

# Training Program for FRM® Exams - Overview

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# Agenda/ Talking points

- Introductions
- GARP - Overview
- Coaching Program Overview/ structure
- Key highlights and benefits

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# Ace3Levels – Overview

- India based Financial Learning company focused on:
  1. Training programs for CFA®/ FRM®/ Professional Exams
  2. Financial Finishing School
  3. Corporate Training/ Learning
  
- Founded in 2006 by Krishnamurthy Bindumadhavan, CFA, FRM
  
- Offices in Singapore and India (Mumbai, New Delhi, Hyderabad)
  
- Trained over 1000 professionals to date
  
- Team of 20 trainers: Experienced practitioners/ leading academics from across the world
  
- Leverage international best practices to offer highly interactive, practice oriented learning
  
- In the field of CFA®/ FRM® coaching we are a leader in Asia/ India
  - Comprehensive 15 – 21 week coaching classes
  - Prep Course Provider partner of GARP (FRM)
  
- Corporate Training/ Learning:
  - Face to Face classes as well as Computer Based Self Paced Learning modules

# Brief introduction of Founder/ CLO



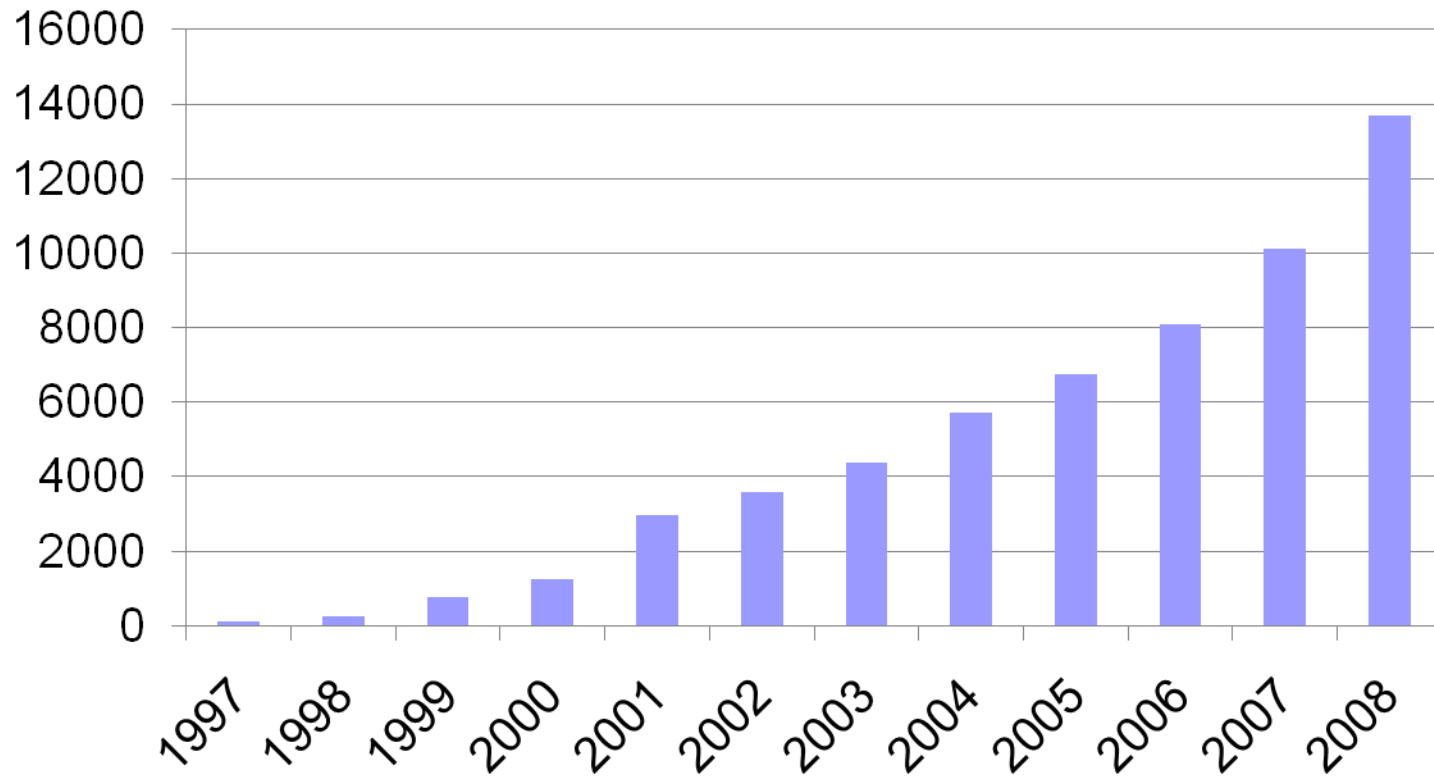
- Kris or Bindu Bindumadhavan, CFA, FRM
  - Bachelor of Engineering, MBA
  - Received the CFA charter in 2002; Also awarded FRM title
  - Worked for 8 years at Capital One, a top 10 US bank and one of the World's largest diversified financial services firms
  - Worked in both strategic roles as well as operational roles including credit strategy, product strategy and risk operations
  - Drove innovation in risk management to add value of over \$20 Million
  - Last assignment with Capital One was General Manager, Risk Operations, Asia
  - 5+ years of prior experience in Banking technology, primarily with TCS
  - Career goal: Launch successful entrepreneurial ventures in eLearning/ Analytics
  - Moved to India in May '05 after 10 years in US/ Singapore
  - Love to travel, read books
  
- Inspiration comes from feedback of friends and an innate passion for teaching!
  - Mentored friends appearing for CFA exams, which was well received
  - Ran successful workshops on NPV modeling, Richmond, USA, 2000 – 2005
  - Volunteer teacher, Henrico County schools, USA, Economics/ Finance
  - Taught Financial Education seminars for Adults in Richmond, Virginia
  - Teaching Assistant for undergraduate university students at UK, USA
  - Instructor of year award for teaching excellence, Tata Unisys (now part of TCS)

# GARP - Overview

- GARP is based out of New Jersey, USA
  - Global, Non-profit organization
  - Awards the FRM certification
  - Leads the risk management profession globally by setting the highest standards in ethics, education and professional excellence
  
- Globally recognized standard in risk management
  - Global in design and outlook
  - Rigorous broad based intensive self study graduate level program
  - Benefits include:
    - International recognition and competitive advantage in job market
    - Solid knowledge base and skill sets
    - Respect and Credibility
    - Connections – extensive network of FRM professionals across the globe!
  
- Exam consists of 2 levels/ parts, self study driven, based on reading assignments designed by GARP
  
- One can sit for both parts on same day however there are some limitations/ conditions due to which we recommend that you sit for each level separately
  
- Candidate body of knowledge
  - Grounded and shaped by current practice
  - Topic Areas – Market Risk, Credit Risk, Operational and Integrated Risk Management, Quantitative Methods, Valuation and Risk Models, Risk and Investment Management, Foundations of Risk Management, Financial Markets and Products, Current Issues

# FRM is the Pre-eminent Designation in Risk Management with over 17,000 FRM title holders

## FRM Registrants



# FRM® Exams – India/ Asia Perspective

- Designation widely recognized across Asia (Singapore/ HK/ Dubai/ etc.)
- Growing candidate body in India fueled by the rapid entry of multinational organizations seeking to tap into India's huge analytical talent pool as well as the increased emphasis on risk management
- Who can give the exam?
  - Anyone who is working or interested in working in the field of risk management
  - Some understanding of finance is helpful
  - Analytical orientation
- Can we appear for the exams in India/ Singapore?
  - Yes, Candidates can appear for the exams in India, with centers spread across the country
  - Multiple locations across Asia/ Pacific, including Singapore
  - Please refer to GARP website for details on other centers across Asia/ Pacific
- To obtain the FRM title candidates need to gain 2 years of relevant work experience and pass the FRM exam. You can achieve either first but both are needed for award of title; Clearing the exam can help you break into the field and work towards building relevant experience.
- Job prospects depend on educational background and experience in addition to clearing the FRM exams; however there are plenty of opportunities due to the increased emphasis on risk (sub-prime crisis) as well as implementation of Basel II framework by banks across the globe

# Ace3Levels – How can we help?

- **Unrelenting focus on Financial Learning**

- **Our Instructors are a cut above the rest!**

At Ace3Levels we believe that teaching excellence holds the key to success!

1. Qualifications/ Expertise: All of our instructors have given and cleared the exams for which they are teaching (and may hold other advanced degrees)
2. Industry Experience: Our Instructors are professionals who teach in the context of how a concept is applied in industry, which enables students to better understand and importantly quickly recall concepts on the exam
3. Teaching Ability: All our Instructors share a common trait - Flair for Teaching!

- **Our high quality content means effective and efficient use of your time!**

1. Powerpoint slides that capture key points from the curriculum readings
2. Illustrative spreadsheets that show step by step how to solve typical exam level problems (including calculator tips)
3. Extensive homework assignments (calibrated to exam difficulty)
4. Exam Time Review Notes – captures all the key concepts, formulas in one place and importantly illustrate where and how to apply specific concepts
5. Mock Tests – Receive analysis on strengths/ opportunities
6. Recorded Sessions – Backup for missed classes and revision of topics

# Coaching Program - Overview

Program spans over 1000 problems modeled after past exams/ textbook

- 15 modules, each of approx. 4 hours
- Key concepts and illustrative problems will be covered in class
  - We do not assume any prior knowledge of finance/ quant (or other topics)
- Review notes will be provided in the form of power point slides, word documents and excel spreadsheets
- Comprehensive problem sets will also be provided (in Word document and online quiz format)
  - Over 50 problems for each module
  - Important to solve problems independently to gain the right skills and confidence
- Includes three sample exams in classroom in “simulated” exam conditions!
  - Additional three sample exams will also be provided for candidates to work on
- Receive instantaneous feedback on the sample exam and suggestions around areas of opportunity (based on sample examination results)
- Interactive and collaborative environment
  - Share learning’s and learn/ benefit from the experience of other candidates

# FRM Part I Exam - Program structure

## Face to Face Classes at Singapore

S. No.	Venue	Topic
1	Bukit Merah	Introduction, Quantitative Analysis
2	Bukit Merah	Quantitative Analysis
3	Bukit Merah	Financial Products and Markets
4	Bukit Merah	Financial Products and Markets
5	Bukit Merah	Financial Products and Markets
6	Bukit Merah	Financial Products and Markets
7	Bukit Merah	Valuation and Risk Models
8	Bukit Merah	Valuation and Risk Models
9	Bukit Merah	Valuation and Risk Models
10	Bukit Merah	Valuation and Risk Models
11	Bukit Merah	Quantitative Analysis - Advanced Topics
12	Bukit Merah	Foundations of Risk Management/ Wrap Up

## Online, Live and Interactive, Problem Solving Sessions

1	Virtual Classroom	Quantitative Analysis
2	Virtual Classroom	Financial Markets and Products
3	Virtual Classroom	Valuation and Risk Models

In addition, we will hold 3 Mock tests and 3 Doubt Clearing Sessions

# FRM Part II Exam - Program structure

## Face to Face Classes at Singapore

S. No.	Venue	Topic
1	Bukit Merah	Course Overview/ Market Risk
2	Bukit Merah	Market Risk
3	Bukit Merah	Market Risk
4	Bukit Merah	Credit Risk
5	Bukit Merah	Credit Risk
6	Bukit Merah	Credit Risk
7	Bukit Merah	Operational Risk
8	Bukit Merah	Operational Risk
9	Bukit Merah	Operational Risk
10	Bukit Merah	Risk Management and Investment Management
11	Bukit Merah	Risk Management and Investment Management
12	Bukit Merah	Current Issues/ Review

## Online, Live and Interactive, Problem Solving Sessions

1	Virtual Classroom	Market Risk
2	Virtual Classroom	Credit Risk
3	Virtual Classroom	Operational Risk/ Risk Management

In addition, we will hold 3 Mock tests and 3 Doubt Clearing Sessions

# Program is designed to maximize your chance of succeeding on the exam!

S.No.	Key Benefits	Comments
1	Focused instruction and comprehensive notes	In depth review of critical concepts and illustrative problems
2	Home work problems	Practice and continuous feedback to fine tune your skills
3	Sample exams: enable identification of opportunity areas	Guidance around effectively managing your time to maximize the chance of success on the exam
4	Tips and test taking strategy	Get insights and suggestions on how to succeed on the exam from a charter holder
5	Input and perspectives of fellow candidates	Learn and share your experiences with fellow candidates to get the edge on the exam!
6	Mentoring and support from FRM title holder	FRM titleholder will answer your questions in person and over email right up to the exam date

### *The Ace3Levels Advantage*

- 1) *Cost effective, comprehensive, world class coaching*
- 2) *Features “live” classes by charter holders who have passed the exams*
- 3) *Extensive problem sets modeled after past exam questions and continuously updated materials*

# Importance of planning – charting your path towards success on the exam!

Analysis and inputs at every step to optimize your study time and maximize your chances of success!

- Planning is critical
  - We help identify your strengths and opportunities
  - 2/2 of strengths/ opportunities by topic weight
  - Bring a larger focus on opportunity areas that carry high weight age (but also thoroughly review areas of strength that carry high weight age as well)
- Discipline is key
  - You need to put in the hours to complement the structured program to ensure success
  - We suggest 8 – 12 hours of work per week at home to support the 4 hours of class time
- Review materials covered, assigned readings, notes, problems
  - Comprehensive review of entire curriculum (including problem solving)
  - Especially in areas that you are not familiar or strong in
- Exam questions keep changing every year
  - Best bet is to master the knowledge base
  - Fully understand the concepts and their application to problem solving
- Sample examinations practice
  - 3 sample exams will be provided in test setting
  - Additional 3 sample exams will also be provided

# Sample Testimonials and Feedback!

- “Hi Kris, I just would like to let you know that I passed both level 1 and 2 FRM exam. I would like to thank you again for your help. I will be taking your help for CFA as well. Regards”
  - Vincze Balazs, Risk Manager, European Bank, Singapore
  
- “Thank you again for your guidance, which helped me pass Part I and Part II consecutively on first attempt!”
  - Deborah Wee Lin, UOB Group, Singapore
  
- “The Part II exam results came in yesterday and both Vijesh and I have passed. We are very grateful to you for your immense support and coaching throughout the program. We would not have passed on our first attempt without your help.”
  - Lejomon Cherapanath, Leading European Bank, Singapore
  
- “Hi Kris, I have cleared the FRM part1 exam with 1<sup>st</sup> quartile in 3 modules and 2<sup>nd</sup> quartile in Quants. Thanks a lot for your help in giving a proper start up for me. Regards”
  - Sujith Subramanian, Leading European Bank, Singapore

# Sample Testimonials and Feedback!

“Dear Sir, I have passed the FRM 2009 full exam. Thank you so much for all your help. It would not have been possible without your timely help and motivation.”

□ Regards, Hima Madhusoodan, Singapore

*“I have passed FRM 2009 full exam. Thanks very much for your help. Your slide decks are comprehensive and very helpful.”*

□ Ronald Kwan,  
Derivatives Operations,  
Leading European Bank, Singapore

“I am happy to inform you that I cleared the FRM 2009 exam - Both levels. I would like to thank you for all your guidance and support and your coaching methodology really helped me to plan well for the exams.”

□ Vasant Subramanian, General Manager, Risk Analysis and Financial Management, Multi-national Company, Singapore

“Thanks Kris! I have passed the FRM exams. This would not have been possible without you. You are one of the finest instructors I have come across in my life. Many Thanks and Regards!”

□ Mahendra S Rao, Zonal Head, Aviva Life Insurance, New Delhi

# Sample Testimonials and Feedback!

“I cleared the FRM exam and would like to thank you for your guidance as well as the extra momentum and push that your sessions added to my preparation.”

- Rajeev Arora, Senior Manager, Leading Private Bank, Mumbai

*“I did clear the FRM exam and I would like to thank you for the extra momentum and push that your sessions added to my preparation.”*

- Charu Sharma, Mumbai

*“I am glad to inform that I have cleared the FRM exam. Thank you very much for your guidance, clarity of explanation and extensive problem sets”*

- Karthik Venugopal, Mumbai/ Chennai

*“Thanks very much for your guidance and coaching. It was a great help in preparing for the FRM exam.”*

- Ravindra Siddheshwar, Karnataka

# Sample Testimonials and Feedback!

*"We found the FRM Coaching program to be very beneficial, including the problem solving sessions. In addition, it provided a platform to meet people with similar interests to network and share learning's. Wanted to let you know that we have both cleared the FRM exams!"*

□ Sanyam and Roshni

Couple working in leading Multinational BFSI KPO, Bangalore

*"I have cleared FRM. Thanks for your help and guidance. I really liked the rigor and discipline of this (structured) program, which pushed me to work hard and do my best. "*

□ Kunal Jhaveri, B.E., MBA Student, Also passed CAIA, CFA Level III candidate, Mumbai

*"Thanks very much for your guidance, support and excellent coaching. I passed the FRM exams."*

□ Deepak Dawar, New Delhi

*"I have cleared the FRM exams under your guidance. Thanks for bringing clarity on key topic areas and enabling me to develop the right approach and bring the right focus."*

□ Sachin Chawla, Leading Multinational Bank, New Delhi