Beyond the Basics:
Essential Skills and Practices

About This Course

Course Description
Are you proficient in the foundational tools and techniques of internal audit but need to go beyond the basics? This course is designed for internal auditors with 1–5 years of experience who need to move to the next level in internal audit, adding value and providing future-focused insight when performing audit engagements.

In this course, you will learn several of the essential skills and practices that are embedded in The IIA’s Global Internal Audit Competency Framework. The curriculum is designed to engage you in group discussions and breakout sessions based on real-world scenarios and case studies, with one segment dedicated to an internal audit engagement simulation. These activities will help you identify opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the internal audit process.

Course Objectives
- Employ critical thinking skills to apply key principles in IPPF guidance to real-world internal audit challenges.
- Compare major risk management and internal control frameworks.
- Apply risk and control frameworks using real-world internal audit activities.
- Evaluate the risk responses and key controls needed to complete a top-down risk assessment.
- Apply business acumen and critical thinking skills in audit project planning.
- Identify the types of evidence used to meet audit project objectives.
- Apply persuasion, collaboration, and critical thinking in communicating audit results.
- Apply process improvement techniques and innovation to identify opportunities to improve your internal audit activity.
Course Topics

Everyday Applications of the International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF)
- Use critical thinking to evaluate opportunities to add value and manage independence/objectivity risks.
- Employ critical thinking skills to apply key principles in IPPF guidance to real-world internal audit challenges and opportunities.

Top-Down Risk Assessment & Control Evaluation
- Compare major risk management and internal control frameworks.
- Examine an approach to consider an organization’s mission, strategic objectives, and culture in a top-down risk assessment.
- Use risk management principles and practices to identify and assess risks.
- Evaluate the risk responses and key controls needed to complete a top-down risk assessment.
- Explore an approach to align internal audit’s engagements with the organization’s strategic objectives and risk management process.

Audit Project Planning: Case Study
- Apply business acumen and critical thinking skills in audit project planning.
- Use a top-down risk assessment approach in audit project planning.
- Discuss effective interviewing and business process analysis techniques.
- Create an audit project plan focused on “red risks” and opportunities to add value.

Performing the Work: Case Study
- Apply critical thinking in performing the work needed to achieve audit project objectives.
- Identify the types of evidence used to meet audit project objectives and deliver value-added results.
- Use professional judgment, skepticism, and curiosity in evaluating audit results and formulating conclusions.
Communicating the Results: Case Study

- Apply persuasion, collaboration, and critical thinking in communicating audit results.
- Use the root cause of issues to develop audit observations.
- Examine negotiation tactics to manage conflict and resolve disagreements.
- Use critical thinking to identify and propose practical solutions.

Internal Audit Improvement and Innovation

- Discuss approaches to promote continuous improvement and innovation in the internal audit activity.
- Identify opportunities to improve the quality of an internal audit activity by applying key concepts and new ideas from the course.
- Apply process improvement techniques and innovation to identify opportunities to improve your internal audit activity.
Course Information

Course Duration: 2 Days

CPE Hours Available: 16

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Field of Study: Auditing

Prerequisites: None

Advance Preparation: This course is ideal for internal auditors with 1–5 years of experience and who have already completed the Tools & Techniques I: New Internal Auditor course.

Delivery Format: On-site Training (Group-Live); Seminar (Group-Live)