

Finance

Contact Information

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- Finance (p. 1)
- Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance

Departmental goals and objectives

This Online Master of Science in Finance degree will provide students the opportunity to specialize in an area of finance important to organizations requiring strong financial skills and knowledge in managing resources. The goals of the degree are to:

1. Enhance Disciplinary Knowledge for Institutional and Individual Financial Management.
2. Develop Critical-Thinking & Data Analytical Skills for Financial Analysts and Consultants.
3. Develop Oral and Written Communication/Presentation Skills for Financial Service Professionals.
4. Develop Risk-Management and Self-Disciplinary Skills for Financial Decision Makers and Market Participants.

Continuing Professional Education

The UIS Department of Accounting, Economics, and Finance is officially recognized by the state of Illinois as a sponsor of continuing professional education (CPE) courses for accountants. Information about specific courses and CPE credit can be obtained by contacting the Accounting, Economics, and Finance Department.

The Master's Degree

Advising

New students must contact the department office for initial advising to plan a program of study that reflects their interests and satisfies degree requirements. All students are strongly encouraged to consult an academic advisor before enrolling in course work for any academic term.

Course Prerequisites

Students enrolled in courses for the online Graduate Accelerated Programs (GAP) must be registered and pay all tuition, fees, and assessments by the program's deadline each semester.

Grading Policy

Students should refer to the campus policy on Grades Acceptable Toward Master's Degrees section of this catalog.

Program Learning Outcomes

After completing the Master of Science in Finance, graduates will have the knowledge and skills to:

1. Be leaders and managers of financial assets of organizations.
2. Have critical thinking and the analytical skills to analyze financial information.
3. Have ability to communicate this type of information.

This program will benefit its graduate students since they will obtain advanced knowledge and application in finance in order to pursue their finance careers in corporations, and public and nonprofit organizations or to pursue independent consultant or financial analysts positions within regional, national, and international financial businesses.

Required Courses for the MS in Finance degree include completion of prerequisite course work typically covered in undergraduate business courses (or their equivalent) and at least 30 hours of core course work and electives covering advance finance topics, issues and applications.

Requirements

Prerequisite Course ¹

ACC 505	Fundamentals of Business Decision Making ²	4
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Required Core Courses

FIN 502	Managerial Finance	3
FIN 505	Investments	3
FIN 513	Financial Markets and Institutions	3
FIN 514	Personal Financial Planning	3
FIN 515	Financial Analytics and Budgeting	3
FIN 516	Introduction to Financial Psychology	3
FIN 517	Applied Behavioral Finance	3
FIN 518	Closure Assessment	0
FIN 556	Entrepreneurial Finance	3

Elective Courses (two courses from the following options) 6

ACC 509	Management Accounting	
FIN 510	Topics In Finance ³	
Another FIN/BUS/MGT 500 level course approved by department ⁴		

Total Hours 30

¹ Must complete all prerequisites courses with grades of C- or higher. Prerequisites must be completed prior to the first semester of graduate course work or within the first semester of graduate course work.

² Students who have completed previous introductory course work in accounting and economics may qualify to have ACC 505 waived.

³ FIN 510 is a topics courses where the topics vary each semester. FIN 510 can be repeated multiple times so long as topics vary.

⁴ This course must be documented with a Student Petition

Master's Closure

All students are required to successfully pass a comprehensive examination available in their last semester of planned enrollment. The case-based exam will evaluate students' ability to apply main concepts and analytical tools mastered in the core courses of the program. Students must register for FIN 518 during the semester they opt to take the closure exam. Students who do not meet the requirements for FIN 518 must register for FIN 519 (zero credit hours, one billable

hour) in all subsequent fall and spring semesters until the course requirements are completed.

Graduate Certificates

- Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance

Online

The online degree allows students to participate in dynamic, diverse, and interactive online learning communities and to complete their degrees via the Internet. The online format enables them to complete course work using the latest networked information technologies for increased access to educational resources, advisors, and materials with no on-campus visits required. The online degree follows the same curriculum as the on-campus degree.

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