THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Information for
First-year
Students
in
Banking
and
Finance
2006
WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE FINANCE?

Finance is about decision making within financial and capital markets. It is about managing risk and uncertainty for individuals, for businesses, and for multinational corporations. Finance is about money: making it, using it and keeping it. Finance involves the study of financial and capital markets globally.

QUALITIES REQUIRED FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN FINANCE

Much of the work now carried out by people employed in the finance sector is of a specialised and highly complex nature and calls for an adequate training in banking and finance – a demand likely to continue for many years to come. Qualities required for a successful career in finance include:

- Disciplinary training in banking, finance and investment management
- Competence in financial mathematics
- A broadly based education
- An ability to communicate effectively
- An historical perspective and view of the future
- A knowledge of current affairs
- An alert and innovative mind
- Language training (optional)

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT UNSW

At UNSW a student may specialise in Finance or combine Finance with other disciplines in the faculty, or other faculties eg Mathematics, Law, Arts, Science, Social Science and Engineering. Depending on the program selected, Finance provides training for a wide range of vocations including: multinational financial managers; multinational bank and insurance managers; multinational investment managers; investment analysts in stock exchange markets; corporate financial managers or treasurers; portfolio managers for trust funds; superannuation funds and insurance companies; investment analysts and financial researchers in stockbroking firms, merchant banks, trading banks and government departments; and management consultants and takeover specialists in corporate advisory divisions of merchant banks, public accounting firms and management consulting firms.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Finance graduates are primary employed in:

- Investment Management Sector
- Financial Sector
- Corporate Sector
You may choose to study any of the following disciplines in your Commerce degree (BCom):

**Disciplines**
- Accounting
- Actuarial Studies
- Banking and Finance (Finance)
- Business and Law and Taxation
- Economics
- Industrial Relations and Organisational Behaviour
- Information Systems, Technology and Management
- International Business
- Marketing

**Background to a Bachelor of Commerce degree**

Basically the BCom is a three-year degree. The normal program consists of 144 units of credit (UOC) completed on a full-time basis over 3 academic years. A student must enrol in a minimum of 12 units of credit per session and a maximum of 24 units of credit per session. All Commerce courses are 6 uoc per course and a normal course load for full-time students is four courses per semester. The degree program for Commerce is BCom program number 3502. Different degrees have different program numbers.

**Expected Workload**

Normal workload expectations for each degree are a minimum of 25 hours per session per unit of credit; including class contact hours, preparation and time spent on all assessable work.

**Terminology -** You should understand the following terms before you enrol.

**Degree Terminology**
- Single Degree: one bachelor degree usually of 3 years duration eg BCom.
- Double Degree: two bachelor degrees usually of 5 year duration eg BComLLB or 4 year duration eg BComBSc.
- Honours Degree: includes an extra year of undergraduate study. The honours year consists of coursework and a thesis that should not exceed 10,000 words eg BCom (Hons) Finance.

**Program Terminology**

- Plan: is the specialisation/s you wish to major in. You must nominate in first year on your enrolment form the specialisation/s you wish to take.

- Single Major: is a concentration of courses in an approved disciplinary stream of at least **48 uoc**.

- Double Major: is a concentration of courses in approved disciplinary streams of **84 uoc**, consisting of **42 uoc** from each stream.

- Disciplinary Minor: Student who decide to do the requirements of a single major must also take a minor of **24 uoc** of approved session courses of which no more than 12 uoc may be Level 1 courses.

- Prerequisites: the course that is required to have been completed before you can attempt the nominated course eg in order to take FINS2624 you must have completed Prerequisite/s: FINS1613.
**Co-requisites** – may be taken in the same semester as the nominated course eg for FINS3616 Prerequisite/s or Corequisite/s: FINS2624.

**Core courses** - courses that **must be taken** as part of a major requirement.

**Elective courses** – courses you **may choose** towards a major.

If you know you would like to study **Finance** at University and wish to take a single major you should enrol in FINS1612 and FINS1613 in the first year. For a double major you should enrol in FINS1613 in Session 2 and a core course from your second major in Session 1 of first year.

If you are unsure about whether or not you wish to study finance, you can wait until year 2 before you take the compulsory first-year courses but you must have passed all 6 BCom core courses and undertake FINS1612, FINS1613 in session 1 and FINS2624 and FINS3616 in session 2 otherwise you will find you do not have the pre- and co-requisites you need in order to be able to take other courses to complete the major. The undergraduate coordinator does not recommend this enrolment pattern; it would be better to decide to major in finance in Session 2 of Year 1.

**Suggested Year 1 enrolment for a single finance major**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Course Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT1501</td>
<td>Accounting &amp; Finance Mgmt 1A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON1101</td>
<td>Microeconomics 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON1202</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINS1612</td>
<td>Capital Markets &amp; Institutions</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Suggested Year 1 enrolment for a double finance major**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON1202</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core course for other Disciplinary Major</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Years 2 and 3**

There are no specific second and third courses. The **core** courses of FINS1612, FINS1613, FINS2624 and FINS3616 are compulsory if you wish ‘Finance’ to be noted on your testamur (degree). Full rules governing the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Commerce and combined degrees can be found on p156 – 169 of the 2006 UNSW undergraduate handbook.

It is recommended that students undertake FINS2624 in session 1 of year 2 if they are single majors.

If students are double majors who have taken only FINS1612 in year one it is of paramount importance that they take FINS1613 in session 1 and FINS2624 in session 2 of year 2.

BCom required core courses for all disciplines: Acct 1A, Acct 1B, Micro, Macro, QMA, QMB (Actuarial Studies and some double degrees require students to take MATH courses instead QMA and QMB please refer to the Undergraduate Handbook if you suspect that this may apply to you.)
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES OFFERED BY THE SCHOOL OF BANKING AND FINANCE

Finance core courses:
FINS1612 Capital Markets and Institutions
FINS1613 Business Finance
FINS2624 Portfolio Management
FINS3616 International Business Finance

Elective Finance courses:
FINS2622 Emerging Capital Markets
FINS2643 Wealth Management
FINS3623 Venture Capital
FINS3625 Applied Corporate Finance
FINS3626 International Corporate Governance
FINS3630 Bank Financial Management
FINS3631 Risk and Insurance
FINS3633 Real Estate Finance
FINS3634 Credit Analysis and Lending
FINS3635 Options, Futures & Risk Management
FINS3636 Interest Rate Risk Management
FINS3640 Investment Management Modelling
FINS3641 Security Analysis and Valuation
FINS3642 Strategies for Investment Management
FINS3650 International Banking
FINS3651 International Financial Services
FINS3775 Research Methods in Finance 1
FINS4774 Financial Decision Making under Uncertainty
FINS4776 Advanced Topics in Asset Pricing
FINS4777 Advanced Topics in Corporate Finance
FINS4779 Research Methods in Finance 2
FINS4781 Special Topics in Finance

Any of the above courses may be taken in the BCom Finance degree, provided the pre- and co-requisite requirements have been met.

If you have a special interest within Finance, you may wish to concentrate on specific areas. This concentration is not recorded on your testamur.

Following are suggestions for FINANCE enrolment patterns based on a single major. Variations will have to be made to accommodate double major and double degree requirements and also sessional offerings.

NB FINS3775 must be completed in Session 1 or Session 2 of Year 3, if you wish to continue on to the fourth-year honours program.

**Banking**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
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<td>Course Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACCT1501</td>
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<td>FINS1612</td>
<td>FINS1613</td>
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Corporate Finance

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<th>Year 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
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<td>ACCT1501</td>
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<td>FINS2624</td>
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<td>FINS3626</td>
</tr>
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<td>ECON1202</td>
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Investment Management

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ACCT1501</td>
<td>ACCT1511</td>
<td>FINS2624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON1101</td>
<td>ECON1102</td>
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<td>FINS1612</td>
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International Finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT1501</td>
<td>ACCT1511</td>
<td>FINS2624</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON1101</td>
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<td>FINS2622</td>
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Risk Management and Insurance

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>ACCT1511</td>
<td>FINS2624</td>
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<td>ECON1202</td>
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Financial Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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</table>

All of the above samples are best suited for single majors (FINS1612, 1613 in year 1)
Honours in Finance – fourth year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1 of fourth year</th>
<th>Session 2 of fourth year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 compulsory courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>FINS4774 Financial Decision Making Under Uncertainty</td>
<td>FINS4795 Thesis (Finance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINS4776 Advanced Topics in Asset Pricing</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINS4779 Research Methods in Finance 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plus one elective from</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINS4777 Advanced Topics in Corporate Finance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINS4781 Special Topics in Finance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRIZES AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

*Industry contacts and financial support* - The School maintains close ties with industry, both in Australia and internationally.

A **portfolio competition** in which our students have the opportunity to follow the markets and build a portfolio based on real market prices and data (and compete for cash prizes).

**ABN AMRO Investment Banking Competition**  This successful competition is open to all university students and provides the opportunity to win $2000 in prizes, while gaining practical experience in the problem solving of corporate finance issues.

Industry sponsors for **prizes** for exemplary performance in specific courses include:

- The Australian Institute of Banking and Finance
- Citigroup
- Deutsche Bank
- JPMorgan
- Macquarie Bank
- NRMA

The School of Banking and Finance at UNSW is a representative for and sponsor of the **AXISS Scholar Program**. The Scholar Program gives top students an opportunity to experience supported work placement in a range of financial service situations by matching each Scholar with a specified placement. Students are able to nominate preferred placements in a number of leading finance sector institutions as well as in an exciting range of non-traditional financial services organisations.

There are a number of scholarships available to our students, including the CMCRC PhD Scholarships ($35,000 per annum), SIRCA Honours Scholarships ($5,000) and the CS First Boston Australia Scholarship ($3,000).
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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Facsimile  +61 (2) 9385 6347
E-mail:    bankfin@unsw.edu.au

Or visit the web site at:  http://www.banking.unsw.edu.au

For general information on the degrees offered by the Faculty of Commerce and Economics contact:

The Student Centre
Faculty of Commerce and Economics
University of New South Wales
UNSW Sydney NSW 2052 Australia

Telephone:  +61 (2) 9385 3187
           +61 (2) 9385 3189
Facsimile:  +61 (2) 9313 7767
E-mail:     ceinfo@unsw.edu.au

Or visit the web site at:  http://www.fce.unsw.edu.au

For international students:

The Student's Centre
International Office
UNSW Sydney NSW 2052
Telephone:  +61 (2) 9385 6996
Facsimile:  +61 (2) 9385 7382
E-mail:     internationaloffice@unsw.edu.au

Or visit the web site at:  www.international.unsw.edu.au

Commencing students will find the web page at:  https://my.unsw.edu.au/  contains all you need to know about:

  • Accepting Your Offer
  • Preparing for Enrolment
  • How to Enrol at UNSW
  • Enrolment Timetable enrolling information.

DISCLAIMER

The University of New South Wales programs, courses and any arrangements for programs including staff allocated, are an expression of intent only and are not to be taken as a firm offer or undertaking.

The University reserves the right to make alterations to any matter contained in this publication without notice. Information is accurate as at January 2006, but may be amended without notice by the University.

The University of New South Wales
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