

Series 79 Study Plan

Investment Banking Limited Representative Exam

EXAM SPECIFICATIONS

- ◆ Exam length: 2.5 hours
- ◆ Number of questions: 75 + 10 ungraded (85 total)
- ◆ Passing score: 73%

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

- ◆ New investment bankers: 75 hours (3–5 weeks while working full-time)
- ◆ Experienced bankers comfortable with financial statements, valuation, and M&A: 40–50 hours (2–3 weeks while working full-time)
- ◆ Questions to complete:
 - 750 practice questions

STUDY RESOURCES AVAILABLE

1. Digital and physical textbook
2. Online question bank with over 1,400 practice questions
3. Diagnostic and benchmark exams
4. Class summaries and supplements
5. Digital flashcards

All online study resources can be accessed in your Training Center at www.knopman.com.

AVAILABLE CLASS FORMATS

- ◆ Live training (in person or remote)
- ◆ Online video lectures
- ◆ Accessible across all mobile devices

KNOPMANMARKS
FINANCIAL TRAINING

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BEST PROCESS TO PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Standard Approach

1. Read the book.
 - ◆ Do not take notes. Read to gain exposure and familiarity with the content.
 - ◆ Pay special attention to the Knopman Notes.
2. Attend a live class or watch the on-demand lectures.
3. Take the 75-question assessment exam to get a baseline score and see what the exam is about. This exam is found under the diagnostic exams.
4. Complete 750 online practice questions by logging in to your Training Center and clicking on “Practice Exams.”
 - ◆ Begin with shorter exams (30–50 questions) to drill and practice a single topic or a smaller set of topics.
 - After selecting your exam topics, check “Questions I have not seen before” under “Select Question Pool”—this way each question is new.
 - Check “Show correct answer & explanation after each question” under “Exam Display Options” so you can immediately review the rationale. This aids comprehension and retention.
 - Use math challenge questions to drill on formulas, financials, and valuation.
 - ◆ After completing 250 questions, take the second diagnostic exam.
 - ◆ Resume creating TestPrep exams, increasing the number of questions and topics covered per exam.
 - ◆ After completing 500 questions, take the third diagnostic exam. If you do not score 70% or better, continue drilling with smaller quizzes.
 - ◆ Begin taking full-length, timed exams on all topics (85 questions). These can be scored as you go or at the end to replicate actual exam conditions, but remember to review every question you miss or are unsure of. If these tests reveal weak areas, review these areas and complete shorter exams on these topics.
 - ◆ After completing at least 750 questions, take the benchmark exam, aiming for a score of 80%.
 - ◆ Continue taking full-length, timed exams on all topics, until you are passing.
5. **Read the class summary, your class notes, and the supplement multiple times—these vital resources should be reviewed prior to each diagnostic exam.**

Time-Sensitive Approach

(ONLY for individuals who are comfortable with valuation, M&A, and financial statements, at least at the second-year analyst level)

1. Read the second half of the book, beginning with Chapter 7.
 - ◆ Do not take notes. Read to gain exposure and familiarity with the content.
 - ◆ Skim the other chapters, reviewing all Knopman Notes.
2. Attend a live class or watch the on-demand lectures (the lectures on valuation and M&A can be skipped).
3. Complete the practice exams as described above under Standard Approach.
 - ◆ You can reduce the number of online questions to 500 (provided you are passing), but you MUST complete all diagnostic and benchmark exams.
4. **Read the class summary, your class notes, and the supplement multiple times—these vital resources should be reviewed prior to each diagnostic exam.**

GENERAL EXAM COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE

- ◆ You can begin taking practice exams before attending class. While optional, doing so will make the class more valuable and position you to take the exam more closely to the conclusion of class.
- ◆ You should read portions of the class summary and notes between each practice exam. Put differently, steps 3 and 4 from above can be commingled.
- ◆ All information in the Knopman Notes, lecture slides, class supplement, and class summary is heavily tested. Memorize as much of it as possible. Read the class summary at least 2–3 times.
- ◆ By following this study plan, you will encounter the heavily tested topics and concepts multiple times and in multiple formats—this is intentional, as it focuses your study time and effort on the most important content.
- ◆ If you underperform on a topic, review it again and take a short, targeted exam (e.g., 30 questions on Unit 2).
- ◆ Pay special attention to the exemptions from registration (toward the end of class 1) and the M&A process (beginning of class 2).
- ◆ Expect the actual exam to have questions that are long and ambiguous. You are likely to use more time on the actual exam than on the practice exams. The pace to follow on the actual exam is 20 questions every 30 minutes.

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EXAM BREAKDOWN

Major Job Function	Description and Examples of Testable Topics	Number of Questions	Textbook Chapters	Knopman Class Handouts
1	Collection, Analysis, and Evaluation of Data <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Sourcing data◆ Debt and equity securities◆ Working with profit multiples (e.g., P/E)◆ Working with equity value, enterprise value, and book value	37	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	2
2	Underwriting/New Financing Transactions, Types of Offerings, and Registration of Securities <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Filing a registration statement◆ SEC filings◆ Securities underwriting◆ Exemptions from registration	20	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	1
3	Mergers and Acquisitions, Tender Offers, and Financial Restructuring Transactions <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Order of documents in M&A deals◆ Information found in definitive agreement and fairness opinion◆ Dutch auction tender offer◆ Section 363 sale	18	6, 13, 14, 15	3
	Total	75		

HOW TO GET HELP

- ◆ Technical support (including Qbank access issues), class enrollments, general administrative questions: material@knopman.com
- ◆ Content-related questions: follow up directly with your instructor, or email our teaching staff at ts@knopman.com
- ◆ These inboxes are checked during weekdays, evenings, and weekends.