
4IR FOR ACCOUNTANTS

**EMBRACE 4IR AND UPSKILL YOURSELF FOR
THE 21ST CENTURY**

COURSE OUTLINE 2020



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG



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COURSE TOPICS

THE FOLLOWING RANGE OF TOPICS ARE COVERED IN THIS COURSE WITHIN THE REALM OF THE 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION:

- > **HISTORY OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND ACCOUNTING**
- > **AI**
- > **MACHINE LEARNING**
- > **NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING (NLP)**
- > **BLOCKCHAIN**
- > **ETHICS**

AS AN INTER-DISCIPLINARY COURSE, THESE TOPICS COVERED HAVE A TECHNICAL AS WELL AS A BUSINESS FOCUS.



HOW ARE THESE TOPICS ADDRESSED WITHIN THE COURSE?

AI, MACHINE LEARNING, NLP AND BLOCKCHAIN ARE FIRST COVERED FROM A TECHNICAL POINT OF VIEW, THIS PROVIDES INSIGHT INTO THE WAYS IN WHICH THESE VARIOUS TECHNOLOGIES OPERATE.

AT THIS STAGE OF THE COURSE, YOU WILL ACQUIRE THE COMPETENCY OF DIGITAL ACUMEN. THIS COMPETENCY TIES IN WITH SAICA'S 2025 VISION FOR A CA(SA).

ONCE YOU HAVE OBTAINED THE DIGITAL ACUMEN COMPETENCY, THE COURSE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH INSIGHT INTO THE ROLE A CA(SA) CAN PLAY IN REGARDS TO THE 4IR AND ADDITIONALLY HOW THESE TOOLS CAN BE USED IN BUSINESS.

THIS IS ACHIEVED BY POSITIONING THE VARIOUS TECHNOLOGIES WITHIN A HYPOTHETICAL CASE STUDY. FURTHERMORE, REAL LIFE EXAMPLES OF BUSINESSES USING THE VARIOUS TECHNOLOGIES ARE EXPLORED AND THE IMPACT IT HAS ON THESE BUSINESSES DISCUSSED.



HOW ARE THESE TOPICS ADDRESSED WITHIN THE COURSE?

YOU WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED WITH VARIOUS SOFTWARES THAT ARE USED IN THE MARKET FOR YOUR PERUSAL AFTER THE COURSE.

LASTLY, THE COURSE WILL TOUCH ON HOW THESE TECHNOLOGIES IMPACT THE FOUR MAJOR AREAS NAMELY TAXATION, ACCOUNTING, AUDITING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT. IT IS AT THIS STAGE IN THE COURSE THAT YOU WILL ACQUIRE THE COMPETENCIES OF JUDGEMENT, DECISION MAKING, BUSINESS STRATEGY AND INTEGRATED THINKING. THESE COMPETENCIES ALSO TIE IN WITH SAICA'S 2025 VISION FOR A CA(SA).

ADDITIONALLY, WITHIN EACH TOPIC YOU WILL RECEIVE INSIGHT TO THE FUTURE OF THAT SPECIFIC TOPIC.

FINALLY, THE COURSE TURNS TO ETHICS...



HOW ARE THESE TOPICS ADDRESSED WITHIN THE COURSE?

ETHICS AS A TOPIC WILL PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE LIFE OF CA WITHIN THE 4IR.

WHAT THIS COURSE DOES, IS BRING TO LIGHT THE ETHICAL DILEMMAS THAT BUSINESS WILL FACE WHEN TRYING TO USE 4IR TOOLS AND ALSO PROVIDE SOME INSIGHT INTO HOW TO OVERCOME THESE DILEMMAS.



HOW IS THE COURSE STRUCTURED?

AS PART OF EACH UNIT, THERE ARE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THAT YOU WILL NEED TO EXPLORE. THESE INCLUDE RESEARCH ARTICLES, WEBSITES AND VIDEOS. THESE RESOURCES ADD TO THE DISCOURSE FOR EACH TOPIC COVERED.

THE COURSE ALSO INCLUDES A FOCUSED DISCUSSION AREA WHERE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ARE RAISED ON THE VARIOUS TOPICS.

THROUGHOUT EACH MODULE, YOU WILL BE PROMPTED TO USE THIS DISCUSSION AREA TO LEARN FROM YOUR FELLOW COLLEAGUES AND COURSE STUDENTS.



SAICA

THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE
OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

[develop.influence.lead.](http://develop.influence.lead)

HOW LONG IS THE COURSE?

COURSE DURATION:

8 WEEKS FROM THE DATE OF REGISTRATION TO COMPLETE THE COURSE.

IT WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY 40 HOURS TO COMPLETE. THIS INCLUDES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE QUIZ FOR EACH UNIT AND THE FINAL ASSESSMENT. **REMEMBER, THIS COURSE IS COMPETENCY BASED.**

SINCE THE COURSE IS 100% ONLINE, YOU HAVE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY AND CAN START THE COURSE AT ANY POINT IN TIME.

ONCE, YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE COURSE, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AND WILL BE ABLE TO LOG 40 CPD HOURS.



**PLEASE DIRECT ANY
ENQUIRIES TO:
ACCOUNTING4IR@UJ.AC.ZA**

**“UNLESS WE ADAPT, UNLESS WE UNDERSTAND
THE NATURE OF THE PROFOUND CHANGE THAT IS
RESHAPING OUR WORLD AND UNLESS WE
READILY EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITIES IT
PRESENTS, THE PROMISE OF OUR NATION’S BIRTH
WILL FOREVER REMAIN UNFULFILLED.”**

**~ CYRIL RAMAPHOSA
PRESIDENT OF RSA**

