

FINANCE

WHAT IS A FINANCE B.B.A. MAJOR?

The finance major is designed to prepare students for careers in financial management of industrial and commercial enterprises; financial institutions; investment analysis and portfolio management; finance positions in federal, state and local governments and graduate study.

FINANCE IS...

- a field that is highly quantitative with a solid foundation in economics and accounting
- a study of money, banking, credit and investments
- for students with a strong aptitude for solving problems and analyzing, comparing and interpreting data
- a field that requires knowledge of spreadsheets and database management tools as well as strong written and oral communication skills
- composed of three primary areas: financial management, capital markets and investments



Madison Fazio
James Madison University '17
Senior Analyst, Madison
Investment Fund

'I would not be where I am today without the profound professors who are devoted to teaching students both in and outside of the classroom, the prestigious finance clubs and organizations and the extraordinary financial equipment (the Capital Markets Lab) that is available to students at JMU.'

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Bank Examiner
- Bank Manager
- Consultant
- Controller
- Credit Manager
- Financial Advisor
- Financial Analyst
- Financial Engineer
- Financial Manager
- Financial Risk Manager
- Internal Auditor
- Investment Analyst
- Investment Banker
- Loan Officer
- Portfolio Analyst
- Portfolio Manager
- Pricing and Cost Analyst
- Rate Analyst
- Real Estate Analyst
- Research Analyst
- Risk Consultant
- Securities Trader

CO-CURRICULAR ORGANIZATIONS

- Madison Investment Fund
- Madison Venture Group
- Financial Management Association
- Beta Alpha Psi
- Society of Real Estate



CONTACT INFORMATION

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College of Business

LOWER B.B.A. CORE

Considerations

COB 191 – Business Analytics I
COB 204 – Computer Information Systems
COB 241 – Financial Accounting
ECON 200 – Macroeconomics
ECON 201 – Microeconomics
MATH 205 – Calculus

COB 202 – Interpersonal Skills
COB 291 – Business Analytics II
COB 242 – Managerial Accounting
Note: COB 242 may be taken as a prerequisite or a co-requisite with COB 300

COB 191 and Calculus are prerequisites for COB 291
COB 241 is a prerequisite for COB 242
MATH 220 may be substituted for COB 191
MATH 235 (Calculus) is preferred for ECON and FIN

COB ACCEPTANCE

Students are formally admitted into the College of Business as a B.B.A. major and permitted to register for COB 300 when the following requirements are met:

- Credit is earned for all eight lower B.B.A. core courses: **COB 202, COB 204, COB 241, COB 291, ECON 200, ECON 201, Calculus, Statistics**
- No B.B.A. core course is attempted more than twice
- A 2.7 average GPA is earned in the lower B.B.A. core **Only grades earned at JMU are included in the GPA calculation. Calculus is not included in the GPA calculation.**
- A COB 300 application is submitted to the COB Academic Success Center by Nov. 1 for Spring and April 1 for Fall

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- General Education
- B.B.A. Core
- Major Courses
- Non-business Electives (**see advisor**)
- 120 credit hours minimum
- 60 credit hours from a 4-year university
- 2.0 or higher cumulative GPA
- 2.0 or higher major GPA

MAJOR COURSEWORK AND UPPER B.B.A. CORE

COB 242 – Managerial Accounting
Note: COB 242 may be taken as a prerequisite or a co-requisite with COB 300
COB 300A – Integrated Business: Management
COB 300B – Integrated Business: Finance
COB 300C – Integrated Business: Operations
COB 300D – Integrated Business: Marketing
COB 318 – Legal and Ethical Environment of Business
Note: COB 318 must be taken before COB 487
FIN 360 – Analytical Methods in Finance
FIN 365 – Intermediate Financial Management

FIN 371 – Principles of Investments
FIN 488 – Advanced Financial Policy
Four FIN electives
COB 487 – Strategic Management
Note: Students are strongly encouraged to enroll in FIN 360 during the same semester as COB 300. FIN 360 requires a minimum of a C in COB 242 and COB 291.
Students must earn a C or better in COB 300B and FIN 360 to complete upper level courses.
No more than 9 FIN credits can be taken in any one semester.
RECOMMENDED MINORS: Computer Information Systems, Business Analytics, Math, Statistics or Economics

POSSIBLE ELECTIVES

FIN 310
FIN/ECON 325
FIN 362
FIN/ECON 372
FIN 378
FIN 380
FIN 434
FIN 450
FIN 451
FIN 455
FIN 460
FIN 471
FIN 475
FIN 498

Finance electives include any 300-level or 400-level finance course other than FIN 301, FIN 345, FIN 499 and the finance major core courses. A student may choose, at most, one of the following courses to satisfy the finance elective credit hours: ACTG 313, ACTG 343, ACTG 377, BLAW 494, BLAW 496, BLAW 497 and CIS 330.

CONCENTRATIONS

Financial Analysis*

Many James Madison University finance graduates go on to careers in financial analysis and the need for financial analysts remains strong. The financial analysis concentration helps prepare students for the Chartered Financial Analyst exam and for analysis within the financial management of a firm.

Required Courses	Credit Hours
FIN 362 - Financial Analysis	3
FIN 378 - Fixed Income Analysis	3
FIN 380 - Elemental and Derivative Securities Analysis	3
Choose one of the following:	
FIN 475 - Financial Modeling and Risk Analysis	3
ACTG 343 - Corporate Financial Reporting I	3

Risk Management

A focus in risk management is designed for finance majors pursuing a more in-depth review of the issues facing organizations and the tools needed to address those uncertainties. In the risk management concentration, students focus on the theory of risk management, risk identification, risk measurement and applications in the form of risk modeling techniques such as Value-at-Risk and Monte Carlo simulations.

Required Courses	Credit Hours
FIN 380 - Elemental and Derivative Securities Analysis	3
FIN 450 - Financial Risk Management	3
FIN 451 - Risk Management II	3
FIN 475 - Financial Modeling and Risk Analysis	3

*Concentration requires a minimum of a B in COB 241 and COB 242. Concentration may be declared during the semester that the student is taking COB 300.

SOFTWARE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Bloomberg
- Excel
- Statistics (SAS)
- Finance Databases such as CRSP and Compustat

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

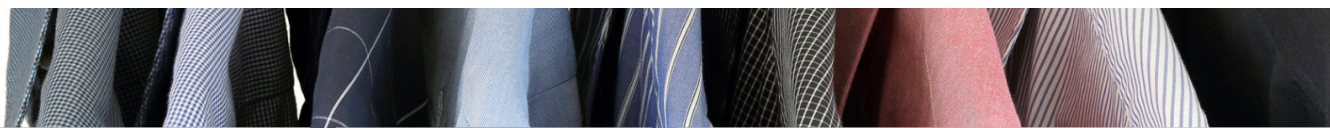
- Gaglioti capital market laboratory with 11 Bloomberg terminals
- CFA University Affiliation Program
- Madison Investment Fund won 1st place in the core investment competition at the 2019 Global Asset Management Education Forum

FINANCE MAJOR PATHS

1st Semester Freshman	2nd Semester Freshman	1st Semester Sophomore	2nd Semester Sophomore	1st Semester Junior	2nd Semester Junior	1st Semester Senior	2nd Semester Senior
Path 1							
MATH 205	COB 191	COB 202	COB 300A	FIN 360	FIN 365	FIN XXX	FIN XXX
ECON 200	COB 204	COB 241	COB 300B	COB 318	FIN 371	FIN XXX	FIN XXX
GenEd	ECON 201	COB 291	COB 300C	Elective	Elective	GenEd	COB 487
GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	COB 300D	GenEd	Elective	Elective	FIN 488
GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	COB 242	GenEd	Elective	Elective	Elective
Path 2							
MATH 205	COB 191	COB 202	COB 300A	FIN 365	FIN XXX	FIN XXX	FIN 488
ECON 200	ECON 201	COB 242	COB 300B	FIN 371	FIN XXX	FIN XXX	Elective
COB 204	COB 241	COB 291	COB 300C	COB 318	GenEd	COB 487	Elective
GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	COB 300D	GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	Elective
GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	FIN 360	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Path 3							
MATH 205	COB 191	COB 202	COB 242	COB 300A	FIN 365	FIN XXX	FIN XXX
ECON 200	COB 204	COB 241	COB 291	COB 300B	FIN 371	FIN XXX	FIN XXX
GenEd	ECON 201	GenEd	GenEd	COB 300C	COB 318	Elective	COB 487
GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	Elective	COB 300D	GenEd	Elective	FIN 488
GenEd	GenEd	GenEd	Elective	FIN 360	Elective	Elective	Elective

The College of Business recognizes all students as individuals. The above pathways are intended as examples only. Students are encouraged to develop their individualized academic plans in consultation with an academic advisor, taking into account unique skills, interests and goals.

STEPS TO CAREER SUCCESS



FRESHMAN

- Adjust to campus life
- Explore majors
- Build rapport with faculty
- Establish a solid GPA
- Join a student organization
- Attend professional development events
- Consider study abroad programs
- Practice professional behavior
- Create a resume/make an appointment with a career advisor to review
- Ask your network about part time/summer job leads
- Shadow professionals in a field of interest to you
- Polish your online presence

SOPHOMORE

- Participate in the CoB Career KickStart
- Identify skills and interests
- Continue to work on your resume and build a reference list
- Activate your Handshake account
- Create a LinkedIn profile
- Attend JMU Career and Internship Fairs
- Attend career related events
- Research employers
- Apply for externship/internship
- Join a CoB student organization
- Apply for a CoB Career Trek
- Apply for a study abroad program

JUNIOR

- Apply for internships
- Practice with mock interviews and InterviewStream
- Attend JMU Career and Internship Fairs
- Seek leadership roles on campus (e.g., student organizations)
- Join a professional organization related to your interests
- Consider graduate school
- Develop a job search strategy
- Network and conduct informational interviews with business professionals and JMU alumni
- Participate in case competitions

SENIOR

- Update your resume
- Practice with mock interviews and InterviewStream
- Apply for full-time positions
- Follow up on job leads
- Network with business professionals and JMU alumni
- Use the on-campus recruiting program (OCR)
- Connect with the JMU Alumni Relations office
- Apply to graduate school
- Negotiate salary



Career and Academic Planning

Choosing/Changing Majors

Resource Center

Job Search/Graduate School

Career Counseling

On-Campus Interviewing

Handshake Questions

Employer Relations

Student Success Center

Room 3210

(540) 568-6555

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<https://www.jmu.edu/cap>

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS CLASS OF 2018 PROFILE

Average Starting Finance Salary

\$58,847

Average Starting CoB Salary

\$57,837

% CoB Jobs with Signing Bonus

58%

Average CoB Signing Bonus

\$5,580

95% of CoB graduates are employed, in continuing education or engaged in other career related endeavors.

The Class of 2018 includes 800 students graduating August 2017, December 2017 and May 2018.