

ERM – Enterprise Risk Management Exam

Fall 2024 and Spring 2025

Important Exam Information:

[Exam Registration](#)

Candidates may register online or with an application.

[Order Study Notes](#)

Study notes are part of the required syllabus and are not available electronically but may be purchased through the online store.

Syllabus Readings

Readings listed in this syllabus may include study notes, online readings and textbooks. Candidates are responsible for all readings in their entirety, including sections such as Appendices, unless it is stated otherwise in the syllabus.

[Introductory Study Note](#)

The Introductory Study Note has a complete listing of all study notes as well as errata and other important information.

[Case Study](#)

This case study will also be provided with the examination. Candidates will not be allowed to bring their copy of the case study into the examination room.

[Past Exams](#)

Past Exams from Fall 2020-present are available on SOA website.

[Updates](#)

Candidates should be sure to check for updates on the Exam Study page periodically for additional corrections or notices to the current syllabus.

1. Topic: Enterprise Risk Management Framework and Process

Learning Objectives

The candidate will understand the ERM framework and process and be able to apply them to organizations.

Learning Outcomes

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Recommend an appropriate framework for an organization's enterprise risk management and an acceptable governance structure
- b) Demonstrate an understanding of the perspectives of regulators, rating agencies, stock analysts, auditors, and company stakeholders and how they evaluate the risks and the risk management of an organization
- c) Demonstrate how to articulate an organization's risk appetite, desired risk profile, quantified risk tolerances, risk philosophy and risk objectives
- d) Assess the overall risk exposure arising from an organization's current and emerging risks
- e) Propose ERM solutions or strategies that effectively manage risk under different real (case study) and hypothetical situations facing financial and non-financial organizations

Resources

- *Financial Enterprise Risk Management*, Sweeting, Paul, 2nd Edition, 2017
 - Ch. 8: Risk Identification
 - Ch. 14: Quantifying Particular Risks
- *Quantitative Enterprise Risk Management*, Hardy, Mary and Saunders, David, 2022
 - Ch. 13: Liquidity Risk
- ERM-101-12: Measurement and Modeling of Dependencies in Economic Capital, Ch. 4-5
- ERM-106-12: Economic Capital-Practical Considerations, Milliman (section 7 only)
- ERM-107-12: Strategic Risk Management Practice, Andersen and Schroder, 2010, Ch. 7: Strategic Risk Analyses
- ERM-131-18: Leveraging COSO Across the Three Lines of Defenses
- ERM-133-19: Emerging Risks and Enterprise Risk Management, pp. 2-6
- ERM-135-20: Risk Management and the Rating Process for Insurance Companies (Exhibits 4, 5 & 6 only)
- ERM-136-20: Managing Liquidity Risk: Industry Practices and Recommendations for CROs (excluding Ch. 4)
- ERM-137-20: ORSA and the Regulator
- ERM-140-20: Risk Adjustments for Insurance Contracts under IFRS 17: Chapter 3: Risk Adjustment Techniques & Chapter 7: Validation of Risk Adjustments
- ERM-142-20: Data Quality is the Biggest Challenge

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- ERM-143-20: Internal Controls Toolkit, Doxey, Ch. 1, pp. 11-17 & 27-35
- ERM-148-22: Agency Theory and Asymmetric Information
- ERM-149-22: Managing 21st Century Political Risk
- ERM-152-23: Managing Environmental, Social and Governance Risks in Life & Health Insurance Business
- ERM-702-12: IAA Note on ERM for Capital and Solvency Purposes in the Insurance Industry, pp.9-38
- [Regulatory Capital Adequacy for Life Insurance Companies: A Comparison of Four Jurisdictions](#), SOA Research, Jul 2023 (excluding Appendices; spreadsheet optional)
- [Regulatory Risk and North American Insurance Organizations](#), sections 6.1-6.14 & 7
- [Risk Appetite: Linkage with Strategic Planning Report](#) (excluding Ch. 7)
- [Embedding Cyber Risk in Risk Management: An Insurer's Perspective](#), pp. 12-15 of Cybersecurity: Impact on Insurance Business and Operations
- [Rating Agency Perspectives on Insurance Company Capital](#), SOA Research, Aug 2023 (excluding Appendices)

2. Topic: Risk Categories and Identification

Learning Objectives

The candidate will understand the types of risks faced by an entity and be able to identify and analyze these risks.

Learning Outcomes

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Describe different definitions and concepts of risk
- b) Discuss risk taxonomy, including an awareness of how individual risks might be categorized in different ways
- c) Identify and analyze specific risks faced by an organization, including but not limited to: financial, environmental, operational, legal, reputational and strategic risks

Resources

- *Financial Enterprise Risk Management*, Sweeting, Paul, 2nd Edition, 2017
 - Ch. 1: An Introduction to Enterprise Risk Management (section 1.1 only)
 - Ch. 8: Risk Identification
- *Quantitative Enterprise Risk Management*, Hardy, Mary and Saunders, David, 2022
 - Ch. 2: Risk Taxonomy
 - Ch. 12: Credit Risk
 - Ch. 13: Liquidity Risk
 - Ch. 16: Risk Transfer
- ERM-107-12: Strategic Risk Management Practice, Andersen and Schroder, 2010, Ch. 7: Strategic Risk Analyses
- ERM-133-19: Emerging Risks and Enterprise Risk Management, pp. 2-6
- ERM-136-20: Managing Liquidity Risk: Industry Practices and Recommendations for CROs (excluding Ch. 4)
- ERM-137-20: ORSA and the Regulator
- ERM-145-21: IAA Paper: Importance of Climate-Related Risks for Actuaries, pp. 2-14
- ERM-148-22: Agency Theory and Asymmetric Information
- ERM-149-22: Managing 21st-Century Political Risk
- ERM-150-22 Exchange Rate Risk Measurement and Management
- ERM-152-23: Managing Environmental, Social and Governance Risks in Life & Health Insurance Business
- ERM-702-12: IAA Note on ERM for Capital and Solvency Purposes in the Insurance Industry, pp. 9-38

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- [Regulatory Capital Adequacy for Life Insurance Companies: A Comparison of Four Jurisdictions](#), SOA Research, Jul 2023 (excluding Appendices; spreadsheet optional)
- [Risk Appetite: Linkage with Strategic Planning Report](#) (excluding Ch. 7)
- [Embedding Cyber Risk in Risk Management: An Insurer's Perspective](#), pp. 12-15 of Cybersecurity: Impact on Insurance Business and Operations
- [Regulatory Risk and North American Insurance Organizations](#), sections 6.1-6.14 & 7
- [Model Risk Management Practice Note](#), AAA, May 2019

3. Topic: Risk Modeling and Aggregation of Risks

Learning Objectives

The candidate will understand the concepts of risk modeling and be able to evaluate and understand the importance of risk models.

Learning Outcomes

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Demonstrate how each of the financial and non-financial risks faced by an organization can be amenable to quantitative analysis
- b) Demonstrate organization-wide risk aggregation techniques that illustrate the concept of risk diversification by incorporating the use of correlation
- c) Evaluate and select appropriate copulas as part of the process of modelling multivariate risks
- d) Demonstrate the use of scenario analysis and stress testing in the measurement of current and emerging risks
- e) Demonstrate the importance of the tails of distributions, tail correlations, and low frequency / high severity events, and the use of extreme value theory to analyze these situations
- f) Demonstrate an understanding of model and parameter risk
- g) Evaluate and select appropriate models to handle diverse risks, including models that use a stochastic approach

Resources

- *Financial Enterprise Risk Management*, Sweeting, Paul, 2nd Edition, 2017
 - Ch. 14: Quantifying Particular Risks
- *Quantitative Enterprise Risk Management*, Hardy, Mary and Saunders, David, 2022
 - Ch. 5: Extreme Value Theory
 - Ch. 6: Copulas
 - Ch. 8: Market Risk Models (sections 8.1-8.7)
 - Ch. 10: Economic Scenario Generators
 - Ch. 12: Credit Risk
 - Ch. 13: Liquidity Risk
 - Ch. 16: Risk Transfers
 - Ch. 18: Risk-Adjusted Measures of Profit and Capital Allocation
(Note: The candidate will not be responsible for proving whether or how the fair allocation criteria are met for any of the capital allocation methods in section 18.4.)
- ERM-101-12: Measurement and Modeling of Dependencies in Economic Capital, Ch. 4-5
- ERM-104-12: Study Note on Parameter Risk, Venter and Sahasrabuddhe (excluding section 3)
- ERM-106-12: Economic Capital-Practical Considerations, Milliman (section 7 only)
- ERM-107-12: Strategic Risk Management Practice, Andersen and Schroder, 2010, Ch. 7: Strategic Risk

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Analyses

- ERM-120-14: IAA Note on Stress Testing and Scenario Analysis (pp. 1-6, 14-17 & 19-25)
- ERM-137-20: ORSA and the Regulator
- ERM-140-20: Risk Adjustments for Insurance Contracts under IFRS 17: Chapter 3: Risk Adjustment Techniques & Chapter 7: Validation of Risk Adjustments
- ERM-145-21: IAA Paper: Importance of Climate-Related Risks for Actuaries, pp. 2-14
- ERM-151-22: Developing Key Risk Indicators to Strengthen Enterprise Risk Management
- [Regulatory Capital Adequacy for Life Insurance Companies: A Comparison of Four Jurisdictions](#), SOA Research, Jul 2023 (excluding Appendices; spreadsheet optional)
- [Risk Appetite: Linkage with Strategic Planning Report](#) (excluding Ch. 7)
- [A New Approach for Managing Operational Risk](#), Ch. 8
- [Embedding Cyber Risk in Risk Management: An Insurer's Perspective](#), pp. 12-15 of Cybersecurity: Impact on Insurance Business and Operations
- [Model Risk Management Practice Note](#), AAA, May 2019
- [Rating Agency Perspectives on Insurance Company Capital](#), SOA Research, Aug 2023 (excluding Appendices)

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4. Topic: Risk Measures

Learning Objectives

The candidate will understand how the risks faced by an entity can be quantified and the use of metrics to measure risk.

Learning Outcomes

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Determine risk exposures using common risk measures (e.g., VaR and TVaR) and compare the properties and limitations of such measures
- b) Analyze quantitative financial and non-financial data using appropriate statistical methods to assist in quantifying risk
- c) Analyze risks that are not easily quantifiable, such as liquidity, operational, and environmental risks

Resources

- *Financial Enterprise Risk Management*, Sweeting, Paul, 2nd Edition, 2017
 - Ch. 9: Some Useful Statistics (background only)
 - Ch. 14: Quantifying Particular Risks
- *Quantitative Enterprise Risk Management*, Hardy, Mary and Saunders, David, 2022
 - Ch. 3: Risk Measures
 - Ch. 10: Economic Scenario Generators
 - Ch. 13: Liquidity Risk
- ERM-106-12: Economic Capital – Practical Considerations, Milliman (section 7 only)
- ERM-133-19: Emerging Risks and Enterprise Risk Management, pp. 2-6
- ERM-136-20: Managing Liquidity Risk: Industry Practices and Recommendations for CROs (excluding Ch. 4)
- ERM-137-20: ORSA and the Regulator
- ERM-140-20: Risk Adjustments for Insurance Contracts under IFRS 17: Chapter 3: Risk Adjustment Techniques & Chapter 7: Validation of Risk Adjustments
- ERM-142-20: Data Quality is the Biggest Challenge
- ERM-149-22: Managing 21st-Century Political Risk
- ERM-150-22: Exchange Rate Risk Measurement and Management
- ERM-151-22: Developing Key Risk Indicators to Strengthen Enterprise Risk Management
- ERM-152-23: Managing Environmental, Social and Governance Risks in Life & Health Insurance Business
- ERM-702-12: IAA Note on ERM for Capital and Solvency Purposes in the Insurance Industry, pp.9-38
- [Regulatory Capital Adequacy for Life Insurance Companies: A Comparison of Four Jurisdictions](#), SOA Research, Jul 2023 (excluding Appendices; spreadsheet optional)

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- [A New Approach for Managing Operational Risk](#), Ch. 8
- [Embedding Cyber Risk in Risk Management: An Insurer's Perspective](#), pp. 12-15 of Cybersecurity: Impact on Insurance Business and Operations

5. Topic: Risk Management Tools and Techniques

Learning Objectives

The candidate will understand the approaches for managing risks and how an entity makes decisions about appropriate techniques.

Learning Outcomes

The Candidate will be able to:

- a) Demonstrate risk optimization and analyze the risk and return trade-offs that result from changes in the organization's risk profile
- b) Demonstrate application of the following responses to risk, including consideration of their costs and benefits: avoidance, acceptance, reduction without transfer, and transfer to a third party
- c) Demonstrate the use of controls for retained and residual risks
- d) Demonstrate how derivatives, synthetic securities, and financial contracting may be used to reduce risk within a static or dynamic hedging program
- e) Determine an appropriate choice of mitigation strategy for a given situation, which balances benefits with inherent costs (including exposure to moral hazard, credit, basis and other risks)
- f) Demonstrate the use of tools and techniques for identifying and managing credit and counterparty risk
- g) Analyze how ALM and other risk management principles can be used to establish investment policy and strategy, including asset allocation
- h) Demonstrate possible risk management strategies for non-financial risks
- i) Choose appropriate techniques to measure, model and manage various financial and non-financial risks faced by an organization

Resources

- *Financial Enterprise Risk Management*, Sweeting, Paul, 2nd Edition, 2017
 - Ch. 16: Responses to Risk
- *Quantitative Enterprise Risk Management*, Hardy, Mary and Saunders, David, 2022
 - Ch. 12: Credit Risk
 - Ch. 15: Risk Mitigation Using Options and Derivatives
 - Ch. 16: Risk Transfers
 - Ch. 18: Risk-Adjusted Measures of Profit and Capital Allocation
(Note: The candidate will not be responsible for proving whether or how the fair allocation criteria are met for any of the capital allocation methods in section 18.4.)
- ERM-107-12: Strategic Risk Management Practice, Andersen and Schroder, 2010, Ch. 7: Strategic Risk Analyses
- ERM-120-14: IAA Note on Stress Testing and Scenario Analysis (pp. 1-6, 14-17 & 19-25)
- ERM-131-18: Leveraging COSO Across the Three Lines of Defenses
- ERM-136-20: Managing Liquidity Risk: Industry Practices and Recommendations for CROs (excluding Ch. 4)

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- ERM-137-20: ORSA and the Regulator
- ERM-143-20: Internal Controls Toolkit, Doxey, Ch. 1, pp. 11-17 & 27-35
- ERM-144-20: Ch. 13: Asset Liability Management Techniques and Practices for Insurance Companies, IAA Risk Book
- ERM-145-21: IAA Paper: Importance of Climate-Related Risks for Actuaries, pp. 2-14
- ERM-147-21: Working with Inherent and Residual Risk
- ERM-149-22: Managing 21st-Century Political Risk
- ERM-150-22: Exchange Rate Risk Measurement and Management
- ERM-151-22: Developing Key Risk Indicators to Strengthen Enterprise Risk Management
- ERM-152-23: Managing Environmental, Social and Governance Risks in Life & Health Insurance Business
- ERM-702-12: IAA Note on ERM for Capital and Solvency Purposes in the Insurance Industry, pp.9-38
- [Risk Appetite: Linkage with Strategic Planning Report](#) (excluding Ch. 7)
- [Embedding Cyber Risk in Risk Management: An Insurer's Perspective](#), pp. 12-15 of Cybersecurity: Impact on Insurance Business and Operations
- [Regulatory Risk and North American Insurance Organizations](#), sections 6.1-6.14 & 7
- [Model Risk Management Practice Note](#), AAA, May 2019

6. Topic: Capital Management
Learning Objectives
The candidate will understand the concept of economic capital, risk measures in capital assessment and techniques to allocate the cost of risks within business units.
Learning Outcomes
The Candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Demonstrate a conceptual understanding of economic measures of value and capital requirements (e.g., EVA, embedded value, economic capital, regulatory measures, and accounting measures) and their uses in decision-making processesb) Apply risk measures and demonstrate how to use them in value and capital assessmentc) Propose techniques of attributing the “cost” of risk/capital/hedge strategies to business units in order to gauge performance (e.g., returns on marginal capital)d) Demonstrate the ability to develop a capital model for a hypothetical organization
Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Quantitative Enterprise Risk Management</i>, Hardy, Mary and Saunders, David, 2022<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ch. 18: Risk-Adjusted Measures of Profit and Capital Allocation (Note: The candidate will not be responsible for proving whether or how the fair allocation criteria are met for any of the capital allocation methods in section 18.4.)• ERM-101-12: Measurement and Modelling of Dependencies in Economic Capital, Ch. 3• ERM-106-12: Economic Capital – Practical Considerations, Milliman (section 7 only)• ERM-137-20: ORSA and the Regulator• ERM-151-22: Developing Key Risk Indicators to Strengthen Enterprise Risk Management• Regulatory Capital Adequacy for Life Insurance Companies: A Comparison of Four Jurisdictions, SOA Research, Jul 2023 (excluding Appendices; spreadsheet optional)• Risk Appetite: Linkage with Strategic Planning Report (excluding Ch. 7)• Corporate Pension Risk Management and Corporate Finance: Bridging the Gap between Theory and Practice in Pension Risk Management, Aug 2015• Rating Agency Perspectives on Insurance Company Capital, SOA Research, Aug 2023 (excluding Appendices)