



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Finance

Department of Marketing & Finance, College of Business & Technology

Program of Study

The field of finance is both broad and dynamic. It directly affects the lives of all individuals and organizations, whether the organization is financial or nonfinancial, private or public, for profit or not-for-profit. There are several areas of finance which can be studied, and a large number of varying career opportunities are available. Required areas of study for the Finance major include financial institutions, financial management, investment policy, insurance/risk management, and real estate. Additional subjects may be studied through courses such as Bank Management, Advanced Financial Management, Security and Portfolio Analysis, Personal and Commercial Lines of Insurance, and Real Estate Financing. In addition to class lectures, you will have the opportunity to learn from computer simulations, case studies, and field trips. You will also have the opportunity to learn from representatives of corporations and government agencies who visit as guest speakers to offer current insights into financial applications and relate classroom theories to actual working situations.

Finance graduates have excellent prospects for employment in financial institutions, brokerage or investment operations, and corporations or government agencies. In the long run, an education in finance has led many individuals to top positions in organizations across the country.

Faculty

The Finance faculty hold doctoral degrees from some of the leading research universities in the United States. The faculty are active members of numerous professional organizations, including two who have recently served as presidents of regional/national financial organizations. Several faculty members have been named as the "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" in the College of Business and Technology.

Scholarships

A number of scholarships, ranging up to \$1,000, are available on a competitive basis. Detailed information on scholarships is available from the college advising office, (309) 298-1619, Western's Scholarship office, (309) 298-2001, or on the web at www.wiu.edu/Scholarship.

Honors in Finance

To be eligible for the Illinois Centennial Honors College, entering freshmen must have an ACT composite score of at least 28 OR have a 26 or 27 composite ACT and be in the top 15% of their graduating class OR have an ACT composite score of at least 24 and be in the top 10% of their high school graduating class. Transfer students with at least 12 semester hours and up to 59 semester hours of undergraduate courses are admitted with a grade point average of at least 3.3 OR 3.4 for 60 semester hours or more. To find out more, visit www.wiu.edu/Honors.

General honors seminars in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences provide students with the opportunity to explore key academic issues with distinguished faculty members.

Student Professional Organizations

As a Finance major, you will be encouraged to become involved in one or more of the department's student organizations. The Finance Club, Rho Epsilon (real estate), and the Investment Club (www.wiu.edu/users/miinvest) will help keep you up-to-date in your major field through discussions with leading professional managers and field trips to local and national businesses.

HIGHER VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Special Opportunities

The College of Business and Technology is fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International, which ensures that you receive a rigorous, up-to-date education. AACSB International is the largest and most prestigious accreditation organization for management education in the world.

The department and the College encourage involvement in internship programs with public and private business and industry. Along with credit toward graduation, such internships provide valuable experience and frequently result in employment upon graduation.

For More Information

For more information on the Finance major, visit www.wiu.edu/users/mimf or e-mail Dr. John Drea, department chair, at jt-drea@wiu.edu.

For Your General Outlook

A possible four-year sequence for a Finance major would be as follows:

Freshman and Sophomore Years:

Primarily General Education requirements, plus two semesters of accounting, two semesters of economics, Legal Environment of Business, Applied Calculus I, Applied Linear Algebra and Finite Mathematics, and Business Statistics

Junior Year:

- FIN 331 – Financial Management I
- FIN 321 – Principles of Real Estate
- FIN 341 – Financial Institutions
- FIN 351 – Risk Management and Insurance
- CS 302 – Spreadsheet and Database Applications
- MKTG 327 – Marketing Principles
- MGT 349 – Principles of Management
- IM 320 – Business Communications
- Additional General Education courses and open electives

Senior Year:

- FIN 371 – Investments
- Five Finance elective courses (e.g., Real Estate Finance and Investment; Financial Management II; Bank Management; Personal Insurance and Estate Planning; Commercial Property and Liability Insurance; Security Analysis; Internship in Finance; Seminars in Banking, Real Estate, Investments, or Financial Management)
- IM 340 – Management Information Systems
- MGT 490 – Business Strategies and Policies

www.wiu.edu/users/mimf

Department of Marketing & Finance

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