Advanced Excel Financial Reporting Architecture Course

12 – 16 September 2027
Johannesburg

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Ref: 856_164729 **Date:** 12 – 16 September 2027 **Location:** Johannesburg **Fees:** 4500 Euro

Overview

Advanced Excel Financial Reporting Architecture Course is a one-week course for finance managers, analysts, management accountants, FP&A professionals, reporting specialists, and senior business analysts who leave with an Executive Finance Reporting Architecture Pack. Participants connect source data, construct calculation layers, model relationships, design DAX measures, test scenarios, and govern decision-ready outputs. The course replaces disconnected spreadsheets with a traceable reporting architecture. Agile Leaders Training Center develops advanced Excel financial reporting architecture practice.

Who Should Attend

- Finance functions responsible for management accounts, forecasts, and executive reporting
- Planning functions responsible for budgets, scenarios, sensitivities, and performance outlooks
- Analysis functions responsible for financial models, variance explanations, and decision support
- Reporting functions responsible for data consolidation, dashboards, and recurring packs
- Business partnering functions responsible for translating operational drivers into financial effects

The course assumes participants can use structured Excel formulas, PivotTables, and financial statements; it leaves out introductory spreadsheet skills, bookkeeping instruction, macros, and enterprise system implementation.

Departments and Industries

The course supports departments and industries that assemble financial information for management decisions.

- Financial planning and analysis, management accounting, treasury, and corporate finance
- Retail, manufacturing, logistics, and energy operations
- Banking, insurance, professional services, and technology
- Healthcare, hospitality, education, and infrastructure

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Build a governed financial reporting architecture in Excel.
- Apply dynamic arrays and advanced formulas to reporting logic.
- Use Power Query to consolidate and validate finance data.
- Build Power Pivot models and DAX measures for management reporting.
- Analyze scenarios, sensitivities, variances, and financial statement signals.
- Evaluate dashboard controls and executive reporting quality.

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Course Agenda

Day 1: Design the Reporting Architecture

- Executive Reporting Requirement and Decision Map
- Source-to-Report Data Lineage Diagram
- Financial Statement Mapping and Account Hierarchy
- Workbook Layering and Separation-of-Concerns Method
- Reporting Governance, Ownership, and Control Matrix

Day 2: Engineer Calculation Logic

- Dynamic Array FILTER, SORT, UNIQUE, and Spill Design
- LET and LAMBDA Calculation Structure
- XLOOKUP and INDEX-MATCH Reconciliation Pattern
- Financial Ratio and Variance Calculation Library
- Formula Dependency, Error, and Audit Trace

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Day 3: Prepare and Model Finance Data

- Power Query Source Connection and Parameter Plan
- Transformation, Append, Merge, and Exception Workflow
- Power Pivot Star Schema and Relationship Diagram
- Calendar Table and Reporting Period Structure
- DAX Measure, Filter Context, and KPI Catalogue

Day 4: Analyze and Present Decisions

- Scenario Manager Assumption Set and Summary Report
- Data Table Sensitivity and Goal Seek Method
- Budget-to-Actual Bridge and Driver Analysis
- Executive Dashboard Layout and Visual Hierarchy
- Refresh, Reconciliation, Approval, and Distribution Checklist

Day 5: Practice Finance Reporting Integration

- Exercise: Diagnose Source-to-Report Control Breaks
- Exercise: Repair Dynamic Formula and Reconciliation Logic
- Exercise: Validate Power Query and Data Model Refresh
- Exercise: Evaluate Scenario and Dashboard Messages
- Capstone: Executive Finance Reporting Architecture Pack

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Practical Exercises

The course uses suggested activities based on finance records from operating and service environments.

- Suggested activity: map general ledger extracts, budgets, and operational drivers into a controlled reporting flow.
- Suggested activity: construct measures for revenue, margin, working capital, variance, and period comparison.
- Suggested activity: test assumptions with scenario and sensitivity methods, then explain the financial effects.
- Suggested activity: assemble an executive pack with lineage, controls, refresh evidence, and decision notes.

FAQs

Who suits advanced Excel financial reporting architecture training, and what does it assume?

Finance, planning, analysis, reporting, and business partnering functions suit the training. It assumes working use of formulas, PivotTables, and financial statements.

How does advanced Excel financial reporting differ from a general Excel analytics course?

Advanced Excel financial reporting integrates finance hierarchies, statement relationships, DAX measures, scenarios, reconciliations, controls, and executive pack design rather than treating analytics tools as isolated techniques.

Why use Power Query in an Excel financial reporting architecture?

Power Query creates repeatable connection, cleaning, combination, and validation steps that reduce manual source preparation and preserve an auditable transformation flow.

When should financial reporting use Power Pivot and DAX?

Power Pivot and DAX suit reporting that combines related tables, reusable measures, time comparisons, filter context, and KPIs beyond a single flat worksheet.

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How should an executive Excel reporting pack be governed?

An executive reporting pack should define sources, owners, refresh steps, calculation rules, reconciliations, approvals, version controls, distribution points, and exception handling.

Conclusion

Participants take back an Executive Finance Reporting Architecture Pack with data lineage, calculation rules, query steps, model relationships, DAX measures, scenarios, dashboards, and controls. It changes recurring reporting from workbook assembly into a governed decision process. The pack supports repeatable refresh, review, explanation, and handover.