



Subject Outline

FIN361 Applied Project Management



Section 1 — General information

1.1 Administrative details

Duration	Credit points	Level
One study period (12 weeks)	6	AQF9

1.2 Core or elective subject

This is an elective subject for the Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance, Graduate Diploma of Applied Finance and Master of Applied Finance.

1.3 Delivery mode

This subject is delivered online.

1.4 Assumed knowledge

Kaplan assumes that students have completed FIN360 Project Management Fundamentals, or understand the content covered in this subject, prior to undertaking FIN361 Applied Project Management.

1.5 Course transition subject equivalence

Students may not be required to complete this subject if they have transitioned from a SIA/Finsia/Kaplan course and have completed the following subjects:

- there are no equivalences for this subject.

1.6 Work integrated learning

There are no placements, internships or work experience requirements associated with undertaking this subject.

1.7 Other resource requirements

Students do not require access to specialist facilities and/or equipment to undertake this subject.



Section 2 — Academic details

2.1 Subject overview

This subject explores the skills and knowledge required to manage organisational projects on an ongoing basis. This means students will learn the critical steps that are set in motion once approval is given for a project to commence as well as the subsequent actions that ensure the project is a success. This comprises an understanding of all the major factors that could positively or negatively influence the management project right up to its completion or termination.

2.2 Subject learning outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Analyse the organisational factors that promote effective project management.
2. Analyse the elements and challenges of the project management scheduling phases that may give rise to ethical compromises.
3. Evaluate overall project performance and compliance with quality standards.
4. Create a project plan that meets relevant standards and strategic objectives.

2.3 Topic learning outcomes

Topic 1: Leadership and the project manager

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- discuss the significance and impact of effective leadership in project management.
- distinguish between leaders and managers in project management.
- identify and explain characteristics of effective project leadership.
- explore the key roles and responsibilities of project champions.
- introduction to Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)

Topic 2: Project scheduling: developing a network, duration estimation and critical path method

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- discuss the importance and need for project scheduling and explain key project scheduling terminologies.
- identify and explain different types of activities within activity networks.
- construct an activity network using the Activity-on-Node (AON) technique.
- perform activity duration estimation using probabilistic estimating techniques.
- construct the critical path for a project schedule network using forward and backward passes.
- identify and determine activity float.
- apply the steps that can be employed to reduce the critical path.
- review the ethical considerations when developing an activity network.

Topic 3: Project scheduling: lags, crashing and work activity

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- apply lag relationships to project activities.
- construct and comprehend time and action (Gantt) charts.
- explore alternative means to accelerate projects, including their benefits and drawbacks.
- review the trade-offs required in decision to crash project activities.
- examine the process for a planning work activity.
- identify and discuss the advantages of using a work breakdown structure.
- construct a milestone plan.
- review the ethical considerations when developing an activity network

Topic 4: Software applications for project management

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- discuss the importance of technology adaptation in project management
- evaluate the factors that determine technology adoption
- identify and examine different types of project management software

Topic 5: Project team building, conflict and negotiation

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- identify and discuss the steps involved in project team building
- explore the characteristics of effective project teams and discuss why teams fail
- review the stages in project team development
- discuss how to achieve cross-functional cooperation in teams
- review the nature of conflict and evaluate response methods.

Topic 6: Project management methodologies

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- review different project methodologies and their uses
- identify and explain the key facets of each methodology
- examine the strengths and weaknesses of different methodologies

Topic 7: Resource management

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- examine the management of human resources on projects
- explain the facets of managing financial resources
- explore the physical resources associated with projects
- examine the management of information resources on projects

Topic 8: Monitoring and controlling projects

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- review likely causes of project failure
- discuss how to monitor a project successfully
- examine how to build a monitoring system
- discuss the problem resolution process

Topic 9: Project closeout

On successful completion of this topic, students should be able to:

- discuss the process of closing out a project
- review the stages for closing a project
- examine the activities associated with closing a project
- explain process for securing client acceptance for a project

2.4 Assessment schedule

Assessment	Description	Week	Topics	Weighting	Subject learning outcomes assessed
Task	PowerPoint slide deck with speaker notes	4	1–3	25%	LO1, LO2, LO4
Assignment 1	Project plan	8	1–6	40%	LO1–LO4
Assignment 2	Critical analysis	12	1–9	35%	LO1–LO4

Please refer to our website <www.kaplanprofessional.edu.au> to review student policies relating to your assessment, including the *Kaplan Assessment Policy* and *Academic Integrity and Conduct Policy*.

2.5 Prescribed text

There is no prescribed text for this subject. Students are provided with key readings and access to Kaplan’s online databases. Students are encouraged to research and read widely on the topic.

2.6 Study plan

Week(s)	Topic name	Study load in hours
1	Topic 1: Leadership and the project manager	10
2	Topic 2: Project scheduling: developing a network, duration estimation and critical path method	10
3	Topic 3: Project scheduling: lags, crashing and work activity	10
4	Task (Weighting 25%)	10
5	Topic 4: Software applications for project management	10
6	Topic 5: Project team building	10
7	Topic 6: Project management methodologies	10
8	Assignment 1 (Weighting 40%)	10
9	Topic 7: Resource management	10
10	Topic 8: Monitoring and controlling projects	10
11	Topic 9: Project closeout	10
12	Assignment 2 (Weighting 35%)	10
Total minimum study load		120 hours

Additional study hours (if required), dependent on knowledge and personal commitments	60 hours
Total study load, including additional study hours	180 hours