

Finance

Master of Science in Finance

Contact Information

Phone: (217) 206-6541

Email: aef@uis.edu

Website (AEF@uis.edu): <https://www.uis.edu/aef>

Office Location: UHB 4054

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

Graduate Learning Objectives

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.

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 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.

Degree Requirements

Required Courses for the MIS 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.

Prerequisite Courses ¹

ACC 311	Administrative Uses of Accounting	4
OR		
ACC 211 & ACC 212	Introduction to Financial Accounting and Introduction to Managerial Accounting	
ECO 201	Introduction to Microeconomics	3
OR		
ECO 315	Economics for Administration	
FIN 302	Principles of Financial Management	3

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
MGT 556	Entrepreneurial Finance	3

Elective Courses (two courses from the following options) 6

ACC 509	Management Accounting	
ACC 531	Fraud Examination	
ACC 579	Fiduciary Tax	
BUS 520	Topics In Marketing	
BUS 554	Business Consulting	
FIN 510	Topics In Finance	
MIS 578	Information Security	
PAD 545	Public Financial Management	

Total Credit Hours 30

¹ Have completed all prerequisites courses with grades of C- or higher

Closure Requirement

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 (zero credit hours, one billable hour) during the semester they opt to take the closure exam and each

regular semester (excluding summer terms) until the closure exam has been passed.

Online Degree

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. For more information on the admission process, please check out the How to Apply and/or Apply Today links.

Courses

FIN 302. Principles of Financial Management. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the analysis of financial operations, decision processes, and analytic tools used in the financial management of the business enterprise. Provides special attention to areas of capital budgeting, cost of capital, ethical issues, investment decisions, and working capital management. (CBM Core Course) Course Information: Prerequisites: ACC 211 and ACC 212, or ACC 311; ECO 213 or MAT 121; ECO 201 and ECO 202 or ECO 315.

FIN 440. Topics in Finance. 1-3 Hours.

Each topic covers a different finance concept and may include an intensive workshop. Course Information: May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite: FIN 302, or equivalent.

FIN 443. Financial Investment Analysis. 3 Hours.

Elements of an "ideal" investment and examination and testing of specific investment securities. Considers alternative approaches to management of stock and fixed-income security portfolios. Problems and cases are assigned for analysis. Course Information: Prerequisite: FIN 302, or equivalent.

FIN 444. Intermediate Financial Management. 3 Hours.

Covers finance from the viewpoint of the financial manager, introducing and using financial theory and case studies to explore risk management, financial policy, financial statement analysis, ratio analysis, capital budgeting-investment decisions, capital structure, capital acquisition, and asset pricing. Will cover some topics also covered in introductory financial management but in greater depth. Course Information: Prerequisite: FIN 302.

FIN 445. Financial Institution Management. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the financial management of financial institutions. Provides broad knowledge and skills in the practices of commercial bank, pension fund, thrift, insurance, and finance company management. An analysis of the nature, purposes, and objectives of the American financial system is stressed. Topics also include "nonbanks" and financial regulation/deregulation. Course Information: Prerequisite: FIN 302.

FIN 499. Tutorial in Finance. 1-4 Hours.

Intended to supplement, not supplant, regular course offerings. Students interested in a tutorial must secure the consent of the faculty member concerned before registration and submit any required documentation to him or her. Independent directed study. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 4 hours.

FIN 502. Managerial Finance. 3 Hours.

Concepts and variables in financial analysis, planning, and control. Topics include financial forecasting, capital budgeting, leverage, valuation, cost of capital market and related legal/ethical issues. Course Information: Prerequisites: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in ACC 311 or equivalent and ECO 315 or equivalent, and BUS 501 (for MBA students only). Restricted to Graduate and Doctoral - Springfield and Graduate - Peoria.

FIN 505. Investments. 3 Hours.

A perspective on the timing, instruments, and choices available to financial investors. Shows the investment network that facilitates the efforts of individual investors, security analysts, portfolio managers and the organized markets. Current regulations and investor safeguards are also reviewed. Course Information: Prerequisites: FIN 502 or instructor approval. Restricted to Graduate and Doctoral - Springfield and Graduate - Peoria.

FIN 510. Topics In Finance. 3 Hours.

Advanced study in specific topics, to be announced when offered. Course Information: May be repeated if topics vary. Course Information: Prerequisite: FIN 502. Restricted to Graduate and Doctoral - Springfield and Graduate - Peoria.

FIN 513. Financial Markets and Institutions. 3 Hours.

Evaluation of US and international financial markets and institutions. Develop qualitative and quantitative analysis of financial market structures, and management decision-making in the financial industry. Focus on estimating the valuation of FIs in market environment, applying value-based management into FI operations, and controlling risk that might jeopardize market values of financial assets. Course Information: Prerequisites: FIN 505.

FIN 514. Personal Financial Planning. 3 Hours.

Development of skills for making comprehensive financial plans in accordance with individual and household financial objectives that include return expectations, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs. Learn to design, implement and monitor decisions in personal financial plans.

FIN 515. Financial Analytics and Budgeting. 3 Hours.

Development of skills to process data, model and analyze financial topics. Covered topics include financial statement analysis, valuation, forecasting, and budgeting preparation based on analytics results. Use applied software programs such as Excel to produce 3-statement integration, sensitivity and scenario analysis, Monte Carlo simulation and other financial spreadsheet models. Course Information: Prerequisites: FIN 505.

FIN 516. Introduction to Financial Psychology. 3 Hours.

Evaluation of psychological effects on financial decision making. Introduce principles and develop skillsets that are needed for financial planning, financial coaching, and financial therapy to help individuals, families, and business owners meet their financial goals.

FIN 517. Applied Behavioral Finance. 3 Hours.

Development of skills applied in technical analysis (TA) of market trends, trader psychology, and investment planning. Reviews the TA methodology and investor crowd psychology. Evaluates the effects of human emotions, market mood and cognitive errors on asset trading behaviors. Course Information: Prerequisites: FIN 505 or FIN 516.

FIN 518. Closure Assessment. 0 Hours.

Assessment of the achievement of the learning objectives of the MS in Finance for graduating students. The closure exam assesses students' knowledge and abilities gained in the core courses of the program. FIN 518 must be taken during the student's final semester prior to graduation. Course Information: Credit/No Credit grading only. Prerequisites: FIN 502, FIN 505, FIN 513, FIN 514, FIN 515, FIN 516, FIN 517, and MGT 566.

FIN 599. Tutorial in Finance. 1-4 Hours.

Intended to supplement, not supplant, regular course offerings. Students interested in a tutorial must secure the consent of the faculty member concerned before registration and submit any required documentation to him or her. Independent directed study. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 4 hours.