Integrated Project Audit, Compliance, and Assurance Training Course

23 - 27 Nov 2026

Lisbon

4500 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PMP6584_123440

Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's complex business environment, the success of projects is paramount to organizational growth and stability. However, projects are often fraught with risks related to budget overruns, schedule delays, scope creep, and regulatory non-compliance. This course provides a comprehensive, A-to-Z guide to mastering the critical disciplines of project auditing, compliance, and assurance. It moves beyond traditional project management to instill a mindset of proactive oversight and governance. Drawing upon foundational principles from pioneers like Lawrence B. Sawyer, whose work in "Sawyer's Internal Auditing" redefined the scope of internal controls, this program integrates these concepts into the dynamic project lifecycle. Participants will learn not just how to identify problems, but how to establish robust assurance frameworks that prevent them. At BIG BEN Training Center, we have designed this curriculum to equip professionals with the tools to conduct effective project health checks, performance audits, and compliance reviews, ensuring projects not only meet their objectives but also deliver strategic value and adhere to the highest standards of governance. This training is essential for building resilient project management ecosystems that can withstand scrutiny and drive sustainable success.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Project Managers and Project Leaders.
- Internal and External Auditors.
- Compliance Officers and Managers.
- Risk Management Professionals.
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control Specialists.
- PMO (Project Management Office) staff and managers.
- Finance and Procurement Professionals involved in projects.
- IT Project and Program Managers.
- Senior executives and department heads overseeing project portfolios.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Construction and Engineering.
- Information Technology and Telecommunications.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Oil, Gas, and Energy.
- Manufacturing and Logistics.
- Governmental agencies and public sector organizations.
- Consulting and Professional Services.
- Non-profit and international development organizations.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Internal Audit Department.
- Project Management Office (PMO).
- Finance and Accounting.
- Compliance and Legal Departments.
- Risk Management.
- Information Technology (IT) and Information Security.
- Procurement and Contract Management.
- Operations and Production.
- Quality Management Department.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a comprehensive project audit plan based on risk assessment.
- Apply internationally recognized assurance frameworks like COSO and COBIT to project environments.
- Conduct thorough project health checks at any stage of the project lifecycle.
- Evaluate project compliance against internal policies and external regulations.
- Master techniques for gathering and analyzing audit evidence in a project context.
- Write clear, concise, and impactful audit reports for senior management and stakeholders.
- Design effective corrective action plans and follow-up procedures.
- Integrate assurance activities into both traditional and Agile project methodologies.
- Assess the effectiveness of project governance and control structures.
- Provide strategic assurance on benefits realization and value delivery.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, engaging, and practical, ensuring that participants can immediately apply their learning in the workplace. We believe that adult learning is most effective when it is experiential and collaborative. Therefore, this course moves beyond traditional lectures and incorporates a rich blend of learning techniques. A significant portion of the training will be dedicated to real-world case studies, where participants will analyze complex project scenarios to identify risks, control weaknesses, and compliance gaps. Through facilitated group discussions and workshops, attendees will share experiences and collaboratively develop solutions to challenging audit and assurance problems. Interactive exercises, role-playing simulations of audit interviews, and practical sessions on developing audit plans and reports will be used extensively to build hands-on skills. Our expert instructors provide continuous feedback and guide participants through the complexities of project assurance, creating a dynamic learning environment that fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and the confident application of new knowledge. The focus is always on translating theoretical frameworks into practical, actionable strategies.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Project Auditing and Governance

- The strategic importance of project auditing and assurance.
- Distinguishing between project audit, assurance, and compliance.
- The role of the project auditor and key competencies.
- Understanding the complete project management lifecycle context.
- Key concepts in project governance, risk, and compliance (GRC).
- Identifying and engaging with key project stakeholders.
- Introduction to international auditing standards and ethics.

Unit Two: Core Frameworks for Compliance and Control

- Introduction to the COSO Internal Control Framework for projects.
- Applying the COBIT framework for IT project governance and audit.
- Overview of relevant ISO standards (e.g., ISO 9001, ISO 31000).
- Understanding key regulatory requirements (e.g., SOX, GDPR) in a project context.
- Developing a project-specific control framework.
- Mapping project risks to control activities.
- Techniques for testing the design and effectiveness of controls.

Unit Three: The Project Audit Process in Action

- Phase 1: Planning the project audit engagement.
- Conducting a comprehensive project risk assessment.
- Defining audit objectives, scope, and criteria.
- Developing the detailed audit program and work papers.
- Phase 2: Fieldwork and evidence gathering techniques.
- Conducting effective interviews and walkthroughs.
- Data analysis and sampling methods for project audits.

Unit Four: Specialized Audits and Effective Reporting

- Auditing Agile and Scrum projects.
- Specific considerations for auditing construction and IT projects.
- Conducting post-implementation and project closure reviews.
- Auditing project procurement, contracts, and vendor management.
- Structuring a compelling and value-added audit report.
- Communicating audit findings to management and the board.
- Techniques for negotiating findings and management action plans.

Unit Five: Strategic Assurance and Continuous Improvement

- Moving from traditional auditing to continuous assurance.
- Establishing key performance indicators (KPIs) for project health.
- Techniques for benefits realization audits.
- The role of the PMO in project assurance.
- Developing and monitoring corrective action plans.
- Building a culture of compliance and control within project teams.
- The future of project auditing and the impact of technology.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

In an increasingly agile and fast-paced project environment, how can traditional audit and assurance frameworks evolve to provide value without impeding innovation and speed?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by offering a truly integrated perspective that holistically combines the three distinct yet interconnected pillars of project auditing, compliance, and assurance. Unlike programs that focus on a single discipline, this training course builds a comprehensive skill set, enabling participants to see the bigger picture of project governance. It moves beyond theoretical lectures on frameworks and emphasizes the practical application of concepts like COSO and COBIT within the messy reality of live project environments, including both traditional and Agile methodologies. The curriculum is strategically designed to elevate the participant's role from a historical-focused auditor to a forward-looking assurance provider who adds strategic value. We focus on teaching how to assess benefits realization and project success against business objectives, not just adherence to a project plan. The emphasis on real-world case studies, interactive workshops, and the development of tangible outputs like audit plans and reports ensures that learning is deeply embedded. This approach transforms professionals into trusted advisors who can provide management with the confidence and insight needed to navigate complex project landscapes successfully.