

FINANCE MAJOR

The Finance major is comprised of courses in two tracks:
Finance (Corporate Finance and Investments) and **Financial Planning**.

FINANCE *(Corporate Finance and Investments)*

In **Corporate Finance**, students learn to analyze business opportunities to identify those that create value. Financial analysis boils down to sophisticated cost-benefit analysis for decision making in all aspects of business, and students majoring in Finance successfully pursue careers with major corporate and other organizations.

In **Investments**, students learn to structure portfolios of stocks, bonds and other financial assets that meet the objectives of institutional and individual investors. The curriculum helps prepare students who wish to sit for Level I of the CFA exam series, and many graduates in Finance successfully pursue careers in asset management and wealth advising.

CAREER PROSPECTS

Finance majors intern and work for leading companies such as:

- Federated Hermes
- PNC
- BNY
- UPMC Health System
- JPMorgan Chase
- Ernst and Young (EY)
- Deloitte
- Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC)
- Key Bank
- F.N.B Corp
- US Steel
- Merrill Lynch
- Community Bank
- HBKS Wealth Advisors
- Fort Pitt Capital Group
- Waldron Private Wealth
- Wilshire
- PIMCO
- Eaton Vance
- Raymond James
- And more

Many of these opportunities are in Downtown Pittsburgh, just minutes from campus.

FINANCE AS A VALUE-ADDED SECOND MAJOR

Finance can be combined as a double major, and many students choose to combine it with Accounting, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Information Systems and Technology, Marketing and Supply Chain Management.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

The **Financial Planning Track** offers students an exciting opportunity to prepare for a career in finance that is not only financially rewarding but also personally fulfilling. You will make a positive impact on individuals, families, and small businesses.

The **Financial Planning Track** has two goals designed just for you. First, you will gain the essential knowledge and skills to help make a real difference in people's lives by guiding them as their financial planner. Second, you will be ready to sit for the **Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) exam**, the gold standard in wealth management. Becoming a CFP® opens doors to a world of opportunities!

Courses build on foundational business, accounting, and finance concepts and advance into hands-on personal financial planning. You'll gain practical skills in areas like investment analysis, retirement planning, tax strategies, estate planning, risk management, and navigating the regulations of the financial industry.

With a growing demand for skilled financial advisors, now is the perfect time to join the Financial Planning Track. This high demand ensures a secure and promising career path. Get ready for a fulfilling, lucrative career that challenges you and lets you help others achieve their financial goals.

CAREER PROSPECTS

Are you interested in a career in a fast-growing field that rewards and challenges you by helping others reach their financial goals? The Financial Planning Track will provide a multidimensional academic curriculum to prepare you for success. Upon completing the Financial Planning Track, you will be ready to sit for the CFP® Board Certification Exam, a key step toward CFP® certification.

Wealth management firms highly value the CFP® certification as the industry standard for financial planning expertise and fiduciary duty to the clients.

The final requirement for the CFP® designation is 6,000 hours (approximately three years) of relevant experience in the financial planning profession. The School of Business and the Asset Management Group @ Duquesne actively prepare students for internships and post-graduate positions within the local investment and wealth management community to start your experience requirements for CFP® certification.



Palumbo-Donahue
School of Business

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ALL FINANCE STUDENTS

As a Finance major in either track, you will have access to incredible resources to enhance your learning experience.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY INSTITUTE (ISI):

The **Investment Strategy Institute (ISI)** is dedicated to financial and investment analysis with more than 24 Bloomberg terminals* along with subscriptions to major financial databases and specialized software used in the finance and financial planning professions. The ISI provides students with hands-on access to real-time data on every financial market, breaking news, in-depth research, powerful analytics, and communications tools in one location.

**The Bloomberg terminal is a very powerful tool that is used extensively in finance professions and is a significant part of the Finance curriculum.*

STUDENT MANAGED INVESTMENT FUND (SMIF)

The **Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF)** Program at Duquesne provides students with a compelling experience in money management and contributes to your preparation for successful careers in finance and investment management. You will learn to make evidence-based decisions investing in financial markets, which will enable you to leverage the experience in interviews for internship and career opportunities.

THE SMIF PROGRAM COMPRISES THREE FUND INITIATIVES:

1. Duquesne Values Fund (DVF)

DVF is a long-only fund that invests primarily in large-cap stocks selected on the basis of fundamental analysis and ESG and Spiritan values. It's one of the largest undergraduate funds of its type in the nation, and it pursues a stock selection strategy employing fundamental equity analysis and valuation. Eligible investments are deemed consistent with responsible investing criteria and Spiritan values. DVF appeals to Finance and Accounting students with an interest in investment management and/or corporate finance. *Fund value was approximately \$1.3 million as of February 2024.*

2. Duquesne Balanced Fund (DBF)

DBF is an asset allocation fund that invests in ETFs for exposure across stocks, bonds and cash. While managing a diversified, balanced portfolio of sector Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs), students learn the return and risk characteristics of a range of asset classes. DBF appeals to Finance, Accounting, and Sales and Marketing students interested in pursuing careers as financial advisors and wealth managers. *Fund value was approximately \$160,000 as of February 2024.*

3. Duquesne Microcap Fund (DMF)

DMF is a long-only fund that invests primarily in micro-cap stocks selected on the basis of quantitative factors. In managing this common stock portfolio, students learn about the major factors driving individual stock returns. DMF appeals to Finance students with an interest in portfolio management or quantitative asset management. *Fund value was approximately \$120,000 as of February 2024.*

ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP @ DUQUESNE

Any Duquesne student can participate in the SMIF Program through the **Asset Management Group @ Duquesne (DAMG)**. Membership in DAMG engages students in opportunities for career development. These include guidance on internship and job-seeking strategies and networking with professionals from leading companies who are regularly invited as guest speakers. DAMG members learn about financial markets and the economy while gaining proficiency with the Bloomberg terminals in the Investment Strategy Institute.

Additional professional and personal development opportunities are available to students who join the Financial Management Association.

COURSES IN FINANCE *(Corporate Finance and Investments)*

Course	Prerequisite	Semesters Offered
BUSINESS CORE/REQUIRED COURSES (48 credits plus 6 additional credits of required courses. This information is subject to change.)		
REQUIRED COURSES (18 Credits)		
ACCT 311: Intermediate Accounting I	ACCT 214	Fall, Spring
ACCT 312: Intermediate Accounting II, ACCT 315: Financial Planning and Cost Management, or ISYS 480: Intro to Python for Data Analytics	ACCT 311 ACCT 215 or ISYS 284	Fall, Spring Fall, Spring Fall Fall
FINC 333: Financial Management	FINC 313	Fall, Spring
FINC 334: Investments	FINC 313	Fall, Spring
FINC 433W: Financial Markets and Institutions	FINC 313	Fall, Spring
FINC 450W: Cases in Finance	FINC 333, 334, and ACCT 311	Fall, Spring
ELECTIVES (6 Credits)		
FINC 324: Fixed Income Securities	FINC 313	Fall
FINC 336: Security Analysis	FINC 313	Spring
FINC 338: Derivatives	FINC 313	Spring
FINC 340: Real Estate Finance	FINC 313	Spring
FINC 400: Managing Investments II	FINC 313	Spring
FINC 432: Credit Management	FINC 313	Fall
FINC 437: International Financial Management	FINC 313	Fall
ECON 481W: Econometrics	STAT 285	Fall

Recommended Sequence

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Junior Year	ACCT 311: Intermediate Accounting I FINC 333: Financial Management	FINC 333: Financial Management FINC 334: Investments Elective
Senior Year	ACCT 312, 315 or ISYS 480 FINC 433W: Financial Markets and Institutions	FINC 450W: Cases in Finance Elective

Finance majors should take FINC 313 during their sophomore year or when prerequisites have been met.

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn a minimum overall GPA of a 2.0.

A Minor in Finance (15 credit hours)

Students can earn a minor in Finance by completing FINC 313 (from the Business Core) plus FINC 333, 334 and two other Finance courses at 300 level or higher. ACCT 311, ACCT 312, ACCT 315, ECON 481W and ISYS 480 may not be counted towards the Finance minor.

It is the responsibility of the student to know both University-wide graduation requirements and those of the major field of study and to meet all requirements satisfactorily for graduation.

This information is subject to change and this publication cannot be considered an agreement or contract between the individual and the School. The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business reserves the right to alter or amend the terms, conditions and requirements and to eliminate courses as necessary. Students should consult on a regular basis with their Student Success Coach for specific information related to their major and/or minor requirements. Rev. 10/2024

COURSES IN FINANCIAL PLANNING

Course	Prerequisite	Semesters Offered
BUSINESS CORE/REQUIRED COURSES (48 credits plus 6 additional credits of required courses. This information is subject to change.)		
REQUIRED COURSES (24 Credits)		
FINC 333: Financial Management	FINC 313	Fall, Spring
FINC 334: Investments	FINC 313	Fall, Spring
FINC 361: Principles of Financial Planning	FINC 313 (co-requisite)	Fall, Spring
FINC 362: Risk Management and Insurance Planning	FINC 361	Fall
FINC 364: Retirement Savings and Income Planning	FINC 361 and FINC 334	Spring
FINC 462: Estate Planning	FINC 361	Fall
FINC 465W: Financial Planning Capstone	FINC 362, FINC 364, and FINC 462, and ACCT 412W (co-requisite)	Fall, Spring
ACCT 412W: Income Tax Accounting	ACCT 214	Fall

Recommended Sequence

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Sophomore Year		FINC 313: Business Finance FINC 361: Principles of Financial Planning
Junior Year	FINC 334: Investments FINC 362: Risk Management and Insurance Planning	FINC 333: Financial Management FINC 364 Retirement Savings and Income Planning
Senior Year	FINC 462: Estate Planning	FINC 465W: Financial Planning Capstone

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn a minimum overall GPA of a 2.0.

A Minor in Financial Planning (12 credit hours)

Students can earn a minor in Financial Planning by completing FINC 313 (from the Business Core) plus FINC 361, FINC 362, FINC 364, and FINC 462. *The Financial Planning minor does not meet the educational requirements to sit for the CFP® exam.*



In response to the increasing demand for qualified financial planning advisors, we are excited to introduce a new Financial Planning Track, thanks to a generous gift from Schwab Advisor Services in partnership with the Charles Schwab Foundation.

The Business School has delivered a CFP® registered program for working professionals for nearly a decade. We are now excited to extend this opportunity to undergraduate students. The Financial Planning Track is designed to prepare you for a successful career as a financial planning advisor.

It is the responsibility of the student to know both University-wide graduation requirements and those of the major field of study and to meet all requirements satisfactorily for graduation.

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