market Structure and Trading Instruments

Look inside the market: how exchanges, brokers and clearing houses connect a buy order to a sell order, and the core terminology traders use to describe a quote.

9 GLH | 11 self-study | 2 credits | Online MCQ

READING A QUOTE

BID	Highest price a buyer will pay
SPREAD	The gap between the two
OFFER	Lowest price a seller will accept

How markets are structured

- Describe the role of exchanges, brokers and clearing houses
- Explain how buy and sell orders are matched in a market

Trading instruments

- Identify the key features of spot transactions, futures and options
- Explain the difference between trading an asset directly and trading a derivative of it

Market terminology

- Define bid, offer, spread, volume and liquidity
- Select the correct terminology to describe a simple market scenario

Exchange and broker structure | Clearing and settlement basics | Spot vs derivative instruments | Reading a basic quote

MODULE 3

Trading Platforms, Orders and Risk Management

The applied module: navigate a trading platform, choose the right order type, size a position responsibly and use a stop-loss, then bring it together in a written scenario.

9 GLH | 11 self-study | 2 credits | Quiz + project



Trading platforms

- Describe the basic functions of a trading platform
- Identify the main order types

Risk management

- Explain risk per trade and position sizing
- Describe why a stop-loss order is used to manage risk

Trading discipline

- Explain why emotional decision-making can be a risk in trading
- Identify simple practices that support disciplined trading behaviour

Applied scenario

- Select an appropriate order type and position size for a market scenario
- Justify the stop-loss level and risk approach chosen

Platform navigation | **Order types** | **Position sizing and stop-loss** | **Trading discipline** | **Common beginner mistakes**

MODULE 3 · PROJECT 1

Put your learning to work.

Module 3 ends with a short written trading scenario. You place, and justify, an order and risk plan of your own.

400–600

words, written on the LMS

Assessed by the Head Educator against a published marking brief.



ORDER AND RISK PLAN

Written trading scenario

Order type

Select the appropriate order type

Position size

Size the position responsibly

Stop-loss level

Justify where and why it is placed

Risk approach

Explain your risk management

MODULE 4

Financial Markets Overview and Structure

How exchanges, regulators and clearing houses interact, and how market structures differ across developed and emerging economies.

2 credits

20 hours



Structure of global markets

- Explain how exchanges, regulators and clearing houses interact within a financial market
- Compare the structure of developed and emerging market exchanges, including Indian markets

The function of regulation

- Explain the role of a market regulator, e.g. SEBI, FCA, SEC
- Describe why regulation is important for market confidence and stability

INDICATIVE CONTENT

Global exchange structures

Regulatory bodies: SEBI, FCA, SEC

Clearing and settlement

Market confidence and integrity

MODULE 5

Equities and Stock Markets

What a share represents, how equity markets function, and the basic concepts used to value and analyse a listed company.

2 credits | 20 hours

Characteristics of equity markets

- Explain what a share represents and how equity markets function
- Describe the difference between primary issuance (IPO) and secondary market trading

Analysing and trading equities

- Analyse basic valuation concepts used to assess a listed company
- Explain how index trading, e.g. Nifty, S&P 500, differs from single-stock trading



INDICATIVE CONTENT

- Shares and equity ownership
- IPOs and secondary trading
- Basic valuation concepts
- Index trading: global and Indian indices

MODULE 6

Foreign Exchange and Currency Markets

How the world's largest market operates, how a currency pair is quoted, and what drives a currency's value.

2 credits

20 hours



How the FX market operates

- Explain the structure and scale of the global FX market
- Describe how a currency pair is quoted and traded

What drives currency values

- Identify the main economic and political factors affecting exchange rates
- Identify the likely impact of a given economic event on a specified currency pair

INDICATIVE CONTENT

FX market structure and scale

Currency pair quoting conventions

Drivers of currency value

INR in the context of global FX

MODULE 7

Commodities and Energy Markets

Hard versus soft commodities, who trades them and how, and why gold and crude oil matter to Indian traders and investors.

2 credits | 20 hours

Structure of commodity markets

- Explain the difference between hard and soft commodities
- Identify the main participants and exchanges operating in commodity and energy markets
- Describe how commodities and energy products are typically traded

What drives commodity prices

- Identify supply and demand factors affecting a named commodity
- Identify the relevance of commodity markets, e.g. gold, crude oil, to Indian traders and investors

INDICATIVE CONTENT

Hard vs soft commodities | Spot and futures trading | Supply and demand drivers | Gold and crude oil in Indian markets



MODULE 8

Bonds, Interest Rates and Derivatives

How bonds generate returns, the basic role of futures and options, and applying it all in a real comparative analysis.

2 credits

20 hours



Bonds and fixed income

- Explain what a bond represents and how it generates returns for an investor
- Describe the relationship between bond prices and interest rates

The role of derivatives

- Explain the purpose of futures and options contracts
- Describe how derivatives can be used for hedging or speculation

Applying knowledge across asset classes

- Select recent, real market data for at least two different asset classes and summarise current conditions in each
- Evaluate the two asset classes, applying relevant concepts such as valuation and risk/return characteristics

INDICATIVE CONTENT

Bond basics and yield

Price / interest-rate relationship

Futures and options

Hedging vs speculation

Comparative analysis across asset classes

MODULE 8 · PROJECT 2

One market alone doesn’t tell the full story.

Module 8 ends with a written comparative analysis: real, recent market data for two different asset classes, evaluated side by side.

800–1,200

words, written comparative market analysis report

Assessed by the Head Educator against a published marking brief.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS REPORT

Real market data, two asset classes

Pick two asset classes

Real, recent market data for each

Summarise current conditions

For each asset class in turn

Evaluate side by side

Valuation and risk/return characteristics

ASSESSMENT

How you're assessed.

Every module ends with a quiz: 25 multiple-choice questions in 75 minutes, 70% to pass, and you can retake it. Projects get feedback within 10 working days and one free resubmission. The programme ends with a one-hour final case.



1

EVERY MODULE

Module quizzes

Eight quizzes, one after each module, auto-marked online

8 quizzes · 25 questions · 70% pass mark · Retakes

2

PRACTICAL PROJECTS

Two written projects

A 400–600 word trading scenario and an 800–1,200 word market report

Project 1 · Project 2 · 10-day feedback · Resubmit once

3

FINAL STEP

Final case

About one hour, opening once all eight modules are passed. It ties the programme together.

About 1 hour · All modules · One grade

Your grade

Pass 70–74%, Merit 75–84%, Distinction 85%+, with one overall grade for the programme.

Projects

Tasks that ask you to apply, analyse or justify are assessed through the Module 3 scenario and the Module 8 report.

QUALITY AND STANDARDS

Standards you can rely on.

Assessment is quality-assured at every stage, and the programme is reviewed every year.



1 Set

Activities are set internally by tutor/assessors so learners can meet the learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

2 Moderated

Assessed evidence is internally moderated at the centre, unless it is computer-assessed.

3 Externally verified

An OCN London External Quality Assurer moderates externally.

4 Reviewed every year

The Head Educator reviews the programme annually, informed by learner feedback, assessment outcomes and OCN London quality reports.

MEET YOUR HEAD EDUCATOR



Neil Crammond

HEAD EDUCATOR · UK

A practising financial markets trader.

40+

years of active experience

ACTIVE ACROSS

LIFFE · CBOT · CME

Designed by a practitioner

Neil designed and authored this programme, mapping the content to what learners new to financial markets in India need first.

Assessed by a practitioner

He assesses the Module 3 trading scenario and the Module 8 market report directly, against a published marking brief.

QUESTIONS ON THIS PROGRAMME

Questions learners ask.



Do I need a finance background?

No. The programme starts from the beginning.

BACKGROUND



Do I need a trading account?

No. Practice uses demo accounts and no real-money trading is needed.

PRACTICE



How long does it take?

About 16 weeks at around 10 hours a week, and you can go faster or slower within your access period.

TIME



Will this help me get a job?

That is what it is built for: the practical skills employers look for in entry-level trading support, broking and markets operations roles. Hiring decisions rest with employers, so no course can guarantee a job.

CAREERS



Not sure this programme fits you?

Write to info@derivion.in and we will help you choose.

TALK TO US

CAREER OUTCOMES

Ready for your first role in financial markets.



JOB-READY FOR

Entry-level roles in trading support, broking, investor-services support and markets operations.

BUILD ON IT WITH THE NEXT SERIES

- **ISFT-Series-2: Technical Analysis & Trading Certificate**
- **ISFT-Series-3: Derivatives & Fixed Income Markets Certificate**
- **ISFT-Series-4: Trader Risk & Mindset Certificate**

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