



# What can I do with a Major in...

## Finance

### What is Finance?

**Finance** studies and addresses the ways in which individuals, businesses, and organizations raise, allocate, and use monetary resources over time, taking into account the risks entailed in their projects. The term "finance" may thus incorporate any of the following:

- The study of money and other assets;

- The management and control of those assets;

- Profiling and managing project risks;

- The science of managing money;

- As a verb, "to finance" is to provide funds for business or for an individual's large purchases (car, home, etc.).

The activity of finance is the application of a set of techniques that individuals and organizations (entities) use to manage their money, particularly the differences between income and expenditure and the risks of their investments.

### What is Finance at U of L?

The College of Business offers a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with a major in finance. It also offers a minor in finance. The finance minor is chosen most frequently by students majoring in accounting, economics, management, marketing, computer and information systems, mathematics or actuarial science. The College of Business is accredited by AACSB- The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

#### Degrees in Finance at U of L:

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Finance

The student learning outcomes for the undergraduate finance major are that the graduates shall demonstrate:

- understanding of managing for value creation and value maximization within the firm.
- ability to integrate economic, market, industry, technical and financial information in decision-making
- skills in financial analysis.
- knowledge of domestic and global financial markets and institutions.
- knowledge of investment instruments and their analysis.
- proficiency in understanding and using quantitative skills for financial decision-making.
- ability to use library and internet resources in researching a financial problem and presenting their conclusions in a written and an oral report.

Graduates of the BSBA program should:

- Be competent in their discipline.
- Be problem solvers.
- Have an awareness of ethical issues.
- Be effective communicators.



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- Be knowledgeable of business disciplines.
- Be competent with technology.
- Have awareness of the global business environment.
- Appreciate diversity.

### Occupational Overview

Courses aiding the student to analyze critically, to think logically, and communicate effectively are judged by recruiters to be essential. Employers expect graduates to write clearly and concisely, to be articulate and personable, to work well with others, to possess numerical aptitude, and to use information technology tools to answer questions, create estimates, and interpret data.

### Career Opportunities in Finance:

#### Possible Entry Level Job Titles:

- Account Analyst
- Bank Examiner
- Bank Trust Officer
- Bond Broker
- Budget Consultant
- Budget Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Commercial Lender
- Commodities Trader
- Comptroller
- Credit Analyst
- Credit Manager
- Estimator
- Financial Analyst
- Financial Consultant
- Financial Manager
- Financial Planner
- Financial Services Rep.
- Financial Technician
- Investment Analyst
- Loan Officer
- Loan Underwriter
- Operations Manager
- Purchasing Agent
- Special Agent
- Stock Broker
- Treasurer

Financial skills are useful in every type of business from start-up firms to multinational corporations. Because monetary decisions encompass so many activities of the firm, financial people obtain a broad understanding of all of a firm's activities. They often can jump from their specialized finance role to general corporate strategy and management. Consequently in



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most firms one of the fastest routes from entry-level management to top management is through the finance area.

The financial services industry provides another set of career opportunities. This industry encompasses banks, brokerage firms, insurance and real estate firms, financial planning firms, pension funds, mutual funds, hedge funds, the securities markets, and numerous governmental agencies that oversee and regulate the industry. A degree in finance will qualify the graduate for entry level positions in financial services.

Many U of L finance majors will elect to take a coop course where they work at a finance job to gain insight and experience in a day-to-day financial position. Employers are eager to hire coop students because it gives them an opportunity to evaluate their work and skills and to identify students they would like to hire full-time after graduation.

Graduates in finance find the degree is not only an excellent base for their first job out of college, but also for increasing their career potential through advanced academic study or professional credentialing. A finance degree provides an excellent background for study for a Master of Business Administration degree (MBA), Master of Science in Finance (MSF), or law degree (JD). Certifications including the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) in investment and portfolio management, Certified Financial Planner (CFP) in financial planning, Certified Financial Manager (CFM) and Certified Cash Manager (CCM) in corporate finance, Master Appraisal Institute (MAI) in valuation, Financial Risk Manager (FRM) in risk management, Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) in Insurance, Banking School certificate programs in banking, and various professional licensure exams in brokerage, insurance, and real estate are among the opportunities for graduates seeking to move from lower level to higher level jobs as they advance along their lifelong career path.

### Related Links in the Finance Discipline:

#### Finance Virtual Library

[Hoovers \(Info on 10,000+ Companies\)](#)  
[Business Week](#)  
[U.S. Treasury](#)  
[Market Watch](#)  
[Financial Tool Box](#)  
[Securities and Exchange Commission](#)  
[Dow Jones](#)

#### New York Stock Exchange

[American Stock Exchange](#)  
[NASDAQ](#)  
[CNN Financial](#)  
[Yahoo! Finance](#)  
[Smart Money](#)  
[Wall Street Journal](#)  
[NASD](#)



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## Professional Association Links

Bank of America <http://www.bankofamerica.com/>  
 Merck and Co. Career Opportunities in Finance <http://www.merck.com/careers/finance.html>  
 Merrill Lynch <http://www.ml.com>  
 Salomon Brothers <http://www.salomon.com>  
 Goldman & Sachs <http://www.gs.com>  
 JP Morgan <http://www.jpmorgan.com>  
 The Harris Wealth Management Services <http://www.harrisdirect.com/home.html>  
 First Chicago Capital Markets- Research Publications <http://www.bankone.com>  
 Corporate Finance Network <http://www.corpfin.net/h/index.html>  
 Bank of America <http://www.bankofamerica.com>  
 Wachovia Corporation <http://www.wachovia.com>  
 Prudential Financial <http://www.prudential.com>

## Career Planning Links

Real people talk about their corporate finance careers [http://www.wetfeet.com/asp/RPP\\_interview.asp?rppid=163&rpName=Rita+Jones&type=c](http://www.wetfeet.com/asp/RPP_interview.asp?rppid=163&rpName=Rita+Jones&type=c)  
 Career Magazine <http://www.careermag.com/>  
 Careers in Finance slide show <http://fisher.osu.edu/career/ungrad/exploration/Careers%20In%20Finance.ppt>  
 Career Guide: Financial Planners & Business Managers <http://www.saludos.com/cguide/bguid.html#finplanners>  
 Career Bank <http://www.careerbank.com/>  
 The Princeton Review <http://www.review.com/career/index.cfm?careers=0>  
 Business Job Finder- Explore Business Careers: Finance <http://www.careers-in-business.com>  
 Occupational Outlook Handbook: Budget Analysts  
<http://stats.bls.gov/oco/ocos003.htm>

## **Ideas for Volunteer/Internship/ Co-op**

Professional Finance Job Search & Career Information [http:// www.jobsinthemoney.com](http://www.jobsinthemoney.com)  
 MonsterTRAK <http://www.monstertrak.com>  
 Financial Job Network <http://www.financialjobnet.com>  
 FINANCIALjobs.com <http://www.financialjobs.com/> Robert Half International Staffing -  
 Finance and Accounting Jobs <http://www.roberthalffinance.com/Home?inTrack=logo>  
 Accounting.com <http://www.accounting.com/>  
 Nation Job <http://www.nationjob.com/financial>

## **Salary/Outlook Info**



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>