# **Required Courses**

# **Finance Theory Module - 9 credits:**

	,	Credits				
FINC870	Theory of Financial Decision Making	3				
FINC871	Workshop in Finance: Seminar	3				
FINC872	Workshop in Finance: Empirical Research	3				
Finance Pra	actice Module – 9 credits:					
FINC851 or	1	3				
FINC861	Financial Modeling and Valuation					
FINC852 or	Ş	3				
FINC856	Financial Engineering and Risk Management					
FINC862	Fixed Income Securities	3				
Skills Core - 6 credits:						
		Credits				
ECON803	Applied Econometrics I	3				
ACCT820	Financial Statement Analysis	3				
Electives - 6 credits:						

Students may choose courses from the following list but are not limited to courses on the list. Other courses may be used towards the degree requirements if submitted as part of the student's program of study and approved by the MS Finance Program Director prior to registration in the course. The MS Finance Program Director will decide on whether a particular variation from the stated degree requirements is allowed.

For elective courses offered outside the Department of Finance, students will have to meet all listed prerequisites or receive approval from the instructor.

		Credits		
FINC851	Corporate Financial Analysis	3		
FINC852	Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management	3		
FINC853	International Financial Management	3		
FINC854	Special Topics in Finance	3		
FINC856	Financial Engineering and Risk Management	3		
FINC857	Private Equity/Venture Finance	3		
FINC858	Corporate Governance	3		
FINC859	Seminar in Finance	3		
FINC861	Financial Modeling and Valuation	3		
FINC867	Various Topics	3		
ECON800-level courses with permission of Director				
ACCT614	Federal Tax Research and Planning	3		

#### **Credit Summary:**

Required Theory Module Classes	9
Required Practice Module Classes	9
Required Skill Classes	6
Elective Classes	6
<b>Total Credits</b>	30

The 4+1 MS Finance Program permits University of Delaware undergraduate Finance majors to take 6 credit hours of graduate classes as part of their academic studies. These 6 credit hours will be counted towards both the bachelor's degree (121 credit hours required) and the master's degree (30 credit hours required). Normally, the process begins in the second semester of the student's junior year as an application to the MS program, then graduate-level credit hours will be taken in the senior year. The total credit hours for the combined BS/MS degree is 145 hours, i.e., six fewer credits than for students who took the two degrees separately. Undergraduate course requirements are the same as they are now, with this exception: Finance graduate-level courses required for the MS portion can be used to satisfy two of the Group F Finance electives required for the undergraduate portion. Total graduate level course requirements are the same as for the MS in Finance degree. These requirements include 30 credit hours of coursework at the 600 or 800 level.

#### SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISON:

Current			Revised		
DEGREE: MASTER OF SCIENCE			DEGRE: MASTER OF SCIENCE		
MAJOR: FINANCE			MAJOR: FINANCE		
			GUPPIGU	TD (	
CURRICULUM			 CURRICULUM		
PHOTABLE COARCIE		G 114	DEOLUDED COLIDGES		Con 1ite
REQUIRED COURSES Cre		Credits	REQUIRED COURSES		Credits
FINC	Corporate Financial	3	FINC 851	Corporate Financial	3
851	Analysis <b>OR</b> Financial		<b>OR</b> 861	Analysis <b>OR</b> Financial	
OR	Modeling & Valuation			Modeling & Valuation	
861					
FINC	Investment Analysis &	3	FINC 852	Investment Analysis &	3
852	Portfolio Management		OR 856	Portfolio Management	
OR	OR Financial			OR Financial	
856	Engineering & Risk			Engineering & Risk	

	Management			Management	
FINC 855	Financial Institutions & Markets	3	FINC 862	Fixed Income Securities	3
FINC 870	Theory of Financial Decision Making	3	FINC 870	Theory of Financial Decision Making	3
FINC 871	Workshop in Finance: Seminar	3	FINC 871	Workshop in Finance: Seminar	3
FINC 872	Workshop in Finance: Empirical Research	3	FINC 872	Workshop in Finance: Empirical Research	3
ECON 803	Applied Econometrics I	3	ECON 803	Applied Econometrics I	3
ACCT 820	Financial Statement Analysis	3	ACCT 820	Financial Statement Analysis	3
FINC	Elective	3	FINC	Elective	3
FINC	Elective	3	FINC	Elective	3
	CREDITS TO TOTAL MINIMUM OF	30	3	CREDITS TO TOTAL MINIMUM OF	30

# **Appendix 2: 4+1 BS/MS in Finance Program – Resolution**

WHEREAS, the MS Finance Program was permanently approved on March 7, 2016 and

WHEREAS, subsequently a departmental and college review recommended that the MS Finance Program be enhanced by providing a 4+1 BS/MS in Finance option, and

WHEREAS, student interest in the program has been demonstrated by the actual enrollment as compared to the projected enrollment, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that, effective immediately, the 4+1 Bachelor of Science in Finance/Master of Science in Finance Program (BS/MS Finance) be granted permanent status.



# MS in Finance Program Policy Statement

University of Delaware
Lerner College of Business and Economics
Department of Finance
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http://graduate.lerner.udel.edu/master-doctoral-programs/ms-finance

# PROGRAM POLICY STATEMENT MASTER OF SCIENCE, FINANCE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

Approved by the University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Committee March 7, 2016

The Department offers a program leading to the Master of Science (MS) in Finance. Each candidate's program is planned with the help of the MS Finance Program Director and the MS Finance Program Committee. The MS in Finance degree program provides students with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills to be innovative, well-informed and experienced finance professionals. Initial provisional status of the program was granted on January 8, 2008 and permanent status was approved on March 7, 2016.

#### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Qualified applicants for admission in the MS Finance program must:

- Supply all information required by the University for admission to a graduate program as stated in the University of Delaware Catalog.
- Hold the equivalent of a 4-year U.S. Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university (except as described in the 4+1 BS/MS Option, below).
- Complete the online application for admission to the MSF program: <a href="http://www.udel.edu/gradoffice/applicants/">http://www.udel.edu/gradoffice/applicants/</a> and submit official transcripts of all previous academic work
- Submit official results of the Graduate Records Examination (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) (except as described in the 4+1 BS/MS Option, below).
- Submit a resume and application essay on the following topic:
  - Specifically, how will an MS in Finance from the Lerner College of Business and Economics at the University of Delaware help you achieve your professional goals?
- Submit three letters of recommendation from faculty and/or employers.

For applicants whose native language is not English, the University requires an official paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of at least 600, at least 250 on the computer-based TOEFL, or at least 100 on the Internet-based TOEFL for an applicant to be considered for admission. Also accepted is a minimum score of 7.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam. This requirement may be waived if the student has earned a degree from an accredited educational institution in a country where English is the primary language.

Applicants need not have majored in any specific undergraduate field, unless applying through the 4+1 BS/MS in Finance option. The following should be considered as *preferred minimum levels* for admission:

- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- A combined score of 300 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the GRE (1050 on previous concordance table) or score at or above the 55th percentile on the GMAT.

Incoming students are expected to understand the fundamentals of finance and accounting concepts as presented in FINC850 Financial Management and ACCT800 Financial Reporting and Analysis, have basic computer skills equivalent to those taught in ACCT 160 Introduction to Business Information Systems I and have taken the college level equivalents to MATH 221 Calculus and MATH 230 Finite Mathematics with Applications. The admissions committee will examine each accepted applicant's transcripts and work experience to determine if these prerequisites have been satisfied. Students deficient in any of the admission requirements or pre-requisites may be admitted on provisional status and be required to complete non-degree credit coursework. Such determination is made by the MS Finance Program Committee.

Admission to the graduate program is competitive. Those who meet stated requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet all of those requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths. Admission decisions are made by the MS Finance Program Committee and are based upon a number of factors, including the applicant's GMAT or GRE scores, college transcripts, application essays and letters of recommendation.

Admissions will occur on a rolling basis, so early application may improve chances for admission and financial assistance, if applicable. While the published application deadline for the fall semester is June 1<sup>st</sup> (international) or July 1<sup>st</sup> (domestic) and for the spring semester November 15<sup>th</sup> (international) or January 1<sup>st</sup> (domestic), applications are accepted after those dates. Applications can be submitted before taking the GRE or GMAT. Please indicate on your application the

scheduled date of your GRE or GMAT exam. However, late exam submission will delay application processing and the admission decision.

Every applicant who has accepted admission must submit a \$500 non-refundable deposit by the deadline stated in the acceptance letter to secure a place in the MS Finance Program, unless applying through the 4+1 BS/MS in Finance option.

#### **Admission on Provisional Status**

- Students deficient in any of the admission requirements or pre-requisites may be admitted on provisional status and be required to complete non-degree credit coursework. Such determination is made by the MS Finance Program Committee.
- Students admitted on provisional status will be notified in writing by the MS in Finance Program Committee in their acceptance letter of the requirements that need to be met for obtaining regular status in the program.
- Students admitted on provisional status may be required to complete course work that will not count towards the degree and this course work may be required to be completed before the student can take courses that satisfy degree requirements.
- Students admitted on provisional status may be required to pass proficiency tests as a condition for obtaining regular status in the program.

#### Admission through the 4+1 BS/MS in Finance

Interested students should apply in the second semester of their junior year. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) will be waived; all other requirements for admission (online application, an essay, two letters of recommendation and a resume) are the same as for external applicants to the program.

The \$500 non-refundable deposit required by new admissions will be waived for those participating in the 4+1 BS/MS Finance program.

# MASTER OF SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS

#### **Program of Study**

A minimum of 30 credits is required for the Master of Science degree. Degree candidates are required to have a program of study approved by the MS Finance Program Director prior to matriculation or, if entering through the 4+1 program, during their senior year of completing the BS in Finance. The program of study consists of the list of the courses the student intends to take to satisfy the MS in Finance degree requirements. Any revisions in the program of study must be approved by the MS Finance Program Director prior to the student registering for courses not previously approved in their program of study.

#### **Prerequisites**

- Undergraduate calculus equivalent to MATH 221 Calculus and MATH 230 Finite Mathematics with Applications
- Basic computer skills equivalent to ACCT 160 Introduction to Business Information Systems I
- Understanding of fundamental finance and accounting concepts as presented in FINC850 Financial Management and ACCT 800 Financial Reporting and Analysis. (For 4+1 students the fundamental finance and accounting concepts are as presented in FINC311, ACCT207 and ACCT208.)

# **Required Courses**

# Finance Theory Module - 9 credits:

		Credits			
FINC870	Theory of Financial Decision Making	3			
FINC871	Workshop in Finance: Seminar	3			
FINC872	Workshop in Finance: Empirical Research	3			
Finance Pr	ractice Module – 9 credits:	Credits			
$ \begin{array}{c} {\rm FINC851} \\ {\rm or} \end{array} $	Corporate Financial Analysis	3			
FINC861	Financial Modeling and Valuation				
FINC852 or	Investment Analysis & Portfolio Managemen	nt 3			
FINC856	Financial Engineering and Risk Managemen	ıt			
FINC862	Fixed Income Securities	3			
Skills Module - 6 credits:					
		<b>Credits</b>			
ECON803	Applied Econometrics I	3			
ACCT820	Financial Statement Analysis	3			

# Electives - 6 credits

4+1 Program of Study

While completing the BS in Finance degree, during the senior year, students will take six (6) credits of graduate-level courses from any of the required or elective Finance courses. These six credits will be in lieu of the regular B.S. choices from: FINC313, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418 or 419. The six credits will be counted towards both the Bachelor of Science degree and the Master of Science degree.

**Credits** 

6

#### **Finance Theory Module**

This sequence is a key unique feature of our program and consists of three required courses FINC870 Theory of Financial Decision Making, FINC871 Workshop in Finance: Seminar, and FINC872 Workshop in Finance: Empirical Research. The remainder of the courses in the program consists of classes that are shared with

MBAs, and therefore provide a managerial perspective on the topics. The Finance Theory Module courses are different in that they provide a social scientific perspective. This provides students with a solid foundation as to why finance recommends the analytical procedures and judgment calls that it does. This should help students be better prepared for the strategic thinking that will come in the longer run of their careers, and to be more cognizant of unexpected opportunities or risks in the analyses they produce in the shorter run.

This sequence is also special in that it is an organized sequence, with a foundations course before the hands-on course and the readings course. Students gain a common language, tools, and theory foundation. The second two courses work better because of the first one. A sequence is somewhat rare in the context of short masters programs. This sequence also demonstrates a level of Departmental commitment to the Program, in that these courses are essentially taken only by MSF students (with a few exceptions for Econ PhD students).

FINC870 Theory of Financial Decision Making is a graduate-level course on the branch of microeconomics called financial economics. This course has been developed for M.S. students in finance and is also appropriate for Master and Ph.D. students in Economics. The topics in this course form the necessary building blocks for all of the traditional topics in finance including corporate finance, investments, financial markets and institutions and derivatives.

FINC871 is graduate-level overview of key scientific topics in financial economics, intended for students who have high-level goals in the practice of finance. The course covers fundamental topics in several major areas, including market efficiency, asset pricing, market microstructure, information flow, capital structure and securities issuance. Unlike most courses in finance for practical people---but like courses in some other social sciences---we will read and discuss the scientific literature in finance. The objectives are (1) to provide a well-grounded view for what the science knows about these core areas, and (2) how it knows it. The overarching goal that connects these objectives is to provide students a long-term career edge: skills in reading and reasoning to be able to continue to develop their finance knowledge over time as the knowledge of the field progresses.