

DiAM

Digital Assets and MiCA®

Overview

Over the last few years there has been a real push to develop assets based on blockchain technology such as digital assets or crypto assets. The technology also enables the development of various types of financial instruments such as stable-coins, central bank digital money (CBDC) or tokenized traditional assets. After more than a decade of adoption by the investment world, it is progressively gaining volume and market share. It is no surprise that regulation has consistently reached these assets and this technology. Currently in Europe, the Directive for the Prevention of Money Laundering, AML5, is in force and MiCA Regulation (Markets in Crypto Assets) is drafted.

Traditional financial entities are beginning to offer or consider products and services related to this sector: intermediation in cryptocurrencies, tokenized vehicles, NFTs, derivatives on crypto assets, etc.

The programme provides the basic knowledge to face cryptocurrencies and financial assets represented in blockchain.

Target audience

- Financial professionals such as financial advisors, research analysts, sales people, risk managers, legal experts, and technical specialists, who are looking to understand digital assets and their evolving regulation.
- Individuals working in banking, finance, and insurance who can benefit from expanding their knowledge in this area.
- Individual investors interested in gaining insights into digital assets and their relevance in the financial world.

Program objectives

The program provides the necessary know how and understanding on:

- blockchain, how it works, and what it represents for the financial industry.
- how to classify crypto-assets and how they are affected by current regulation.
- the different products and services in the world of crypto assets.
- the evolving regulatory landscape with emphasis in the MiCA directive.
- the concept of DeFi (decentralised finance), as opposed to TradFi (traditional finance), and how they relate to each other.

Program structure

Blockchain technology and digital assets

This module provides a foundational understanding of blockchain technology, contrasting centralized and distributed systems and the mechanics of blockchain operations. It covers the principles of blockchain protocols in comparison to traditional TCP/IP, explores Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLTs), and the pivotal role of smart contracts in automating and securing transactions. It introduces crypto assets, detailing the workings of public blockchains, the main cryptocurrencies, and consensus protocols. Furthermore, it examines types of tokens, their benefits, and practical applications such as tokenised real estate, showing the transformative impact on the traditional financial landscape.



Regulations affecting digital assets

This module navigates the complex regulatory environment surrounding digital assets. It begins with an in-depth analysis of the Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) regulation, its scope, legal classifications, issuance rules, and the regulatory framework for crypto-asset services. The module also addresses the Pilot Regime for DLT, its objectives, limitations, and strategies for transition towards DLT-based trading and settlement systems. Additionally, it covers the fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directive (AML5), and the FATF Recommendations

Financial services in crypto assets

This module begins with an overview of financial analysis in the context of blockchain. The discussion extends to the intermediation in digital assets, contrasting decentralized models with traditional exchanges, and addressing the regulatory implications and security concerns. The module also explores the crucial aspect of custody in the digital asset space, including wallet types and custody solutions. It concludes with an examination of financial vehicles like investment funds, underscoring the innovative investment opportunities presented by crypto assets.

Decentralized finance and web 3

The final module ventures into the innovative sectors of Decentralized Finance (DeFi) and Web 3. It introduces DeFi. The module also covers DeFi protocols and their primary applications, offering insights into the future of finance. The exploration of Web 3 includes an understanding of digital wallets, their importance akin to bank accounts, and the transition from Web 2 to Web 3. Lastly, the module discusses Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) and the Metaverse.

Format

The DiAM online program covers the complete examination syllabus and contains the following supporting materials:

- E-seminars
- Course slides
- Self-assessment

IMPORTANT: no tutorial services are included in the program.

Start and duration

Start any time. 24 study hours is recommended to prepare for the DiAM exam.

Examination

exam is comprised of 30 MCQs and
on of 90 minutes
e, September, December

Language

English (study material and exam)

Costs

Training program	CHF 800* (access study platform: 1 year)
Examination	CHF 180

* Access to study platform: until graduation, but max. 12 months, extension for 6 months can be acquired for CHF 400

For more information and any further questions

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