BUSINESS/FINANCE (BBA/MS)

The five-year BBA/Master of Finance degree program provides focused and high-achieving undergraduate study. The program is designed for students intent upon building their resumes, skill sets, and business judgment. You’ll have the chance to earn both undergraduate and graduate degrees in a compressed time frame.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Undergraduate and graduate courses for the MSF program are held on Loyola’s Water Tower Campus, which is conveniently located off the Red Line in downtown Chicago, as well as online. Undergraduate courses are held on weekdays during the day. Graduate courses are held weekday evenings.

CURRICULUM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 441N</td>
<td>Business Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or MGMT 446</td>
<td>International Business Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>or INFS 795</td>
<td>Ethics and Data Analytics</td>
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MS Finance Core Coursework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FINC 452</td>
<td>Investment Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINC 620</td>
<td>Financial Mathematics and Modeling I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINC 621</td>
<td>Financial Mathematics and Modeling II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINC 622</td>
<td>Derivative Securities</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or ECON 622</td>
<td>Derivative Securities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FINC 624</td>
<td>Interest Rate Risk Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINC 625</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>or ECON 625</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINC 626</td>
<td>Credit Risk Management and Structured Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINC 630</td>
<td>Capstone Master of Science Finance</td>
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</table>

Electives

Students choose 3 electives from an approved list of finance or accounting coursework.

Total Hours: 36

Guidelines for Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s Programs

Terms

- **Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s programs**: In this type of program, students share limited credits between their undergraduate and graduate degrees to facilitate completion of both degrees.
- **Shared credits**: Graduate level credit hours taken during the undergraduate program and then applied towards graduate program requirements will be referred to as Shared credits.

Admission Requirements

Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s programs are designed to enhance opportunities for advanced training for Loyola’s undergraduates. Admission to these programs must be competitive and will depend upon a positive review of credentials by the program’s admissions committee.

Accordingly, the admission requirements for these programs may be higher than those required if the master’s degree were pursued entirely after the receipt of a bachelor’s degree. That is, programs may choose to have more stringent admissions requirements in addition to those minimal requirements below.

Requirements:

- Declared appropriate undergraduate major,
- By the time students begin taking graduate courses as an undergraduate, the student has completed approximately 90 credit hours, or the credit hours required in a program that is accredited by a specialty organization,
- A minimum cumulative GPA for coursework at Loyola that is at or above the program-specific requirements, a minimum major GPA that is at or above the program-specific requirements, and/or appropriate designated coursework for evaluation of student readiness in their discipline.

Students not eligible for the Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s program (e.g., students who have not declared the appropriate undergraduate major) may apply to the master’s program through the regular admissions process. Students enrolled in an Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s program who choose not to continue to the master’s degree program upon completion of the bachelor’s degree will face no consequences.

Ideally, a student will apply for admission (or confirm interest in proceeding towards the graduate degree in opt-out programs) as they approach 90 credit hours. Programs are encouraged to begin advising students early in their major so that they are aware of the program and, if interested, can complete their bachelor’s degree requirements in a way that facilitates completion of the program. Once admitted as an undergraduate, Program Directors should ensure that students are enrolled using the plan code associated with the Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s program. Using the plan code associated with the Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s program will ensure that students may be easily identified as they move through the program. Students will not officially matriculate into the master’s degree program and be labeled as a graduate student by the university, with accompanying changes to tuition and Financial Aid (see below), until the undergraduate degree has been awarded. Once admitted to the graduate program, students must meet the academic standing requirements of their graduate program as they complete the program curriculum.

1 Programs that have specialized accreditation will adhere to the admissions criteria provided by, or approved by, their specialized accreditors.
2 The program will identify appropriate indicators of student readiness for graduate coursework (e.g., high-level performance in 300 level courses). Recognizing differences between how majors are designed, we do not specify a blanket requirement.
3 If students choose not to enroll in the Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s program, they still must complete all of the standard requirements associated with the undergraduate degree (e.g., a capstone).

Curriculum

*Level and progression of courses.* The Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s programs are designed to be competitive and attractive to our most capable students. Students admitted to Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s programs should be capable of meeting graduate level learning outcomes. Following guidance from the Higher Learning Commission, only courses taken at the 400 level or higher (including 300/400 level courses). Recognizing differences between how majors are designed, we do not specify a blanket requirement.
courses taken at the 400 level) will count toward the graduate program. 1,2 
Up to 50% of the total graduate level credit hours, required in the 
graduate program, may come from 300/400 level courses where the 
student is enrolled in the 400 level of the course. Further, at least 50% 
of the credit hours for the graduate program must come from courses 
that are designed for and restricted to graduate students who have been 
admitted to a graduate program at Loyola (e.g., enrolled in plan code that 
indicates the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program, typically ending 
with the letter "D"). 3 

In general, graduate level coursework should not be taken prior to 
admission into the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program. Exceptions 
may be granted for professional programs where curriculum for the 
Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program is designed to begin earlier. On 
the recommendation of the program's Graduate Director, students may 
take one of their graduate level courses before they are admitted to the 
Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program if they have advanced abilities 
in their discipline and course offerings warrant such an exception. 4 

Undergraduate degree requirements outside of the major are in no way 
impacted by admission to an Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program. 

Shared credits. Undergraduate courses (i.e., courses offered at the 300 
level or below) cannot be counted as shared credits nor count towards 
the master's degree. Up to 50% of the total graduate level credit hours, 
required in the graduate program, may be counted in meeting both the 
undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. Of those shared 
credits, students in an Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program should 
beging their program with the standard introductory course(s) 
for the program whenever possible. So that students may progress 
through the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program in a timely manner, 
undergraduate programs are encouraged to design their curriculum such 
that a student can complete some required graduate credit hours while 
completing the undergraduate degree. For instance, some of the graduate 
curriculum should also satisfy electives for the undergraduate major. 

The program's Graduate Director will designate credit hours to be shared 
through the advising form and master's degree conferral review process. 
Shared credit hours will not be marked on the undergraduate record 
as having a special status in the undergraduate program. They will be 
included in the student's undergraduate earned hours and GPA. Graduate 
credit hours taken during the undergraduate program will not be included 
in the graduate GPA calculation. 

1 If students wish to transfer credits from another university to Loyola 
University Chicago, the program's Graduate director will review the 
relevant syllabus(es) to determine whether it meets the criteria for a 
400 level course or higher. 
2 Programs with specialized accreditation requirements that allow 
programs to offer graduate curriculum to undergraduate students will 
conform to those specialized accreditation requirements. 
3 In rare cases, the Graduate Director may authorize enrollment in a 400-
level course for a highly qualified and highly motivated undergraduate, 
ensuring that the undergraduate's exceptional participation in the 
graduate class will not diminish in any way the experience of the 
graduate students regularly enrolled. 
4 For example, if a particular course is only offered once every 2-3 years, 
and a student has demonstrated the necessary ability to be successful, 
the Graduate Director may allow a student to take a graduate level 
course to be shared prior to the student being formally admitted to the 
graduate program. See, also, footnote 4. 
5 Students should not, for example, attempt to negotiate themselves 
out of a writing intensive requirement on the basis of admission to a 
graduate program. 

Graduation 
Degrees are awarded sequentially. All details of undergraduate 
commencement are handled in the ordinary way as for all students in the 
School/College/Institute. Once in the graduate program, students abide 
by the graduation deadlines set forth by the graduate program. Students 
in these programs must be continuously enrolled from undergraduate 
to graduate degree program unless given explicit permission by their 
program for a gap year or approved leave of absence. 

LEARNING OUTCOMES 
Our Master of Science in Finance program will provide you with 

specialized knowledge of: 

• Financial securities 
• Financial markets 
• Risk metrics 
• Investment criteria 
• Capital budgeting techniques 
• Hedging strategies 
• General modeling and analytical skills 
• Writing computer programs 
• Working with databases 
• Simulating outcomes 
• Performing regression analysis 
• Solving constrained optimization problems