FLORENCE SCHOOL OF BANKING AND FINANCE

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE

EXECUTIVE TRAINING COURSE

PROGRAMME

Digital finance: from technology to regulations

19 January - 20 February 2026

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Introduction

This online course offers participants a comprehensive and structured understanding of digital finance, examining how technological innovation is transforming financial systems and regulatory frameworks worldwide.

Through ten sessions combining live classes, recorded lectures, group work, and interactive exercises, the course explores key technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, and Decentralised Finance (DeFi), along with emerging topics related to cybersecurity, digital currencies, financial inclusion, and geofinance. By blending conceptual analysis with practical case studies, participants will develop a broad yet applied understanding of the opportunities and challenges that digitalisation presents for the financial sector.

This course is also part of the EUI Global Executive Master.

Course Director

- Nicola Bilotta (European University Institute)

Faculty

- Gabriel Bizama (University of Bern)
- Daria Vernon De Mars (European University Institute)
- Leonardo Giani (European University Institute)
- Huda Ismail (Central Bank of Egypt)
- Lorenzo Moretti (European University Institute)
- Nico Lauridsen (European University Institute)
- Nikolas Passos (European University Institute)
- Francesco Savoia (Università di Bologna)
- Andrew Whitworth (European University Institute)

Format | Online

The duration of the course is approximately 10–12 hours per week, including recorded classes, live sessions, and background readings. The total time commitment may vary depending on your level of engagement and self-study of the suggested materials.

Level | Introductory

Approach | Qualitative

Learning objectives

- Understand the fundamental technologies driving digital transformation in finance, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT), and Decentralised Finance (DeFi).
- Identify the main risks and opportunities associated with the digitalisation of financial systems.
- Analyse the evolution and implications of digital currencies, including crypto-assets, stablecoins, and Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs).
- Evaluate the role of digitalisation in advancing financial inclusion and enhancing consumer protection.
- Examine the geopolitical and strategic dimensions shaping digital finance.

Target audience

This course is designed for professionals and practitioners who wish to enhance their knowledge of the main trends driving digital finance.

Programme

This course will take place online with a mix of live classes and self-paced online asynchronous video pills. It will comprise 10 sessions:

Session 1: Introduction to Digital Finance – is a preparatory session. It is designed for participants that are less familiar with Digital Finance and provides an overview on the topic (LIVE CLASS: 19 January 2026 | 14:00 – 15:00 CET)

Session 2: Cybersecurity in the Financial Sector

Session 3: Artificial Intelligence in the Financial Sector

Session 4: Blockchain and Decentralised Finance (DeFi)

Session 5: Group activity (LIVE CLASS: 27 January 2026 | 14:00 – 15:30 CET)

Session 6: Digital Currencies: Crypto-assets vs CBDCs (LIVE CLASS: 3 February 2026 | 14:00 – 15:30 CET)

Session 7: Regulatory Frameworks: Global vs National Approaches

Session 8: Financial Inclusion and Consumer Protection

Session 9: Geofinance and Digital Finance (LIVE CLASS: 13 February 2026 | 14:00 – 15:30 CET)

Session 10: Final case study and group presentation (LIVE CLASS: 19 February 2026 | 14:00 – 15:30 CET)

19 JANUARY

14:00 - 15:00 **Session 1: Introduction to Digital Finance | Live class**

27 JANUARY

14:00 - 15:30 **Session 5: Group activity | Live class**

3 FEBRUARY

14:00 - 15:30 **Session 6: Digital Currencies: Crypto-assets vs CBDCs | Live class**

13 FEBRUARY

14:00 - 15:30 **Session 9: Geofinance and Digital Finance | Live class**

19 FEBRUARY

14:00 - 15:30 **Session 10: Final case study and group presentation | Live class**

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