BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

High Impact Internal Audit Leadership: Driving Value & Excellence

31 May – 4 June 2027
Washington DC (USA)

UK Traininig
PARTNER



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Why This Course

In today's rapidly changing risk and governance landscape, internal audit leaders are expected to do far more than provide assurance—they are strategic partners who drive value, strengthen organizational resilience, and enable better decision-making. To meet these rising expectations, audit leaders must master strategic alignment, advanced risk methodologies, stakeholder influence, and modern audit technologies.

The Intensive 1-Week Leadership Program for Internal Audit Leaders is designed to elevate the capabilities of senior auditors, audit managers, and heads of internal audit. This program focuses on developing the leadership, strategic thinking, and analytical skills needed to transform the audit function into a proactive, forward-looking, and value-driven unit within the organization.

Through case studies, leadership exercises, and practical audit tools, participants will gain the insights and competencies required to lead high-performing teams, communicate effectively with executive stakeholders, and navigate emerging risks with confidence.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By completing this program, participants will be able to:

- Align internal audit strategy with organizational objectives and long-term value creation.
- Lead and develop high-performing, innovative audit teams.
- Strengthen communication techniques and manage relationships with key stakeholders.
- Apply advanced risk assessment and risk-based audit planning methodologies.
- Integrate data analytics and emerging technologies into audit processes.
- Foster a culture of continuous improvement, agility, and innovation within the audit function.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Strategic Alignment and Value Creation

- The evolving role of internal audit in modern governance and risk oversight.
- Linking audit strategy to business priorities and organizational objectives.
- Identifying and communicating opportunities for added value.
- Measuring and reporting the impact and effectiveness of internal audit.

Workshop: Developing an audit strategy map aligned to corporate goals.



Day 2: Advanced Risk Assessment and Audit Planning

- Applying a risk-based methodology to audit planning.
- Conducting comprehensive enterprise-wide risk assessments.
- Building a flexible, dynamic, and responsive audit plan.
- Integrating emerging and fast-changing risks into the audit universe.

Exercise: Designing a risk-based audit plan using real organizational scenarios.

Day 3: Building and Leading High-Performing Audit Teams

- Talent management, competency development, and succession planning.
- Creating a culture of innovation, continuous learning, and adaptability.
- Strengthening communication, collaboration, and knowledge sharing.
- Managing diverse and remote audit teams effectively.

Case Study: Leadership challenges in high-pressure audit environments.

Day 4: Stakeholder Engagement and Communication

- Developing executive presence and influence as an audit leader.
- Crafting impactful, concise, and insight-driven audit reports.
- Managing relationships with the board, audit committee, and senior executives.
- Navigating conflicts, difficult conversations, and differing priorities.

Workshop: Presenting audit insights to executive stakeholders.

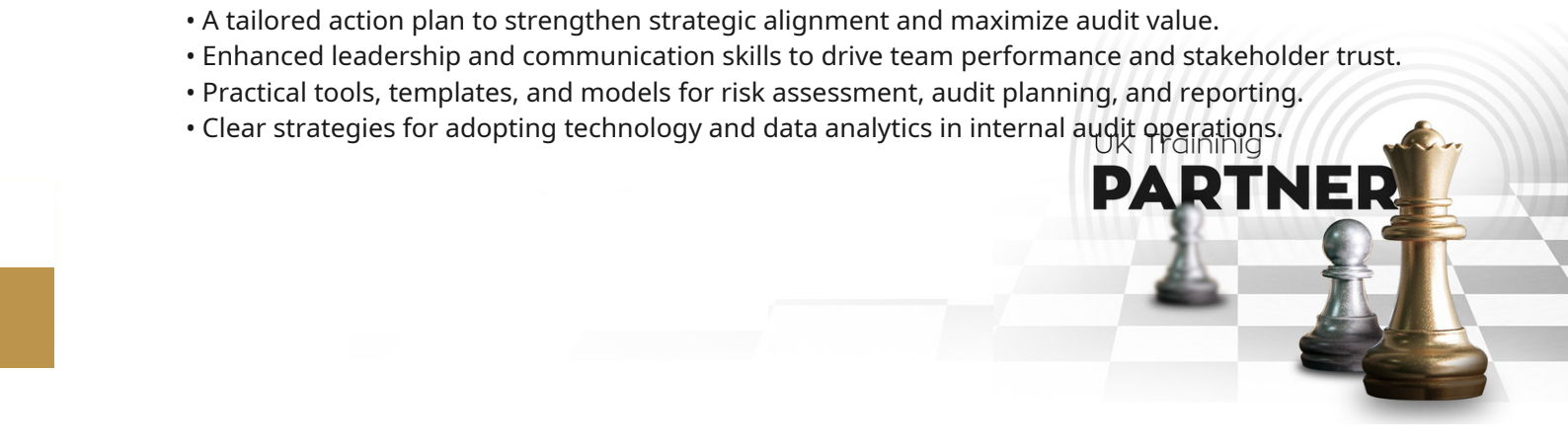
Day 5: Leveraging Technology and Data Analytics

- Applying data analytics to enhance audit depth and efficiency.
- Exploring emerging technologies and their impact on the audit profession.
- Building a roadmap for digital transformation of the audit function.
- Addressing key risks in cybersecurity, data governance, and privacy.

Simulation: Using analytics tools to identify patterns and anomalies.

Practical Wins for Participants

- A tailored action plan to strengthen strategic alignment and maximize audit value.
- Enhanced leadership and communication skills to drive team performance and stakeholder trust.
- Practical tools, templates, and models for risk assessment, audit planning, and reporting.
- Clear strategies for adopting technology and data analytics in internal audit operations.



Beyond the Course

Upon returning to their organizations, participants will be prepared to lead with greater confidence, clarity, and strategic acumen. They will be able to elevate their audit functions, foster high-performance cultures, and deliver insights that contribute directly to organizational success and resilience.

