Module 5 Reflection Memo

At the end of each module you are asked to write a one-page reflection memo. The point is not to summarize what was covered. It is to work out what actually stuck, what you could use, and what you would be able to say about it to someone else. At the end of the semester you will draw on them to write the capstone essay.

Answer all four questions below. Use 2-4 sentences for each question. The whole memo should fit on one page.

Questions

1. **What changed your thinking.** Finish this sentence honestly: *"Before this module I assumed* **; now I think** *."* If nothing changed, say what you already knew and where you learned it.
2. **What you would tell an employer.** Write the two or three sentences you could actually say in a job interview to show you understand financial management. Then name the specific exercise, case, or calculation you would point to as evidence that you can do it.

   (If you are not job hunting, address it instead to a supervisor or colleague who asks what you are getting out of this degree.)
3. **What survives three years.** Name one thing you could still remember or do three years from today, such as a calculation you could run, a document you could read and interpret, and/or one thing you would still understand. Be specific enough that a classmate could tell whether you actually retained it.
4. **One AI moment.** In one sentence: name one point in this module where you used an AI tool, and one where you deliberately did not.

What to submit

A one-page memo responding to all four questions.

Do not use ChatGPT or other AI tools to generate this memo. This is your chance to think in your own words, and a memo written by a tool tells you nothing about what you retained. Don't worry about formality or polish — an honest, specific answer is worth far more than a well-written vague one.

This is a cumulative assignment. Over the semester you will write seven of these, one per module, and the final capstone essay will ask you to integrate them into an account of how your understanding of public financial management developed. Write each one as a note to your future self.