Master of Science in Finance

Program information

College	College of Business		
Department or school	Department of Finance		
Degree abbreviation	M.S.	**CIP code**	52.0801
Program website	business.fau.edu/masters-phd/finance		

Our commitment to you

This Academic Learning Compact describes the program's mission, what students who complete the program will know and be able to do and how faculty assess that learning. Florida Atlantic University publishes a compact for every degree program and standalone certificate so students, families, employers and the community can see what each program commits to providing its graduates.

Program mission

The Department of Finance teaches corporate finance, investments, financial markets, banking and international finance. Its programs provide relevant training for a wide variety of careers.
The Master of Science in finance prepares students for specialized careers in financial management, investment banking and investment management.

Florida Atlantic University's mission

Florida Atlantic University is recognized as an opportunity university and R1 research institution dedicated to transforming lives through education, discovery, and innovation. We empower students to achieve economic mobility, advance knowledge that creates meaningful impact, and forge partnerships that drive prosperity and connection in the communities we serve.

How the program supports the university mission

The program supports the university's mission by helping graduates achieve economic mobility in specialized finance careers through practical case work. Its flexible format serves working professionals who want to advance.

About the program

The Master of Science in finance is offered through the College of Business executive programs and requires 30 graduate credits. Students start with a finance boot camp and build advanced knowledge they apply to practical cases. The program is a great fit for professionals who want a specialized career in finance.

Student learning outcomes

By graduation, students will be able to demonstrate outcomes in three core areas: content/discipline knowledge and skills (Outcome 1), communication skills (Outcome 2) and critical thinking skills (Outcome 3). Faculty assess all three core outcomes every year.

A. Content/Discipline Knowledge and Skills

What graduates will know and be able to do in their field

Areas this program addresses (check at least two)

- ☒ **Declarative knowledge:** key vocabulary, history, theories and concepts of the field
- ☐ **Research skills:** finding, gathering, analyzing and reporting information the way the field does
- ☒ **Technical skills:** hands-on tools and methods of the field, such as software, instruments, lesson plans or business reports

Graduates will be able to explain advanced concepts in finance.
Graduates will be able to apply advanced finance knowledge to a practical business case.

How students show it

A final exam and a case study in a required graduate finance course.

Where it is assessed

FIN 6246 Financial Markets

B. Communication Skills

How graduates will share ideas and work with others

Areas this program addresses (check at least two)

- ☒ **Written communication:** clear, well-organized writing suited to the audience and purpose
- ☒ **Oral communication:** well-organized presentations that connect with an audience
- ☐ **Other forms of communication:** visual, media, performance or exhibit work
- ☐ **Team/collaborative communication:** contributing to group projects and shared goals

Graduates will be able to write clear, well-organized and properly formatted documents for professional business audiences.
Graduates will be able to deliver well-organized informative and persuasive presentations that suit their audience.

How students show it

Papers and presentations in the required graduate business communication course.

Where it is assessed

GEB 6217 Communication Strategies for Business Professionals

C. Critical Thinking Skills

How graduates will analyze, create and solve problems

Areas this program addresses (check at least one)

- ☒ **Analytical skills:** weighing evidence, comparing ideas and judging arguments
- ☐ **Creative skills:** combining knowledge to create something new, such as a design, performance or proposal
- ☐ **Practical skills:** applying knowledge to real situations, such as a business proposal, lesson plan or grant

Graduates will be able to solve financial management problems using sound critical thinking.

How students show it

An exam in a required graduate finance course

Where it is assessed

FIN 6456: Quantitative Methods in Finance.

Assessment approaches

Every year, faculty review samples of student work to see how well students are meeting all three outcomes, and they use what they learn to improve the program.

Faculty review a final exam and a case study in a required finance course, and an exam in a financial management course. They also review papers and presentations in the graduate business communication course. Faculty use the results to improve courses in the program.

Assessment methods may change over time.