FINANCE

The finance curriculum has been carefully designed to ensure that students will be well equipped for the highly competitive, 21st Century global marketplace. It is a broad-based, professional education in all aspects of theory and practice, integrating practical business experience as a key graduation requirement. A measure of the success of our finance program is the successful placement of our graduates in business, industry and non-profit organizations.

Background Information

AACSB International-The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accredits the undergraduate and graduate programs in the College of Business at North Dakota State University. The College of Business is one of only two accredited schools of business in North Dakota.

AACSB International is one of higher education's most prestigious and rigorous accrediting bodies, stressing academic excellence and a commitment to continuous improvement. Less than 15 percent of business programs worldwide have this accreditation.

The Program

Students begin the finance program with two years of general education, including course work in the liberal arts, quantitative methods and technology, economics and the behavioral sciences. With this broad academic foundation in place, many students are then exposed to the functional areas of business—management, marketing, finance and accounting. The program design builds an understanding of the interrelationship among these functional areas of business, as well as sensitivity to the economic, social, technological, legal and international environment in which businesses must operate. The objective of the program is not simply to impart basic knowledge, but to instill and nurture important qualities and skills in students that are essential for future business leadership and organizational success. These attributes include analytical and problem solving skills, communicative capacity, interpersonal and teamwork skills, an understanding of quantitative methods and information technology, and a sense of community and civic responsibility.

Selective Admission

Students who wish to study finance at NDSU enroll as pre-finance majors in the College of Business for their freshman and sophomore years. Pre-finance majors apply for admission to the professional program during their second year. Transfer students with sufficient credits and appropriate course work also may apply. Admission to the professional program is based upon the successful completion of the pre-professional course requirements, a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 and junior standing.

The Faculty

In order to provide a rigorous and timely educational experience, we have recruited and attracted faculty who are highly qualified to teach finance. Dedicated to student learning, our faculty have often been recognized for their teaching excellence by students and colleagues. The faculty employ a wide variety of instructional techniques and are considered especially strong in experiential approaches to the study of organizations and management decision making. They remain current in their sub-fields of finance by actively engaging in research and constantly assisting firms in identifying and solving business problems.

The Practicum

Finance majors are encouraged to complete a three-credit practicum. The practicum is designed to enable students to relate finance concepts learned in the classroom to actual business situations and to give them a competitive edge in job placement.

Career Opportunities

Graduates with a finance major have opportunities in business, industry, government service, and the non-profit sector, both regionally and globally. Job opportunities for finance majors are found in corporate finance and the financial services industries, such as banking, insurance, brokerage, investment banking and financial planning.

The College

The College of Business also offers majors in accounting, business administration, management, marketing, and management information systems, as well as Master of Business Administration and Master of Accountancy degrees.

High School Preparation

It is recommended that high school students interested in studying finance at the university level take mathematics courses at least through pre-calculus. High school electives in the social sciences, English and communication also would be of benefit.

Sample Curriculum

General Education	Credits
First Year Experience	
BUSN 189 - Skills for Academic Success	1
Communication	
COMM 110 - Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
ENGL 110, 120 - College Composition I, II	3, 3
ENGL 320 - Business and Professional Writing	3
Quantitative Reasoning	
STAT 330 - Introductory Statistics	3
Science & Technology	
CSCI 116 - Business Use of Computers	4
Science and Technology Electives	6
Humanities & Fine Arts	
PHIL 216 - Business Ethics	3
Humanities & Fine Arts Elective	3
Social & Behavioral Sciences	
ECON 201 - Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECON 202 - Principles of Macroeconomics	3
Wellness	2
Cultural Diversity	-
Global Perspective	
ECON 201 - Principles of Microeconomics *or* ECON 202 - Principles of Macroeconomics	3
Total	**40**

Pre-Professional Requirements	Credits
ACCT 200 - Elements of Accounting I	3
ACCT 201 - Elements of Accounting II	3
MATH 103 - College Algebra	3
MATH 144 - Mathematics for Business	4
PSYC 111 - Introduction to Psychology	3
SOC 110 - Introduction to Sociology	3
STAT 331 - Regression Analysis	2
Free Electives	10
Total	**31**

Professional Requirements	Credits
BUSN 430 - Legal and Social Environment of Business	3
BUSN 489 - Strategic Management (Capstone Course)	4
FIN 320 - Principles of Finance	3
FIN 410 - Investment Analysis and Management	3
FIN 420 - Options, Futures and Other Derivatives	3
FIN 430 - Management of Financial Institutions	3
FIN 440 - International Finance	3
FIN 460 - Corporate Finance	3
FIN 470 - Analysis of Fixed-Income Securities	3
MGMT 320 - Foundations of Management	3
MIS 320 - Management Information Systems	3
MRKT 320 - Foundations of Management	3
300-400 Level Business Electives	18
Total	**55**
CURRICULUM TOTAL	**126**

For Further Information

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This sample curriculum is not intended to serve as a curriculum guide for current students, but rather an example of course offerings for prospective students. For the curriculum requirements in effect at the time of entrance into a program, consult with an academic advisor or with the Office of Registration and Records.

This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Contact the Office of Admission (701) 231-8643 or 800-488-NDSU or ND Telecommunications Relay Service 800-366-6888 (TTY) or 800-366-6889 (voice).

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