



## ***Economic Indicators: A Comprehensive Overview***

### **Overview**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This interactive self-study course provides an introductory overview of the world's most prevalent economic indicators, including those related to unemployment, consumer sentiment and confidence, inflation, productivity, housing, manufacturing, and international trade. This course reviews the impact that changes in these indicators have on the financial markets and monetary policy. To complete this course and receive credit, you must read the material and, during the course, to test your comprehension of each of the learning objectives, answer the review questions. After completing each section's review questions, you can evaluate your progress by comparing your answers to both the correct and incorrect answers and the reason for each. Once you have read all of the materials and completed the review questions, fully understanding the correct and incorrect answers, you can complete the final examination, of which you must score a 70 percent or higher in order to receive CPE credit.

#### **AUTHOR**

Michael J. Walker, CPA, is based in New England and has several years of accounting experience in several of the largest financial institutions in the world. He has an extensive technical accounting background that includes hands-on experience with U.S. GAAP, Canadian GAAP, and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). His specialized expertise includes the accounting for financial instruments, hedging strategies, and variable interest entities. He graduated from Bentley University with a BS in finance and an MS in accountancy.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This introductory overview is designed for financial professionals at all organizational levels, who are interested in developing an understanding about the world's most prevalent economic indicators. Economic indicators are those often-voluminous statistics released by government agencies, non-profit organizations and even private companies. They provide measurements for evaluating the health of our economy, including the latest business cycles, consumer spending, inflation, housing, and so on. Various economic indicators are released quarterly, monthly, weekly, and even daily.

#### **TOPICS COVERED**

- Economic Indicators and Business Cycles
- Financial Markets and Interest Rates
- GDP and Monthly Indicators
- Federal Reserve and Monetary Indicators
- Unemployment and Consumer Indicators
- Inflation and Productivity Indicators
- Industrial and Commercial Indicators
- International Trade Indicators



**FIELD OF STUDY**

Finance

**PUBLICATION/REVISION DATE**

7/31/16

*Please Note: This course must be completed within 1 year of date of receipt of the course for CPE credit.*



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