

FINANCE, INVESTMENT AND BANKING (FINANCE)

FINANCE 200 – FINANCE INDUSTRY FUNDAMENTALS

1 credit.

Comprehensive introduction to the finance industry ecosystem, examining a variety of industry sectors, or "Pathways," within the finance world, providing a nuanced exploration of both macro and micro-level dynamics. Explores the inner workings of firms in each sector, topical events, and latest developments. Deep dive into roles and responsibilities, in preparation for diverse career opportunities.

Requisites: None

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Obtain a basic understanding of the UW finance industry ecosystem

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Develop a detailed knowledge of the seven finance industry pathways

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Recognize the distinction between corporate finance, the buy-side, and the sell-side finance industry sectors

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain the interactions between individuals, corporations, the sell-side, and the buy-side

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Identify the career pathways available within the finance industry

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Identify the WSB resources available to assist in pathway career exploration, exposure, and preparation (including experiential and extra/co-curricular opportunities, and internal academic and advising resources)

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 205 – FINANCIAL MODELING IN EXCEL

1 credit.

A technical skills course in which you will learn how to construct an error-free, well-structured and user-friendly integrated three-statement company model. Constructing a financial model in Excel is a key skill for success as a financial analyst.

Requisites: ACCT I S 100 or 300

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Navigate and utilize the Excel interface, including optimal settings for financial modeling

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Utilize Excel keyboard shortcuts most common to financial modeling

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Understand and utilize best practices to build a financial model that is error-free, well-structured and user-friendly

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Understand and utilize best practices related to error prevention while modeling

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Construct an integrated income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Incorporate circular references via interest expense and interest income, and manage them with a "circuit breaker"

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Construct a three-statement integrated financial model with a cash sweep and waterfall debt schedule

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Build a model from scratch using corporate historical financial statements as a starting point

Audience: Undergraduate

9. Understand various approaches to developing a top-line forecast

Audience: Undergraduate

10. Apply error checking and correction techniques to completed model to ensure accuracy

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE/ECON 300 – INTRODUCTION TO FINANCE

3 credits.

Concepts and techniques in corporate finance and investments. Topics include the financial environment, securities markets, financial markets, financial statements and analysis, working capital management, capital budgeting, cost of capital, dividend policy, asset valuation, investments, decision-making under uncertainty, mergers, options, and futures.

Requisites: (ECON 101, 111 or A A E 101) and (ACCT I S 100 or 300 or concurrent enrollment) and (GEN BUS 206, 306, ECON 310, MATH 331, STAT/MATH 309, 431, STAT 224, 301, 302, 311, 324, 371 or PSYCH 210 or concur enrollment) or declared undergrad Bus Exchange Program

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply discounted cash flow analysis in various contexts and determine the appropriate discount rate for these calculations.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Calculate and interpret the effect of leverage on firms' cost of debt, cost of equity, and a company's cost of capital under different assumptions.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Characterize an efficient market and explain the implications of market efficiency for investors and corporations.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Characterize different types of securities (including stocks, bonds, and derivatives) and identify the key features of each.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Compute present and future values under different compounding assumptions.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Demonstrate a command of the Capital Asset Pricing Model, including its strengths and weaknesses and its use in computing expected returns.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Demonstrate the power of diversification and the risk-return tradeoff quantitatively.

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Solve capital budgeting problems using appropriate decision rules, taking into account the strengths and weaknesses of the available approaches.

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 305 – FINANCIAL MARKETS, INSTITUTIONS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

3 credits.

An analysis of the U.S. financial system, its responsiveness to and impact on economic activity and policy, its procedures for assessing and pricing risks on various financial instruments, and its role in the allocation of funds to different sectors in the economy.

Requisites: (ECON/FINANCE 300 or concurrent enrollment), or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand the sources and uses of funds for the main financial institutions in the U.S.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain how deposit money is created in the banking system.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Summarize how government budget deficits affect the money supply.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Classify the various instruments the Federal Reserve uses to influence interest rates and the money supply.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Understand how monetary and fiscal policies can affect the economy.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Explain how monetary policy can affect the aggregate supply schedule in the economy.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Infer how financing decisions of firms change over the business cycle.

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Interpret how Basle 3 and the Dodd-Frank affect the business model of financial institutions.

Audience: Undergraduate

9. Conclude how the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau affects the business model of financial institutions.

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 310 – DATA ANALYTICS FOR FINANCE

3 credits.

With a hands-on approach, covers advanced analytics methods for forecasting, predicting, reporting, and analyzing. Relies on Python as its primary coding language. Begins with a review of coding fundamentals and progressively delves into increasingly realistic and complex finance applications.

Requisites: ECON/FINANCE 300

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2022

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand the fundamentals of programming and how those fundamentals are implemented in Python

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Download, organize, and manipulate data to prepare them for Finance applications

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Visualize and organize Financial Data for the purpose of creating effective presentations

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Apply these programming skills in the context of standard financial applications such as asset pricing model estimation, Monte Carlo simulations for capital budgeting purposes, portfolio optimization, and financial analysis and forecasting

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE/ECON 320 – INVESTMENT THEORY

3 credits.

Structure and functioning of securities markets; principles of portfolio construction; models of the tradeoff between risk and expected return.

Requisites: FINANCE/ECON 300, (MATH 213 or 222) and (GEN BUS 307, 317, 656, ACT SCI 654, 655, ECON 400, 410, STAT/MATH 310, STAT 312, or 333 or concurrent enrollment) or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Solve real-world investment problems

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Formulate the trade-off between risk and return

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Describe the distribution of returns on broad asset classes

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Identify investors' risk preferences

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Use portfolio optimization techniques to develop an asset allocation for an investor

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Examine factor models of returns

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Compare different equilibrium security pricing models

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Debate market efficiency

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 325 – CORPORATION FINANCE

3 credits.

Development of the theory, method and analytical techniques of financial management. Techniques of capital budgeting; valuation of projects and firms; theory of capital structure; dividend policy; cost of capital; mergers and acquisitions.

Requisites: FINANCE/ECON 300, ACCT I S 301, (MATH 213 or 222) and (GEN BUS 307, 317, ACT SCI 654, ECON 400, 410, STAT/MATH 310, STAT 312, 333 or concurrent enrollment), or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Set a capital budget

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Evaluate projects with discount cash flow valuation

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Compute the appropriate cost of capital

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Value whole firms with discount cash flow valuation

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Identify factors that determine an optimal capital structure of a firm and how debt impacts financial decisions

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Explain the basics of mergers and acquisitions

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 330 – DERIVATIVE SECURITIES

3 credits.

Pricing and uses of the most common derivatives including options, forward contracts, futures contracts, and swaps.

Requisites: FINANCE/ECON 300, (MATH 213 or 222), and (GEN BUS 307, 317, 656, ACT SCI 654, 655, ECON 400, 410, STAT/MATH 310, STAT 312, 333 or concurrent enrollment), or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the differences between various derivative contracts including forwards, futures, options, swaps and credit derivatives.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Derive the no-arbitrage forward/futures prices.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate the technical skills of applying various option pricing methods.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Implement various derivative trading strategies to generate profit.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Use derivatives to hedge financial and business risks.

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 340 – FIXED INCOME SECURITIES

3 credits.

Analysis of fixed income, bond markets. Introduce tools for evaluating bonds and making decisions about trading and hedging portfolios of fixed income securities. Focus on government bonds and derivative securities. Consider basic ways to price bonds using techniques that are well established on Wall St. Introduces basic trading strategies based on exploiting mis-priced securities. Strategize ways to measure and minimize risk. Other topics include repo financing, mortgage markets, and basic issues involving default risk of corporate bonds.

Requisites: FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply the mathematics of fixed income markets.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Utilize appropriate tools and techniques, including various measures of duration and convexity, to make decisions about trading and hedging portfolios of fixed income securities.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain the structure and uses of fixed income derivative instruments, including options, forwards and swaps.

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 365 – CONTEMPORARY TOPICS

1-3 credits.

Exploration of subject areas possibly to be introduced into the business curriculum.

Requisites: None**Repeatable for Credit:** Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**FINANCE 399 – READING AND RESEARCH-FINANCE**

1-6 credits.

Individual work suited to the needs of undergraduate students may be arranged with faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**FINANCE 410 – BANK MANAGEMENT**

3 credits.

Management of depository financial intermediaries with primary emphasis on commercial banks. Topics include bank regulation, liquidity and reserve position management, loan pricing and analysis, investment portfolio problems and overall asset liability management.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320) or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain how bank operations and strategy are impacted by regulatory constraints, competition, and many risks inherent in banking.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify the major components of a bank balance sheet and income statement.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze bank performance using industry standard bank profitability and capital planning models and the bank regulator CAMELS methodology.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Manage interest risk in banks.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Articulate the basics of both commercial and consumer lending including customer profitability analysis.

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 420 – INVESTMENT BANKING AND CAPITAL MARKETS

3 credits.

Broad overview of investment banking. Topics covered include valuation, cash flow, initial public offerings, leveraged buyouts, acquisitions, and related corporate governance issues.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320) or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Locate relevant information in financial statements and the footnotes to financial statements and acquisitions, initial public offerings and investment banking

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Utilize appropriate financial tools and databases (e.g., Excel, Capital IQ, Bloomberg) to access and effectively present financial information

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate the fluency required to understand conceptually how valuation methodologies work and how changes in assumptions impact valuation

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Build and interpret financial models utilizing the fundamental valuation techniques that investment bankers use including discounted cash flow analysis, comparable companies, precedent transactions and leveraged buyout analysis

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Demonstrate an understanding of capital markets transactions where securities are issued to investors

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE/INTL BUS 445 – MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS FINANCE

3 credits.

Application of financial theory to the operations of multinational firms; survey of the international financial environment; determinants of international portfolio and direct investment capital flows; management of foreign exchange position and hedging strategies; evaluation of foreign investment projects (multinational capital budgeting); international financial structure decisions; multinational credit institutions and capital markets; taxation of international business.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320), or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate the knowledge and technical skills needed to be the treasurer of an international firm

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Apply methods to measure, manage and analyze the effects posed by exchange rate risk to the income statement and balance sheet of a firm
Audience: Undergraduate

3. Evaluate foreign investment decisions
Audience: Undergraduate

4. Articulate the choices and challenges faced by managers when sourcing funds in the global capital markets, and in making complex foreign investment decisions
Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 457 – ENTREPRENEURIAL FINANCE

3 credits.

Discusses the tools helpful for financing new ventures, with emphasis on their applications. The course also helps students understand the institutional setting that has an impact on the financing conditions of new ventures.

Requisites: FINANCE/ECON 300, ACCT I S 301, and (MATH 213 or 222)

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

FINANCE/ECON 503 – MARKETS WITH FRICTIONS

3 credits.

Search theory provides framework for understanding markets and is used to study questions in monetary, public, financial economics. Develop theoretical tools used to introduce frictions in formal models and address the role of frictions in several applied scenarios.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320), (ECON 301, 302, 311, or 312), or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Examine new issues related to frictional markets by looking at old issues in new ways.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Demonstrate economic reasoning about the economy at a micro and macro level by applying the foundations of mainstream economics.
Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain credit market rationing and its impact on markets for housing, small business loans and other investments.
Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Articulate the contributing factors of bubbles and crashes in asset prices.
Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Articulate the role of money and banking in the inter-temporal allocation of resources.
Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Articulate your perspectives on fundamental questions like: Why we use money? What is a bank? How do organizations (like firms or families) form?
Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Construct and analyze the three generations of money search models and apply this framework appropriately to real-world economic and financial issues.
Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 535 – APPLIED EQUITY MARKETS RESEARCH 1

3 credits.

A capstone experience focused on investments, research, sales and trading which is designed to provide the opportunity to learn and perform many of the practical skills necessary to research, analyze and pitch equity securities as long investments and/or short sales. Application required.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Assess business models so as to understand the future performance and intrinsic value of a particular business

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Develop a framework to assess business quality and how it might change over time

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Identify key drivers of an industry and company

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze the financial information that comes to market from the companies as a means to extrapolate future information

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Develop a view (a preliminary investment thesis) utilizing a methodology to develop forecasts and projected financial model for a company

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Write a short investment thesis and recommendation for a company's stock

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 536 – APPLIED EQUITY MARKETS RESEARCH 2

3 credits.

A second capstone experience involving self-directed research and analysis in the areas of investments, research, sales and trading designed to provide the opportunity to apply concepts learned in FINANCE 535. FINANCE 535

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2022

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze two specific companies and their business models to estimate likely future performance and intrinsic value.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Describe the competitive dynamics in the related industries

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain how key drivers affect a company's financials

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Conduct field research to assess the business models and validate key drivers

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Create a survey to views (preliminary investment theses) with evidence from field research

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Create a pitch report for each stock summarizing conclusions with supporting analysis

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Develop presentation techniques through in-class stock pitch presentations

Audience: Undergraduate

FINANCE 601 – STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR ESTATES AND BUSINESS TRANSITIONS

3 credits.

Introduces and broadens understanding of the intricacies surrounding wealth preservation, intergenerational wealth transfer, and trust financial services. Delves into the legal, tax, and financial aspects of estate planning, business succession strategies, and efficient wealth transfer techniques. Explore cutting-edge approaches for mitigating tax liabilities, navigating complex family dynamics, and structuring customized solutions for diverse client needs while highlighting career opportunities within the trust financial services industry and preparing for a range of professional paths. Gain the expertise needed to effectively advise clients and guide them through the process of safeguarding and transferring their wealth, ensuring a lasting financial legacy.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320) or FINANCE 700, or declared in the Business Exchange program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply Estate Planning terminology, planning process, strategies and illustrate tax and non-tax outcomes.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Procure and analyze select qualitative and quantitative data to prioritize goals, articulate current plan weaknesses and formulate alternative options.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Demonstrate how various Trust arrangements might maximize the benefits or improve the efficiency of an estate plan.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Collaborate with other professionals, on the development of an Estate Plan by experiencing the Multi-Disciplinary Team Approach to Estate Planning.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Apply the CFP Board Financial Planning Practice Standards and Code of Ethics to the practice of Estate Planning.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Describe the various methods, benefits and tax treatment of disposing a closely-held business during life and at death.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 602 – WEALTH MANAGEMENT & FINANCIAL PLANNING

3 credits.

Capstone bridging prior academic coursework with professional practice and standards. Employ skills and tools needed to acquire the relevant information and develop a comprehensive financial plan for a client.

Provides a complete review of the financial planning CFP Board topics, including ethics and principles of communication and counseling.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the content found within the Financial Planning curriculum and effectively apply and integrate this information in the formulation of a financial plan.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Effectively communicate the financial plan, both orally and in writing, including information based on research, peer, colleague or simulated client interaction and/or results emanating from synthesis of material.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Collect all necessary and relevant qualitative and quantitative information required to develop a financial plan.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Analyze personal financial situations, evaluating clients' objectives, needs, and values to develop an appropriate strategy within the financial plan.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Demonstrate logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches to a specific problem.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Evaluate the impact of economic, political, and regulatory issues with regard to the financial plan.

Audience: Graduate

7. Apply the CFP Board Financial Planning Practice Standards to the financial planning process (including applying the regulations and ethical behavior that governs the relationship between the planner and the client).

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

FINANCE 610 – BANK SIMULATION AND STRATEGY

3 credits.

Covers advanced asset-liability, hedging, tax minimization, merger/acquisitions and economic value added strategies for depository financial institutions. Students practice these strategies by managing their own bank in a computer simulation model, merging with or acquiring other student's banks using MA software, and by playing a foreign exchange trading simulation.

Requisites: FINANCE 410**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2020**FINANCE 635 – BUSINESS VALUATION**

3 credits.

Theory and practice of business valuation: using financial statements, modeling cash flows, present value, using multiples.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320) or FINANCE 700, or declared in the Business Exchange program**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of the terminology, foundational concepts and tools necessary to value companies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Demonstrate the ability to forecast and use appropriate financial statements to determine the value of companies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Utilize financial data sources for valuation

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Build valuation models using spreadsheets

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Articulate the differences as well as the common elements among the various valuation models

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Apply common valuation methods

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Incorporate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) into company valuation

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 640 – INTRODUCTION TO CREDIT ANALYSIS & TRADING

3 credits.

Thorough grounding in credit instruments. Topics include loans, bonds, credit default swaps, and trading strategies.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Forecast a company's financial capital structure, liquidity and credit metrics, which will indicate whether the credit profile will improve or deteriorate.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Identify the qualitative and quantitative factors that go into evaluating a company's current and future credit profile and assigning credit ratings.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Develop a Bloomberg Launchpad to monitor news and markets and use Bloomberg to evaluate relative value of bonds, loans and credit default swaps.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Explain the similarities and differences in evaluating industrials, financial institutions, municipals and developed and emerging market sovereign debt.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Read and evaluate corporate credit documentation including bank credit agreements and bond prospectuses.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Describe the hierarchy of decisions and different strategies for managing fixed income portfolios and how to evaluate performance vs a benchmark.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Prepare comparable (comps) sheet analysis for financial and sovereign issuers and identify trading opportunities.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 645 – INTRODUCTION TO APPLIED SECURITY ANALYSIS

3 credits.

Focuses on industry analysis and security selection, with particular emphasis on identification of value drivers and on communicating the idea to a portfolio manager.

Requisites: Declared in Finance, Investment and Banking: Applied Security Analysis, MBA or Finance, Investment and Banking: M.S.

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply an analytical framework to a security selection process, including identifying and forecasting key drivers of company performance.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Produce a three-statement financial model with relevant ratios and forward-looking forecasts.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Apply absolute and relative valuation approaches to companies to assist with making investment decisions.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Articulate how analysts conduct field research, including sources frequently used in researching companies, management teams and industries.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Formulate an investment thesis statement and persuasively communicate the recommendation to others.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Establish a network of contacts and relationships in the investment community through the interview process and by participating in alumni and industry events.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 646 – INTRODUCTION TO APPLIED PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

3 credits.

Focuses on portfolio management, including development and implementation of the decision making process.

Requisites: FINANCE 645

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Produce an economic forecast to be used in developing equity and fixed income market return forecasts and in managing individual equity and fixed income portfolios.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Recommend a tactical asset allocation utilizing equity and fixed income return and risk forecasts.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Develop methodology for allocating assets between the equity and fixed income alternatives that maximizes expected return subject to risk within specified guidelines.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Create an investment philosophy and related portfolio decision making process for its implementation.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Develop a process to identify and critique new investment opportunities.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Monitor and control the risk of an investment portfolio.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Enhance existing network of contacts and relationships in the investment community for job placement, and industry events.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 650 – MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

2-3 credits.

Study of the market for corporate control including mergers and tender offers. Motives for business combinations; impacts on security holders, managers, labor, economic efficiency; federal and state laws; offensive and defensive strategies.

Requisites: (FINANCE 305, 325, 330, and ECON/FINANCE 320), (FINANCE 700 and 635), or (FINANCE 700 and 725)

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the motives for acquisition and how to value an acquisition target both independently and as part of the integrated firm.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Utilize financial statements to calculate earnings, leverage, and cash flow projections resulting from an acquisition or leveraged buyout

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the legal framework underlying the merger transaction, including negotiation, announcement, antitakeover defenses, the fiduciary duties of the board of directors and management, and antitrust regulation

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Explain the mechanics of takeover defense strategies, their use and misuse by incumbent management, and the concept of managerial entrenchment

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Parse the details of a merger from the disclosed agreement and to understand the incentives of the various parties involved, including target and acquirer management and the facilitating investment bank

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Develop a broad theoretical framework that connects the theories of capital structure, managerial entrenchment, corporate governance and diversification to the decision to merge and the financing of the transaction.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 676 – APPLIED SECURITY ANALYSIS AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT II

4 credits.

Management of an actual portfolio of investments. Engage in security analysis, implement a portfolio strategy, and report portfolio performance and diagnostic analytics to the trustees of the portfolio.

Requisites: FINANCE 675

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Assess the value of publicly traded equity and fixed income securities.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Demonstrate an understanding of the causes of mispriced securities: how to identify mispriced securities and how to evaluate the success of an evaluation process and decisions through the active management of a portfolio.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Develop portfolios designed to produce consistent positive returns and/or outperform benchmarks without taking on significant absolute or incremental risk.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Assess portfolio level risk using traditional measures of volatility and projected risk on both an absolute and relative basis using factor risk models.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Recognize and apply the importance of ethical behavior within the investment industry and practice the application of a framework to work through ethical dilemmas.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Utilize a team structure to sharpen communication and collaboration skills in an effort to successfully execute an active management strategy, and obtain an investment industry job upon graduation.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Apply contemporary research to enhance portfolio management strategies.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 700 – INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

2-3 credits.

Introduction to financial management of firms and investment decision making; both theory and practice are emphasized. Topics covered include the financial environment and securities markets, financial statements and analysis, working capital management and capital budgeting, cost of capital, dividend policy, asset valuation, investments, decision making under uncertainty and selected topics such as mergers, options, futures.

Requisites: Declared in a Master of Business Administration degree program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. compute present values, future values, and returns under different compounding assumptions

Audience: Graduate

2. apply discounted cash flow analysis in a variety of contexts and determine the appropriate discount rate for these calculations

Audience: Graduate

3. outline the key considerations in potentially complex capital budgeting problems and employ appropriate decision rules to evaluate projects

Audience: Graduate

4. explain verbally and demonstrate quantitatively the power of diversification and the risk-return tradeoff

Audience: Graduate

5. characterize an efficient market and explain the implications of market efficiency for investors and corporations

Audience: Graduate

6. engage in the study of finance topics with classmates from a variety of personal, professional, and educational backgrounds so as to understand themselves better and how they can positively contribute to both their own and others' success

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 720 – INVESTMENT THEORY AND PRACTICE

3 credits.

Development of the theory, instruments, techniques and practice of modern investment management. Topics include asset pricing and valuation under certainty and uncertainty, portfolio management, determination of interest rates, immunization strategies and derivative securities.

Requisites: (FINANCE 700 and GEN BUS 704), declared in graduate Business Exchange program, or Financial Economics MS

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Formulate the trade-off between risk and return for real-world investment problems

Audience: Graduate

2. Describe the distribution of returns on broad asset classes

Audience: Graduate

3. Use portfolio optimization techniques to develop an asset allocation for an investor

Audience: Graduate

4. Examine factor models of returns

Audience: Graduate

5. Compare different equilibrium security pricing models

Audience: Graduate

6. Debate market efficiency

Audience: Graduate

7. Compute bond prices and relate them to term structure theory

Audience: Graduate

8. Apply interest rate risk management to solve real-world problems

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 725 – CORPORATION FINANCE THEORY AND PRACTICE

2-3 credits.

Theory and practice of financial management of firms. Techniques of capital budgeting under certainty and uncertainty; valuation of projects and firms; theory of capital structure; dividend policy; cost of capital; mergers and acquisitions.

Requisites: FINANCE 700**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Explain why, when and how companies raise debt and equity and decide on the mix of both sources of finance.

Audience: Graduate

2. Recognize the effect of agency costs – adverse selection and moral hazard – on the capital structure of the firm.

Audience: Graduate

3. Explain how firms choose to structure hybrid securities to reduce market frictions.

Audience: Graduate

4. Differentiate how firms manage risks both internally as well as with derivative contracts.

Audience: Graduate

5. Summarize the different ways firms return money to investors and the logic behind different payout policies.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 730 – DERIVATIVE SECURITIES - THEORY AND PRACTICE

3 credits.

Covers the pricing and uses of the most common derivative contracts including options, forward contracts, futures contracts, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs). Also emphasizes a practical understanding of trading and management of portfolios of these contracts, and makes use of an online trading platform. Mathematical and statistical analyses are used throughout.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Compare and contrast the risk and theoretical valuation of derivative securities in competitive markets.

Audience: Graduate

2. Execute “real” trades through Interactive Brokers to connect the theories of hedging and trading derivatives to real-life applications.

Audience: Graduate

3. Summarize research that identifies derivative trading strategies.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 740 – ANALYSIS OF FIXED INCOME SECURITIES

3 credits.

Detailed coverage of fixed income securities and their derivatives; asset backed/mortgage backed securities; pricing and portfolio strategies; term structures models and other analytical tools.

Requisites: (FINANCE 700 and GEN BUS 704) or declared in graduate Business Exchange program**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Utilize and be comfortable with the mathematics of fixed income markets.

Audience: Graduate

2. Utilize appropriate tools and techniques, including various measures of duration and convexity, to make decisions about trading and hedging portfolios of fixed income securities.

Audience: Graduate

3. Explain the structure and uses of fixed income derivative instruments, including options, forwards, and swaps.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE/INTL BUS 745 – MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS FINANCE

2-3 credits.

Theory of business finance as applied to the operations of multinational firms; financial analysis and control of foreign investment decisions; working capital management; multinational credit institutions and capital markets; special accounting problems and trends in international monetary affairs.

Requisites: FINANCE 700**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2026**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed as a senior financial officer of an international firm.

Audience: Graduate

2. Understand how the international economic and financial environment and the exchange rates affect financial decisions by firms.

Audience: Graduate

3. Apply the methods used to measure, manage and analyze the effects posed by exchange rate uncertainty to the income statement and balance sheet of a firm.

Audience: Graduate

4. Articulate the choices and challenges faced by managers when sourcing funds in the global capital markets, and in making complex foreign investment decisions

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 757 – ENTREPRENEURIAL FINANCE

2-3 credits.

About a half of all new businesses fail in the first five years. Learn about the tools, state-of-the-art valuation methods, and practical knowledge that are needed to make appropriate financing decisions in such highly uncertain environments.

Requisites: (FINANCE 700 and GEN BUS 704) or declared in graduate Business Exchange program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand the different valuation methods, financing alternatives and the ways in which strategic choices interact with valuation and fundraising

Audience: Graduate

2. Integrate the critical roles and processes of the venture capital (VC) industry, the financial instruments they typically use and details of VC contracts

Audience: Graduate

3. Use the necessary theoretical and practical tools to contextualize which valuation method and assumptions are most appropriate in different circumstances

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 760 – CURRENT TOPICS AND APPLIED LEARNING IN FINANCE

1 credit.

Examination and reflection of finance career pathways and current finance skills, applications and practices. Career development techniques and tools, communication and professional skills.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, for 2 number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Expand professional network and reflect on interactions with industry professionals

Audience: Graduate

2. Articulate various career pathways and roles within finance

Audience: Graduate

3. Demonstrate developed professional skills, both written and verbal

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 765 – CONTEMPORARY TOPICS

1-4 credits.

Exploration of advanced subject areas possibly to be introduced into the business curriculum.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing or declared in graduate Business Exchange program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

FINANCE 799 – READING AND RESEARCH-FINANCE

1-6 credits.

Individual work suited to the needs of graduate students may be arranged both during regular sessions and the intersession periods.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

FINANCE 830 – ADVANCED DERIVATIVE SECURITIES

3 credits.

Introduces continuous-time financial models essential for the advanced analysis of derivative securities. Discuss the fundamental mathematical concepts and tools from continuous-time stochastic processes including Brownian motion, Poisson processes, stochastic calculus, and change of measure. This provides a framework for analyzing derivative securities including their pricing, hedging, and risk management. In particular, covers the Black-Scholes and stochastic volatility models for equity options; basic term-structure modeling for interest rate derivatives; and reduced-form credit-risk models. Emphasis is put on applications and economic interpretation rather than mathematical rigor.

Requisites: Declared in Financial Economics MS**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Spring 2024**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Build models for pricing and risk-managing equity, interest rate, and credit derivatives.

Audience: Graduate

2. Explain the relationship between martingales and stochastic discount factors.

Audience: Graduate

3. Apply the rules of stochastic calculus to derive valuation equations for contingent claims relying on the concepts of no-arbitrage and replication.

Audience: Graduate

4. Price derivatives using analytical methods, including log-normal and exponential-affine models.

Audience: Graduate

5. Price derivatives using numerical methods, including Monte Carlo simulations and numerical solutions to dynamic valuation equations.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 835 – APPLIED SECURITY ANALYSIS AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT I

5 credits.

The management of an actual portfolio of investments. Engage in security analysis, develop a portfolio policy, and participate in field research such as trips to interview the management of potential portfolio acquisitions.

Requisites: Declared in Finance, Investment and Banking: Applied Security Analysis graduate program**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Identify a company's key sources of competitive advantage and determine the sustainability of that advantage.

Audience: Graduate

2. Build financial statement models that help determine likely company outcomes and identify key drivers and risks.

Audience: Graduate

3. Develop a macroeconomic outlook and an interest rate forecast that is consistent with that outlook.

Audience: Graduate

4. Demonstrate skills to differentiate between analytical mistakes and natural volatility.

Audience: Graduate

5. Assess portfolio level risk using traditional measures of volatility and projected risk on both an absolute and relative basis using factor risk models.

Audience: Graduate

6. Cultivate high-level interviewing skills designed to differentiate knowledge and experience from other MS/MBA student applicants.

Audience: Graduate

7. Articulate how ethical behavior, particularly as described in the CFA Institute's Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, serves the best interests of both clients and investment professionals.

Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 850 – APPLIED CORPORATE FINANCE I

4 credits.

Advanced corporate finance course that provides graduate students practical experience by working on consulting projects. Students work on applied projects in the areas of capital budgeting, capital structure and cash distribution policies. Emphasis on application of theoretical corporate finance concepts.

Requisites: Declared in Finance, Investment and Banking: Corporate Finance and Investment Banking graduate program**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement**Repeatable for Credit:** No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

FINANCE 920 – THEORY OF FINANCE

3 credits.

Intensive review of modern theories of corporate finance and investments.

Requisites: Declared in Business PHD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

FINANCE 970 – SEMINAR- INVESTMENTS (PH.D.)

3 credits.

Intensive study and critical examination of recent empirical and theoretical literature investments.

Requisites: Declared in Business PHD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

FINANCE 971 – SEMINAR-CORPORATE FINANCE (PH.D.)

1-3 credits.

Intensive study and critical examination of recent empirical and theoretical literature in corporate finance.

Requisites: Declared in Business or Economics PhD programs

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate the theoretical body of work that comprises corporate finance, including its fundamental theorems
Audience: Graduate

2. Examine the big open questions in theoretical research in corporate finance
Audience: Graduate

3. Apply the quantitative methods used in corporate finance research
Audience: Graduate

4. Utilize statistical software and financial databases to perform econometric analyses commonly used in academic corporate finance research.
Audience: Graduate

5. Use standard reduced-form and structural approaches to address problems of endogeneity in answering questions of causality.
Audience: Graduate

6. Identify, describe, and produce questions at the frontier of research in academic corporate finance.
Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 972 – TOPICS SEMINAR-FINANCE PHD

3 credits.

Special topics of current or emerging interest in financial economics.

Requisites: Declared in Business PHD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

FINANCE 973 – SEMINAR-WORKSHOP IN FINANCE

2 credits.

Seminar primarily devoted to the generation of original research in the field of finance for the PhD dissertation and subsequent publication in the academic literature.

Requisites: Declared in Business PHD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze others' research critically, as well as their own
Audience: Graduate

2. Communicate research findings accurately and effectively
Audience: Graduate

3. Access current top-tier research in Finance
Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 974 – ADVANCED TOPICS SEMINAR-FINANCE PHD

3 credits.

Discuss topics of current and emerging interests in financial economics; analyze open questions and new methodologies that are being applied to address these questions. Build on knowledge in financial economics and further previous exposure to both continuous-time and discrete-time dynamic models. Topics will evolve over time as new papers will be added and addressed.

Requisites: Declared in Business or Economics PhD programs

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Evaluate frontier research papers in financial economics.
Audience: Graduate

2. Formulate a new research question based on surveyed literature.
Audience: Graduate

3. Effectively present research findings in an academic setting.
Audience: Graduate

FINANCE 990 – FINANCE INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PHD THESIS

1-12 credits.

Individual work to complete dissertation requirement of Ph.D. program.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026

FINANCE 999 – READING AND RESEARCH-FINANCE PHD

1-6 credits.

Individual work suited to the needs of Ph.D. students may be arranged both during regular sessions and during the intersession periods.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026