

FINANCE (MSF)

You need a firm foundation to stay atop an ever-shifting global financial landscape. Our Master of Science in Finance (MSF) program will provide you with the understanding of financial principles and analytical skills to prepare you for a successful career.

Our curricula is closely linked to professional practice and vital industry connections. And industry leaders on our Financial Advisory Board ensure that our curriculum—and your MSF degree—remains relevant and cutting edge.

Curriculum

Completion of the Master of Science in Finance degree requires 12 courses, with additional prerequisite courses depending on academic background.

The curriculum is divided into three sets of courses: prerequisites, required courses, and electives. The required courses are designed to develop strong analytical and modeling skills. The electives enable students to explore topics in corporate finance, risk management, and asset management. Ethical decision-making is woven throughout the program, which will help position you as a responsible leader in your organization.

Required Courses and Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
FINC 452	Investment Management	3
FINC 620	Financial Mathematics and Modeling I	3
FINC 621	Financial Mathematics and Modeling II	3
FINC 622	Derivative Securities	3
FINC 624	Interest Rate Risk Management	3
FINC 625	Applied Econometrics	3
FINC 626	Credit Risk Management and Structured Finance	3
FINC 630	Capstone Master of Science Finance	3
ETHC 441N or MGMT 446	Business Ethics International Business Ethics	3
Electives		
Select three of the following:		9
ACCT 404	Financial State Analysis	
FINC 453	Topics in Advanced Financial Management	
FINC 455	International Financial Management	
FINC 456	Management of Financial Institutions	
FINC 553	Applied Portfolio Management	
FINC 554	Fixed Income	
FINC 556	Investment Banking	
FINC 628	Valuation	
Total Hours		36

Prerequisites

The prerequisite requirement is met if you have completed a minimum of one undergraduate course (3 credit hours) of comparable content in the prerequisite subject area within the last five years with a grade of B (or equivalent) or higher.

Code	Title	Hours
Calculus		
Select one of the following or an equivalent course:		3-4
MATH 131	Applied Calculus I	
MATH 161	Calculus I	
Principles of Micro/Macroeconomics		
Select one of the following or an equivalent course:		3
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics	
ECON 202	Principles of Macroeconomics	
ECON 420	Managerial Economics	
Statistics		
Select one of the following or an equivalent course:		3
ISSCM 241	Business Statistics	
ISSCM 491	Managerial Statistics	
STAT 103	Fundamentals of Statistics	
STAT 203	Introduction to Probability & Statistics	
Introductory Accounting		
Select one of the following or an equivalent course:		3
ACCT 201	Introductory Accounting I	
ACCT 400	Financial Accounting for Business Decisions	
Business Finance		
Select one of the following or an equivalent course:		3
FINC 334	Principles of Corporate Finance	
FINC 450	Financial Management	

Suggested Sequence of Courses (part-time, prerequisite(s) met)

The below sequence of courses is meant to be used as a suggested path for completing coursework. An individual student's completion of requirements depends on course offerings in a given term as well as the start term for a major or graduate study. Students should consult their advisor for assistance with course selection.

Course	Title	Hours
Year 1		
Fall		
FINC 452	Investment Management	3
FINC 620	Financial Mathematics and Modeling I	3
Hours		6
Winter		
FINC 621	Financial Mathematics and Modeling II	3
FINC 622	Derivative Securities	3
Hours		6
Spring		
FINC 624	Interest Rate Risk Management	3
FINC 625	Applied Econometrics	3
Hours		6
Summer		
Select one from Electives		3
Hours		3
Year 2		
Fall		
Ethics course (ETHC 441N or MGMT 446)		3

Select one from Electives		3
Hours		6
Winter		
Select one from Electives		3
Hours		3
Spring		
FINC 626	Credit Risk Management and Structured Finance	3
FINC 630	Capstone Master of Science Finance	3
Hours		6
Total Hours		36

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supercede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

Our Master of Science in Finance program will provide you with specialized knowledge:

1. Learn the concepts of risk and return relationship, diversification, micro and macro structure of global capital markets, and tools for stock and bond portfolio optimizations.
2. Learn how to apply state-of-the-art techniques and models in the valuation of equities, fixed income, and derivatives securities such as options, interest and exchange rate swaps, collateralized debt obligations, among others.
3. Understand how to optimize a firm's financing and investment decisions in a global setting (debt-equity choices, asset-liability restructuring, capital budgeting, cost of capital, mergers and acquisitions, among others) to maximize its value and realize long-run growth opportunities.
4. Identify and assess a firm's risk from all sources both to mitigate threats using key risk management techniques (including options, swaps, and asset-liability duration) and exploit opportunities to realize competitive advantages.
5. Exhibit mastery of various statistical models and analytics, including simulation, econometrics, and financial mathematics to assess the financial consequences of actions by investors and firms.
6. Master emerging modeling techniques involving writing and implementing computer codes and pulling and working with data resources from different platforms, such as Bloomberg.
7. Learn effective communication skills aimed at shareholders, regulatory bodies, and the community at large.
8. Attain the knowledge needed to succeed in passing the examination requirements for professional certifications such as the Certified Financial Analyst (CFA), Certified Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA), and Certified Financial Planner (CFP).
9. Incorporate transparency and social justice in all domestic and global financial decisions.