Degree Requirements

At least 36 hours of management coursework beyond prerequisite courses is required, including 18 hours of basic business core courses and 18 hours of graduate finance courses. The MS is Finance is designed for students with or without previous educational background in finance. Many students will select the Financial Management option, which allows them to design a program to their needs.

For students wanting a more focused program, six concentrations are available: Investment Management, Financial Analyst, Financial Risk Management, Management of Financial Institutions, Real Estate, or Financial Information Management. The Investment Management concentration is designed for students interested in pursuing an investment career and completing the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) examinations. The Financial Analyst concentration is designed for students interested in corporate finance, investment banking, venture capital, private equity, or corporate restructuring and turnarounds. The Financial Risk Management concentration is designed for students with the quantitative ability to pursue a career applying quantitative methods to risk management problems and prepares students for the Financial Risk Manager (FRM) examinations. The Management of Financial Institutions concentration prepares students for careers in banking or other financial institutions. The Real Estate concentration prepares students for various types of careers in the real estate industry. The Financial Information Management concentration prepares students to apply information technology to financial analysis, investment management and trading.

Because these concentrations have been designed to prepare students for certain certifications, students are recommended to focus only on the coursework within a particular concentration in order to prepare for its associated certification.

Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in both core courses and in aggregate courses to qualify for the MS degree.

Prerequisites

Calculus, basic statistics and competence in personal computing are required as prerequisites. Candidates that have not taken equivalent courses will need to take MATH 5304 to meet the calculus requirement; OPRE 6301 to complete the basic statistics requirement, and MIS 3300 to complete the personal computing requirement.

Course Requirements

Basic Core Courses: 18 hours

All students enrolling in the Master of Science in Finance program must complete the following Basic Business Core courses, or their equivalents. Please see the catalog for further prerequisite information.
Financial Management Option: 18 hours

Students must complete eight courses; of which at least one course must come from category A and at least five must come from category B. Students may do an internship (FIN 6V98) as part of this option.

Category A: ACCT 6330, ACCT 6332, ACCT 6344, ACCT 6345, ACCT 6350, ACCT 6353, MECO 6312, MECO 6315, ECON 6305, ECON 6306, ECON 6311, ENTP 6390, OPRE 7310, MIS 6324, MIS 6326, MIS 6344. Note: Either MECO 6312 or ECON 6306 can be counted as they are substitutes. Similarly, either OPRE 7310 or ECON 6311 can be counted as they are substitutes.

Category B: FIN 6308, FIN 6311, FIN 6314, FIN 6315, FIN 6316, FIN 6320, FIN 6321, FIN 6322, FIN 6323, FIN 6325, FIN 6330, FIN 6340, FIN 6352, FIN 6355, FIN 6356, FIN 6357, FIN 6360, FIN 6364, FIN 6366, FIN 6368, FIN 6370, FIN 6378, FIN 6380, FIN 6381, FIN 6382, FIN 6383, FIN 6V98, and FIN 6V99.

Concentrations: 18 hours

Investment Management (CFA) Concentration - recommended coursework:

ACCT 6344 Financial Statement Analysis
FIN 6311 Valuation Models and Practices
FIN 6314 Fixed Income Securities
FIN 6320 Financial Markets and Institutions
FIN 6325 Macroeconomics and Financial Markets
FIN 6330 Behavioral Finance
FIN 6360 Options and Futures Markets
FIN 6364 Advanced Investment Management
FIN 6378 Emerging Market Investment Analysis
FIN 6380 Global Fund Management

Financial Analyst Concentration - recommended coursework:
ACCT 6330 Intermediate Financial Accounting I
ACCT 6332 Intermediate Financial Accounting II
FIN 6311 Valuation Models and Practices
FIN 6316 Private Equity Finance
FIN 6352 Corporate Financial Modeling
FIN 6355 Corporate Finance and Policy
FIN 6356 Mergers and Acquisitions
FIN 6357 Corporate Restructuring and Turnarounds
FIN 6366 International Financial Management

Financial Risk Management Concentration - recommended coursework:
FIN 6314 Fixed Income Securities
FIN 6360 Options and Futures Markets
OPRE 7310 Probability and Stochastic Processes
MECO 6312 Applied Econometrics and Times Series Analysis
  or ECON 6306 Applied Econometrics
FIN 6370 The Theory of Finance and Its Applications
FIN 6381 Introductory Mathematical Finance
  or ECON 6305 Mathematical Economics
FIN 6382 Numerical Methods in Finance
FIN 6383 Financial Risk Management

Management of Financial Institutions Concentration - recommended coursework:
FIN 6308 Regulation of Business and Financial Markets
FIN 6311 Valuation Models and Practices
FIN 6314 Fixed Income Securities
FIN 6320 Financial Markets and Institutions
FIN 6325 Macroeconomics and Financial Markets
FIN 6340 Management of Financial Institutions
FIN 6360 Options and Futures Markets
FIN 6383 Financial Risk Management

Real Estate Finance Concentration - recommended coursework:
FIN 6314 Fixed Income Securities
FIN 6321 (REAL 6321) Introduction to Real Estate
FIN 6322 (REAL 6322) Real Estate Finance and Investment
FIN 6323 (REAL 6323) Real Estate Market Analysis and Commercial Investment
FIN 6328 (REAL 6328) Real Estate Valuation
FIN 6320 Financial Markets and Institutions

Financial information Management Concentration - recommended coursework:
MECO 6312 Applied Econometrics and Times Series Analysis
   or ECON 6306 Applied Econometrics
FIN 6360 Options and Futures Markets
FIN 6364 Advanced Investment Management
FIN 6368 Financial Information and Trading
FIN 6382 Numerical Methods in Finance
MIS 6324 Business Intelligence Software and Techniques
MIS 6326 Data Management
MIS 6344 Web Analytics

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