Finance

In the era of a growing competitive global economy, finance has become increasingly important and complex. This has led to an expansion of career opportunities within corporations, investment firms, and financial institutions worldwide. These opportunities are varied and often overlap with other disciplines such as accounting, economics, marketing, and mathematics. It is also important that students engage in extracurricular activities that might complement their academic studies.

The domestic financial services industry has been at the forefront of global finance and will remain as one of our relative strengths within a global economy. Lehigh, in turn, enjoys a relative advantage in this regard as Lehigh alumni are well respected in all areas of finance. Our program has also been able to take advantage of our proximity to many financial institutions.

Professors. Paul Brockman, PhD (Louisiana State University); Stephen G. Buell, PhD (Lehigh University); Kathleen W. Hanley, PhD (University of Florida); Richard J. Kish, PhD (University of Florida); Matthew A. Melone, JD (University of Pennsylvania); George A. Nation, III, JD (Villanova University); Nanndkumar Nayyar, PhD (University of Iowa); Georgette C. Phillips, JD (Harvard Law School)

Emeritus. Carl R. Beidleman, PhD (University of Pennsylvania)

Professors Of Practice. Prasad Nanisetty, PhD (University of Arizona); Steven McKay Price, PhD (Florida State University); Jesus M. Salas, PhD (University of Oklahoma); Stephen F. Thode, DBA (Indiana University Bloomington); Ke Yang, PhD (University of Iowa)

Assistant Professors. Michael B Imerman, PhD (Rutgers University); Ke Shen, MS (Northern Illinois U); Qianqian Yu, MS (University of British Columbia); Haibei Zhao, PhD (Georgia State University)

Professors Of Practice. Prasad Nanisetty, PhD (University of Michigan Ann Arbor); Vijay Singh, PhD (Ohio State University); Samuel C. Weaver, Ph.D., PhD (Lehigh University)

Emeritus. Carl R. Beidleman, PhD (University of Pennsylvania)

The finance major offered by the Perella Department of Finance requires at least 18 credit hours beyond the core requirements. Each finance major must successfully complete the 2-course foundation requirement; the 3-course depth requirement; and a minimum 2-course breadth requirement as outlined below.

2-Course Foundation Requirement
FIN 323 Investments 3
FIN 328 Corporate Financial Policy 3

3-Course Depth Requirement
Select three of the following: 9
FIN 324 Security Analysis and Portfolio Management
FIN 330 Financial Markets and Institutions
FIN 333 Global Finance
FIN 334 Derivatives and Management of Risk
FIN 335 Advanced Topics – Financial Management (Various Topics can be offered under this course listing)
FIN 336 Real Estate Finance (Cannot be used as a depth requirement when following the Real Estate Track)
FIN 377 Advanced Topics – Investments (Various topics can be offered under this course listing)

2-Course Breadth Requirement
Select 2 breadth electives within one of the following six breadth tracks.* 6-7

*3 breadth electives for the Real Estate track.

Track 1: Financial Analysis
ACCT 315 Intermediate Accounting I
ACCT 316 Intermediate Accounting II

Track 2: Financial Marketing
MKT 312 Marketing Research

MKT 319 Development and Marketing of New Products
MKT 320 Global Marketing
MKT/ECO 325 Consumer Insights through Data Analysis
MKT 332 Sales Management

Track 3: Analytical Finance
ISE 316 Optimization Models and Applications
ISE 339 Stochastic Models and Applications
or MATH 310 Random Processes and Applications
MATH 205 Linear Methods
or MATH 242 Linear Algebra
MATH 231 Probability and Statistics
or MATH 309 Theory of Probability

Track 4: Financial Economics
ECO 209 Comparative Economic Systems
or ECO 322 Competitor and Market Analysis
or ECO 328 Electricity Economics
or ECO 333 The Economics of Business Decisions
or ECO 336 Business and Government
or ECO 353 Public Economics
ECO 203 Microfinance: Financial Inclusion for the Poor
or ECO 303 Economic Development
or ECO 339 International Trade
or ECO 340 International Finance

Track 5: Real Estate (Must take all 3 courses)*
FIN 336 Real Estate Finance
IPRE 347 Practicum in Real Estate I
IPRE 348 Practicum in Real Estate II

Track 6: Expanded Finance
FIN 324 Security Analysis and Portfolio Management
FIN 330 Financial Markets and Institutions
FIN 333 Global Finance
FIN 334 Derivatives and Management of Risk
FIN 335 Advanced Topics – Financial Management (various topics can be offered under this course listing)
FIN 336 Real Estate Finance
FIN 377 Advanced Topics – Investments (various topics can be offered under this course listing)

Total Credits 21-22

Undergraduate Courses
For Advanced Undergraduates and Graduate Students
Courses numbered 200 and above in the College of Business and Economics are open to sophomores only on petition.

Graduate Courses
Course descriptions for the College of Business and Economics graduate courses can be found under the heading of Business and Economics Graduate Courses.

Courses
FIN 125 Introduction to Finance 3 Credits
An introductory finance course stressing the links between corporate finance and investments. Major topic areas will include financial statement analysis, time value of money, risk and return valuation of stocks and bonds, capital budgeting, and cost of capital.

Prerequisites: ECO 129 or ECO 029 and ACCT 151 and (ECO 145 or ECO 045 or MATH 231 or IE 111 or IE 111 or SR 111) and (MATH 021 or MATH 031 or MATH 076 or MATH 097 or MATH 081)
FIN 273 Finance Internship I 1-3 Credits  
Based on a student’s work experience, a sponsoring faculty member shall direct readings, projects, and other assignments—including a “capstone report.” It should be noted that the work experience (at least 80 hours), by itself, is not the basis for academic credit. The faculty directed activity must be provided concurrent with the work. Course registration and related arrangements must be made in advance of the work engagement. This course must be taken Pass/Fail and cannot be used to satisfy finance major requirements. Declaration of a finance major. Consent of department required.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 328 and FIN 323)  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

FIN 323 Investments 3 Credits  
The nature of risk and the form of returns on financial assets from the viewpoint of various constituents. Investor objectives, attitudes, and constraints are considered within the risk-return matrix within the context of valuation.  
Prerequisites: FIN 125

FIN 324 Security Analysis and Portfolio Management 3 Credits  
Valuation of equity and debt instruments factoring in the influence of earnings forecasts and expectations, uncertainty, required returns, supply and demand for securities and funds, and investor attitudes. Portfolio management concepts include the implications of market factors, technical analysis, timing, and screening of securities.  
Prerequisites: FIN 323 and FIN 328

FIN 328 Corporate Financial Policy 3 Credits  
The study of management issues related to capital budgeting, working capital, leasing, mergers, and financing.  
Prerequisites: FIN 125

FIN 330 Financial Markets and Institutions 3 Credits  
Functions and portfolios of financial intermediaries. Sectional demand and supply of funds, nature and role of interest rates, term structure and forecasting, impact of inflation and regulation on financial intermediaries and markets, and current developments in the financial system. Management of assets and liabilities within the U.S. financial institution’s legal and economic constraints.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 323 and FIN 328)

FIN 333 Global Finance 3 Credits  
Issues that underlie the investment, financing, and dividend decisions of multinational firms from both the buyer’s and seller’s viewpoints. Current transactions in foreign currencies, direct and portfolio investment and associated risk management when dealing in foreign countries.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 328 and FIN 323)

FIN 334 Derivatives and Management of Risk 3 Credits  
Theoretical and practical aspects of various instruments and markets that involve financial derivative instruments. Emphasis on the management of risk for corporate managers and portfolio managers.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 323 and FIN 328)

FIN 335 Advanced Topics – Financial Management 3 Credits  
Advanced topics relating to specific areas of corporate finance such as: bond refunding, asset valuation and capital budgeting including the role of uncertainty, imprecise forecasts, risk preferences, inflation, market conditions, and the global marketplace; working capital management, leasing, mergers, and financing. The course content may vary between instructors and over time, therefore, the course descriptor is subject to change each time the is offered.  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 328 and FIN 323)

FIN 336 Real Estate Finance 3 Credits  
An advanced survey of modern residential and commercial real estate financing techniques from the perspective of the borrower and the lender. Topics include: the principles of financing decisions; financing methods and techniques, institutional sources of funds for real estate, and real estate financing decision-making. The course includes lectures, demonstrations, spreadsheet software exercises, and guest speakers.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 328 and FIN 323)

FIN 371 Directed Readings 1-3 Credits  
Readings in various fields of finance designed for the student with a special interest in some field of finance not covered in scheduled courses. Consent of sponsoring instructor required.  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

FIN 372 Special Topics 1-3 Credits  
Special problems and issues in finance for which no regularly scheduled course work exists. When offered as group study, coverage varies according to interests of instructor and students. Consent of sponsoring instructor required.  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

FIN 373 Finance Internship II 1-3 Credits  
Based on a student’s work experience, a sponsoring faculty member shall direct readings, projects, and other assignments—including a “capstone report.” It should be noted that the work experience (at least 80 hours), by itself, is not the basis for academic credit. The faculty directed activity must be provided concurrent with the work. Course content and work experience should have added rigor from Finance Internship I due to the satisfactory completion of the finance core (FIN 323 and FIN 328). Course registration and related arrangements must be made in advance of the work engagement. This course must be taken Pass/Fail and cannot be used to satisfy finance major requirements. Declaration of a finance major. Consent of department required.  
Prerequisites: (FIN 323 and FIN 328)

FIN 374 Portfolio Management Practicum 1-3 Credits  
Readings, projects and papers designed to complement the leadership and analytical activities associated with the management of the Student Investment Club or Thompson portfolios and similar activities. Consent of instructor required.  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.  
Prerequisites: FIN 323

FIN 377 Advanced Topics—Investments 3 Credits  
Advanced topics to specific areas of Investments such as: valuation/ security analysis; portfolio/risk management; fixed income securities; mutual funds; hedge funds; microstructure; and trading.  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.  
Prerequisites: FIN 323 and FIN 328

FIN 382 Guest Speaker Seminar Series 1 Credit  
This course is designed to help prepare students for ‘real’ world problems by exposing them to a variety of career opportunities. The purpose of this seminar is to give students the opportunity to network with successful professionals in the Financial Services industry, connecting students and practitioners across places and generations to build community around shared work-as-service interests. For future professionals, this seminar advances co-curricular programming to the “pro-curricular” level — linking classroom study of finance to the dynamic world of the practicing financial professionals.  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

FIN 389 Honors Project 1-8 Credits  
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
FIN 418 Principles of Corporate Finance and Investments 3
Credits
This course provides students with a basic foundational knowledge of finance principles, working knowledge of various aspects of corporate finance, and the principles of investments. Short-term financial decisions will be discussed. Long-term capital investment will be explored starting with the basics of time value of money and capital investment techniques. Topics include the determination of the appropriate investment discount rate, the organization’s cost of capital and hurdle rates, the risk-reward tradeoff, and specific financial instruments.