

FINANCE, BS

Banner Code: BU-BS-FNAN

Academic Advising

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Administration

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The Bachelor of Science in Finance prepares students for professional careers by providing a solid foundation in the principles necessary to make operating decisions for an organization and in financial market analysis. We educate our finance majors to understand, evaluate, and manage risk. In addition, students learn to conduct and effectively present financial analysis and research valuing complex projects, assets, securities, and firms. Finance majors explore the relationships among investors, firms, financial institutions, markets, and regulators. Students majoring in Finance have a unique opportunity to compete globally, as well as regionally, for unique and diverse job opportunities, including government (U.S. Treasury and the Board of Governors), large financial corporations (Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac), international organizations (World Bank and IMF), and other careers related to Finance.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Academic Policies

Students should become familiar with the university's general academic policies in addition to those specific to each academic unit.

E-mail

George Mason University uses only Mason e-mail accounts to communicate with enrolled students. Students should activate their Mason e-mail, use it to communicate with their school/department/program and other administrative units, and check it regularly for important information.

Study Elsewhere Policy

A student who has matriculated at Mason may transfer a limited number of hours (9 for undergraduates, 6 for graduates) of coursework in School of Business disciplines from another institution (not including registration through the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area or coursework completed through the Center for Global Education). Students are permitted to take courses elsewhere under unusual circumstances—these circumstances do not include scheduling or commuting convenience, or financial (lower cost) reasons.

Special instructions for School of Business students: courses that are attempted at a two-year institution may not be used to fulfill upper-level requirements. Any course that a student wished to transfer to fulfill major or graduate-level course requirements in the School of Business must be attempted at an institution accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

For additional information, see AP.1.4.2 Permission to Study Elsewhere.

Undergraduate Internship Policy

The School of Business recognizes the importance of experiential education in both learning to apply theory to practice and positioning students for success in their careers. Because the School of Business is committed to supporting students' professional success, the School requires that all student internships for credit be registered with the School of Business as one of the following: ACCT 492, BUS 492, FNAN 492 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?scontext=courses&search=FNAN+492>), MGMT 492 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?scontext=courses&search=MGMT+492>), MIS 492 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?scontext=courses&search=MIS+492>), MKTG 492 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?scontext=courses&search=MKTG+492>), OSCM 492 or OM 492 (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/search/?scontext=courses&search=OM+492>). Students may enroll in a maximum of 6 credits for these courses. For students in catalog years Fall 2016 and beyond, one internship course may apply to the major, and a second internship course would apply as elective credit. For students in catalog years prior to Fall 2016, a maximum of 6 credits of internship may apply to general electives.

Termination from the Major

A grade of C or higher is required in each of the School of Business listed core courses. Students will not be permitted to make more than three attempts to achieve a C or higher in the following School of Business core courses: ACCT 303 Accounting for Decision Making or ACCT 330 Financial Accounting I, BULE 303 Legal Environment of Business, BUS 303 Develop Professional Skills II: Advanced Elements, FNAN 303 Financial Management, MGMT 303 Principles of Management, MIS 303 Introduction to Business Information Systems (Mason Core), MKTG 303 Principles of Marketing OM 303 Operations Management and OSCM 303 Operations Management. Once a student has attempted a School of Business Core or Accounting major course twice unsuccessfully, they must meet with an academic advisor in order to receive an override to register for the third attempt. Those who do not successfully complete these core courses within three attempts will be terminated from their major and will not be eligible to receive a degree from the School of Business. Students terminated from the School of Business are prohibited from enrolling in any School of Business course. Students terminated from the School of Business are permitted to declare the business minor only, and are not able to declare any other School of Business minors. Student are limited to three attempts at ACCT 330. Any student who is unable to achieve a C or higher in ACCT 330 on the third attempt will not be able to pursue a Major in Accounting or Finance. For more information about this, see AP.5.2.4 Termination from the Major.

University Consortium

Students should review university policies regarding the University Consortium under Special Registration Procedures in the Academic Policies section of this catalog. Students who have attempted or failed a course at Mason are not permitted to take the equivalent course through the consortium under any circumstance. All consortium registration requests must be submitted to the dean's office at least 3 weeks prior to the first day of classes for the relevant semester at Mason.

Any consortium course that a student wishes to register for to fulfill major or graduate-level course requirements in the School of Business

must be attempted at an institution accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

Non-Business School Student Credit Limitation

Enrolled undergraduate students who are not declared in a School of Business major are limited to 9 credits of upper-level business coursework within the School of Business. This policy applies to any student who is declared in another major or program at Mason. This policy does not apply to students who have declared a School of Business minor and are earning required credit toward that minor.

Undergraduate Course Overload Policy

The School of Business recommends that undergraduate students attempt no more than 18 credits in an academic semester and no more than 14 credits in a summer term. Students wishing to attempt more than 18 credits must submit a Permission to Overload form to their academic advisor.

To be eligible for a course overload, a student must fulfill all of the following criteria:

- At least a 3.0 cumulative GPA at Mason
- Have completed all courses successfully in his/her previous semester with no Fs or incompletes (IN)
- Complete the Permission to Overload form and obtain an academic advisor's signature

Freshmen and transfer students in their first semesters are not given permission for overloads as they have yet to establish an academic record at George Mason University.

If approved for an overload, the student is responsible for adding the additional class(es) and paying for the related tuition by the official university deadlines.

Transfer Credit Expiration Policy

Transfer credit is not awarded for any business (management, marketing, finance, accounting, management information systems, operations management, foundations, core, or any other School of Business course), courses completed more than ten years prior to Mason enrollment. This includes any older courses completed at RBC or the VCCS.

Appeals Process

The School of Business strives to maintain policies and procedures that are consistent with those of the University, as well as in the best interest of our students. If you have any questions concerning a particular policy or procedure, contact the Office of Student Success & Academic Services, Room 008 of Enterprise Hall (703-993-1880) or visit the website (<http://business.gmu.edu>).

Courses Excluded from any School of Business BS Degree

Transfer credit is not awarded for any School of Business courses completed more than ten years prior to Mason enrollment.

Code	Title	Credits
SWE 401	Internship Reflection	1
MUSI 394	Ethnomusicology Internship	1-4
COMM 450	Internship in Communication	3
FAVS 450	Internship in Film and Video Studies	3

GOVT 480	Internship	3
MUSI 496	Internship	2-6
CONF 370	Internship Field Experience	1-9
PHIL 306	Philosophy Internship	3
RELI 426	Religious Studies Internship	3
ARTH 393	Art History Internships	3-6
GCH 498	Global and Community Health Internship	3,6
GAME 491	Internship	3-4
HAP 498	Health Administration Internship (Mason Core)	4
HDFS 499	Advanced Internship and Analysis in Human Development and Family Science	3
EVPP 494	Internship	1-3
ENGH 459	Internship	1-3
MUSI 395	Teaching Internship	1-4
INTS 390	International Internship	1-6
INTS 490	Internship	1-6
ECON 498	Internship	3-6
ASTR 409	Astronomy Internship	3
SPMT 490	Internship (Mason Core)	12
TOUR 490	Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Management Internship (Mason Core)	12
CLIM 409	Research Internship	3
CHIN 490	Internship in Chinese Studies	1-9
CONS 498	Internship	1-3
THR 455	Theater Education Internship	6-12
AFAM 490	Internship	2-6
KINE 490	Kinesiology Internship III (Mason Core)	12
AMGT 489	Internship in Arts Management	1-4
HDFS 498	Internship and Analysis in Human Development and Family Science	3
ANTH 495	Internship	1-6
PRLS 490	Recreation Management Internship (Mason Core)	12
GGG 480	GGG Internship	1-3
SPAN 490	Internship in Spanish	1-6
AVT 489	Internship in Art and Visual Technology	1-6
USST 490	Internship	3
WMST 400	Internship in Women and Gender Studies	1-3
CDS 491	Internship	1-3
HHS 480	Research Internship in Health and Human Services	3
CRIM 480	Internship	6-12
HIST 399	Internship	1-9
RHBS 490	RS: Clinical Research Internship	3
KINE 341	Kinesiology Internship I	3
MUSI 495	Internship in Music Education (Mason Core)	6-12
KINE 441	Kinesiology Internship II	3
PHYS 409	Physics Internship	3
HHS 492	RS: Internship in Clinical Research	3
SOCI 416	Internship in Sociology I	3-6
FRLN 490	Internship in Foreign Language Studies	1-6

ENGR 395	Engineering Internship	3
GEOL 480	Internship	1-3
AVT 453	Professional Practices	3
CVPA 489	Field Experience in the Arts	3-6
GLOA 495	Global Experiential Learning	1-18
KINE 330	Seminar in Kinesiology	3
ECED 490	Internship in Early Childhood Education	3-6
FRSC 406	Forensic Internship	3

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 120

School of Business students pursuing a BS degree must complete a minimum of 120 credits, including the Mason Core requirements, business foundations, business core and major requirements. In addition, the following requirements must be met:

- A minimum of 45 credits at the 300- or 400-level.
- A minimum of 30 credits of School of Business core and major courses at Mason.
- At least 9 credits required for the specific major and BUS 498 Capstone Course: Advanced Business Models (Mason Core) taken at Mason.
- A grade of C or higher earned in the business foundations, business core and major requirements.

Students should carefully examine prerequisites for School of Business courses. Students may be removed from a course if they enroll without having fulfilled the prerequisites.

Mason Core Requirements

Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed below. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
School of Business Requirement		
Additional credit of:		
Natural Science ¹		1
Foundation Requirements		
Written Communication		6
Oral Communication		3
Core Requirements		
Arts		3
Literature		3
Natural Science ²		8
Western Civilization/World History		3
Total Credits		27

¹ The School of Business natural science requirement must be fulfilled by completing two 4-credit laboratory sciences.

² School of Business students required to complete 8 credits of natural science by completing two 4-credit laboratory sciences.

Note:

Remaining Mason Core requirements are fulfilled with major course work.

Business Foundations

Code	Title	Credits
ACCT 203	Survey of Accounting	3
or ACCT 204	Honors Survey of Accounting	
BUS 100	Business and Society (Mason Core)	3
BUS 103	Develop Professional Skills I: Foundational Elements	3
BUS 200	Global Environment of Business (Mason Core)	3
BUS 210	Business Analytics I	3
BUS 310	Business Analytics II	3
ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 104	Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
Select one of the following: ¹		3-4
MATH 108	Introductory Calculus with Business Applications (Mason Core)	
MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core)	
MATH 114	Analytic Geometry and Calculus II	
HNRT 225	Applied Calculus	
Total Credits		27-28

¹ MATH 108 Introductory Calculus with Business Applications (Mason Core) or MATH 113 Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core) satisfies the Mason Core quantitative reasoning requirement.

Business Core

A grade of C or higher is required in each of the School of Business core courses listed below. Students will not be permitted to make more than three attempts to achieve a C or higher in the following School of Business core courses: ACCT 303 Accounting for Decision Making or ACCT 330 Financial Accounting I, BULE 303 Legal Environment of Business, BUS 303 Develop Professional Skills II: Advanced Elements, FNAN 303 Financial Management, MGMT 303 Principles of Management, MIS 303 Introduction to Business Information Systems (Mason Core), MKTG 303 Principles of Marketing and OM 303 Operations Management. Those who do not successfully complete these core courses within three attempts will be terminated from their major and will not be eligible to receive a degree from the School of Business. Students terminated from the School of Business are prohibited from enrolling in any School of Business course. Students terminated from the School of Business are permitted to declare a business minor. For more information about this, see AP.5.2.4 Termination from the Major.

Code	Title	Credits
ACCT 330	Financial Accounting I	3
BULE 303	Legal Environment of Business	3
BUS 303	Develop Professional Skills II: Advanced Elements	3
FNAN 303	Financial Management	3
MGMT 303	Principles of Management	3

MIS 303	Introduction to Business Information Systems (Mason Core) (Satisfies Mason Core Information Technology requirement)	3
MKTG 303	Principles of Marketing	3
OM 303	Operations Management	3
Total Credits		24

General Electives

General electives may be selected from any University or School of Business course, except courses designated for the Business minor (MBUS). Credits awarded as Associate Degree Elective Credit (ADEC) as part of a student’s transfer evaluation are also excluded from general electives.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 18-19 credits of electives		18-19
Total Credits		18-19

Major Requirements in Finance

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses ¹		9
FNAN 311	Principles of Investment	
FNAN 321	Financial Institutions	
FNAN 341	Introduction to Firm Valuation	
FNAN 401	Advanced Financial Management	
Required Course		
FNAN 498	RS: Contemporary Topics in Finance	3
Total Credits		12

¹ Completion of FNAN 303 Financial Management with a grade of B- or higher is a required prerequisite for FNAN 311 Principles of Investment, FNAN 321 Financial Institutions, FNAN 341 Introduction to Firm Valuation, FNAN 401 Advanced Financial Management and FNAN 440 International Financial Management.

Electives

Students may select any courses from the following list to fulfill the elective requirement as well as any other 300-400 level FNAN courses (except FNAN 300 Personal Financial Management & FNAN 301 Financial Management & FNAN 303 Financial Management).

Code	Title	Credits
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
FNAN 311	Principles of Investment (If not taken as a required course)	
FNAN 321	Financial Institutions (If not taken as a required course)	
FNAN 341	Introduction to Firm Valuation (If not taken as a required course)	
FNAN 351	Principles of Real Estate	
FNAN 401	Advanced Financial Management (If not taken as a required course)	
FNAN 411	Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management	
FNAN 412	Futures and Options Markets	
FNAN 421	Money and Capital Markets	

FNAN 430	Empirical Methods in Finance	
FNAN 431	Venture Capital and Private Financing of Startups	
FNAN 432	Fixed-Income Securities	
FNAN 436	Probability Methods for Finance	
FNAN 440	International Financial Management	
FNAN 451	Real Estate Finance	
FNAN 454	Real Estate Development	
FNAN 462	Honors Seminar in Finance	
FNAN 477	Student Managed Investment Fund	
FNAN 491	Special Topics in Finance	
FNAN 499	Independent Study	
BUS 492	Internship in Business	
Total Credits		9

Capstone

Students must successfully complete all Business Core courses to be eligible to enroll in BUS 498 Capstone Course: Advanced Business Models (Mason Core).

Code	Title	Credits
BUS 498	Capstone Course: Advanced Business Models (Mason Core)	3
Total Credits		3

Second Majors in Finance

Students declaring a second major in Finance must complete the four required courses and two elective courses for the major.