



Seminar: 'Internal Auditors' Ethics

Program Overview

Ethics is at the heart of effective internal auditing. Internal auditors are expected not only to understand professional standards, but also to apply ethical principles when faced with pressure, conflicts of interest, sensitive information, difficult judgments and competing expectations.

This practical two-hour seminar combines the Global Internal Audit Standards™ – Domain II: Ethics and Professionalism with a strong focus on real-life ethical dilemmas and case studies.

Participants will explore how the five ethical principles apply in everyday internal audit situations and will consider how an internal auditor should respond when the right course of action is not always obvious.

The seminar also examines the role of internal auditors in evaluating the ethical environment of their organizations, identifying ethics red flags, and assessing the effectiveness of ethics programs.

Program Objectives

This course aims to help internal auditors:

- Understand and apply the Global Internal Audit Standards™ relating to Ethics and Professionalism.
- Recognize ethical dilemmas, pressures and potential impairments to objectivity in everyday audit work.
- Apply professional judgment, skepticism and due professional care when dealing with challenging situations.
- Understand how integrity, objectivity, competency, due professional care and confidentiality influence the credibility of internal auditing.
- Identify ethical red flags and areas of ethics risk within an organization.
- Consider practical approaches to auditing ethics and assessing the effectiveness of an ethics program.
- Discuss and evaluate realistic ethical scenarios through interactive case studies.

The emphasis throughout the seminar is on moving from ethical principles to practical application, enabling participants to reflect on situations they may encounter in their own professional environment.

Target audience

Chief Audit Executives, Audit Managers, Auditors-in-Charge, Senior and Staff Auditors, Junior Auditors and professionals working in related control functions, including Compliance, Risk Management, External Audit, Corporate Governance, Security and Control functions, as well as Board and Audit Committee members and managers who wish to strengthen their understanding of Internal Auditors' Ethics, ethical decision-making and the practical application of the Global Internal Audit Standards™.

	Topic	Duration
Session 1	• The Ethical Moment • When Does an Ethical Issue Begin? • Ethical Pressure • The Five Principles • Introduction to the Global Internal Audit Standards • Domain I: Purpose of Internal Auditing • Domain II: Ethics and Professionalism • Principle 1 Demonstrate Integrity • Standard 1.1 Honesty and Professional Courage • Standard 1.2 Organization's Ethical Expectations • Standard 1.3 Legal and Ethical Behavior • Case Study: Integrity, Pressure & Professional Courage	30'

Session 2	• Principle 2 Maintain Objectivity • Standard 2.1 Individual Objectivity • Standard 2.2 Safeguarding Objectivity • Standard 2.3 Disclosing Impairments to Objectivity • Case Study: Conflicts of Interest, Management Pressure & Impairments to Objectivity • Principle 3 Demonstrate Competency • Standard 3.1 Competency • Standard 3.2 Continuing Professional Development • Case Study: When Competence, Responsibility and Professional Judgment Collide • Principle 4 Exercise Due Professional Care • Standard 4.1 Conformance with the Global Internal Audit Standards • Standard 4.2 Due Professional Care • Standard 4.3 Professional Skepticism • Case Study: Professional Judgment & Professional Skepticism • Principle 5 Maintain Confidentiality • Standard 5.1 Use of Information • Standard 5.2 Protection of Information • Case Study: Confidentiality, Sensitive Information & Use of Audit Evidence	60'
Session 3	• Can We Audit Ethics? • Don't Just Audit the Ethics Program • The 6 Questions of an Ethics Audit • Where Would You Look? • The "Ethics Red Flags" • How Would You Assess the Effectiveness of the Ethics Program? • Building Up Strong Relationships	30'

Trainer: Mr. Konstantinos P. Triantafyllidis, CIA, CFSA, CCSA, CFE, CQA

Mr. Konstantinos P. Triantafyllidis is a seasoned internal audit professional with over 30 years of experience in external and internal auditing, particularly within the banking and insurance sectors. He has served as Internal Audit Manager for multiple subsidiaries of major Greek banking groups and currently works as an Internal Audit Consultant.

He is the Past President of the Greek Institute of Internal Auditors (2003–2008) and a former member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Ministry of Economics. Mr. Triantafyllidis holds a degree in Economic Science from the Athens University of Economics and Business and an MBA in Banking.

A highly credentialed professional, he holds the designations of Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certified Financial Services Auditor (CFSA), Certification in Control Self-Assessment (CCSA), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and Certified Quality Assessor (CQA) from the Global Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). He has led numerous External Quality Assessment (EQA) projects for Internal Audit Units, including those in central banks.

Mr. Triantafyllidis is a highly regarded trainer and speaker, having led sessions at numerous national and international seminars and conferences. He has extensive experience delivering training on internal audit, internal control systems, compliance, and risk management, and serves as a longstanding exclusive trainer for the Hellenic Bank Association. He is also a contributing member of the committee that developed the official Greek Corporate Governance Code.