Master Degree in Banking and Finance (MBF) Program

Or

MBA (Finance and Financial Institutions)

Where you will learn

- **Online Class**
- **Weekend Class**

Programme structure

- 6 compulsory modules + 5 elective modules + research project (2,500 words)
- 6 compulsory modules + 3 elective modules + dissertation (7,000 words)

Compulsory/Core modules

1. **Commercial and Investment Banking**
2. **Investment Management**
3. **Quantitative Methods in Finance**
4. **Risk Management for Banking**
5. **Applied Corporate Finance**
6. **Dissertation**
7. **Practical Valuation**
8. **Research Project**

Elective modules

1. **Financial Derivatives**
2. **International Finance**

3. **Applied Asset Pricing**
4. **Asset Management**
5. **Principles of Accounting**
6. **Mergers and Acquisitions**
7. **Applied Wealth Management**
8. **Real Estate Finance**
9. **Financial Data Analytics**

<mark>**Compulsory/Core modules**</mark>

Commercial and Investment Banking

The aim of this module is to develop an understanding of the international financial system and its associated risks given the ever evolving regulatory regime. On successful completion, students should be able to critically understand, evaluate and question the operations of banks and of nonbank financial institutions, the process of deposit creation, the term structure of interest rates, the supply and demand of loanable funds, and the role of Central Banks. More importantly students should be competent in the analysis, interpretation and assessment of all facets and aspects of financial risk and its management.

Investment Management

This offers a high level introduction to concepts related to investment analysis. Topics covered include valuation of financial securities; the principles of investment; portfolio analysis and management; financial market equilibrium; the CAPM and APT models; capital budgeting and risk; and market efficiency.

Quantitative Methods in Finance

This module provides an introduction to applied econometrics used to analyse financial problems. The material is presented through detailed examples with associated data and software, and hence should prove useful and interesting to students whether or not they have some prior exposure to econometrics. Basic statistical tools needed for understanding and using financial models are introduced and explained.

Risk Management for Banking

The module is designed to give an insight into the risk management process and how capital is allocated. We identify the main sources of risk experienced by financial institutions such as credit, market, liquidity, and operational risks.

Methods for quantifying and managing risk are explored in detail with an emphasis on understanding factors affecting Value at Risk (VAR) calculations. Finally, we see how reporting standards, regulation and innovation have transformed the way financial institutions operate and what can we learn from recent risk management failures.

Applied Corporate Finance

In this module we are going to explore how firms finance their activities and the resulting capital structure. We will consider the circumstances where the choice of the source of funding is irrelevant and those in which the choice of capital structure can affect the firm value, due to tax considerations or informational frictions, for example. We will then explore how the global environment affects firms¿ financial policies. In the final part of the module we will talk about the impact of mergers and acquisitions on the value of the corporations involved.

Dissertation

You will study a topic in depth and write up your analysis. In general, the topic can be either an empirical one (in which case it involves the analysis of data using econometric techniques) or a valuation one (in which case it involves the rigorous valuation of a company or companies). A list of suggested topics will be provided, but you can also propose your own topic (as long as it aligns with the research interests of the school's academic staff). You will be assigned a supervisor who can provide you with some guidance, but you will largely work independently.

Practical Valuation

Valuation is at the heart of many areas of finance such as value based investing, mergers and acquisitions and initial public offerings. This course introduces students to company valuation and gives the background to all the tools used in the Excel modelling course (ECOM116) such as free cash flows and present discounted value. It will introduce a range of valuation tools such as use of multiples and real options. The course strongly emphasizes practical applications of these valuation tools.

Research Project

You will study a topic in some depth and write up your analysis. Typically, the research project will consist of a literature review. A list of suggested topics will be provided, but you can also propose your own topic (as long as it aligns with the research interests of the school's academic staff). You will be assigned a supervisor who can provide you with some guidance, but you will largely work independently

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Financial Derivatives

The purpose of this module is to provide students with an overview of the theory and practice of pricing and hedging derivative securities. These include forward and futures contracts, swaps, and many different types of options. This module covers diverse areas of derivatives, such as equity and index derivatives, foreign currency derivatives and commodity derivatives, as well as interest rate derivatives. This module also addresses the issue of how to incorporate credit risk into the pricing and risk management of derivatives. All the relevant concepts are discussed based on the discrete time binomial model and the continuous time BlackScholes model. The extensions of the BlackScholes model are also discussed.

International Finance

Foreign exchange is not only the most heavily traded of all financial assets, it has the clearest interface between macroeconomics and finance. In this module you'll get an introduction to the main theoretical models used to understand FX markets as well as in-depth analysis of how they work in practice. Topics include: understanding global imbalances, models of exchange rate determination, the structure of the FX market and how trades are priced, FX derivatives markets, foreign exchange intervention and reserves, and currency regimes and crises. Each week the key lessons of the lecture are illustrated through an analysis of current economic events such as the problems in the Euroarea, China's foreign exchange rate policy and the role of the dollar as a global reserve currency. We also price and monitor foreign exchange trades suggested by course participants to see how good you are at FX trading!

Applied Asset Pricing

This course is designed to teach students how to price products and services providing a framework for understanding pricing strategies and tactics. This course has an additional focus on pricing dynamics and reaction to and by competitors, taking a highly pragmatic approach and one that is directly applicable to your day-to-day professional life. Topics covered include economic value analysis, price elasticities, and price optimisation, pricing complementary products, pricing in platform markets and anticipating competitive price responses.

Asset Management

The purpose of this module is to provide students with a practical introduction to modern portfolio theory and asset pricing, including active portfolio management, portfolio performance evaluation, portfolio insurance, and international portfolio diversification. On the successful completion of the module students will know how to implement modern portfolio management strategies and will be familiar with the practical aspects of asset valuation. The course emphasizes real world cases and real world investment and hedging strategies.

Principles of Accounting

This module aims to introduce students to the fundamentals of accounting and financial reporting: the conceptual and regulatory framework of accounting; and the interpretation of financial statements.

Mergers and Acquisitions

This module provides an overview of mergers and acquisitions from the point of view of an industry practitioner who has worked in both M&A advisory (Corporate Finance Advisory) and Merger Arbitrage Trading. The module explains the role of Corporate Finance practitioners and the modelling tools they use to value companies and advice clients. The module also explains the role in the markets for traders and portfolio managers at hedge funds and other asset management firms who specialise in trading announced merger transactions and other corporate actions.

Applied Wealth Management

The module looks at modern wealth management. Students will study the regulatory framework governing firms and individuals in the wealth management

industry. The various asset classes (such as money markets, bonds, equities, property, hedge funds etc) will be examined and how they can be combined in wealth portfolios. The utilisation of pensions and insurance solutions will also be discussed as well as the areas of philanthropy and ethical investing.

Real Estate Finance

Residential and commercial real estate is fundamental to bank lending and has become increasingly important as an asset class for investment banks and hedge funds. Its role at the centre of the financial system was highlighted by the 200809 financial crisis where problems in that sector led to the largest global recession since the great depression. This module aims to provide students with concepts and techniques for analysing real estate investment and financing decisions. The module covers mortgages and debt securitisation (secondary mortgages and mortgagebacked securities like CDO's), real estate investment appraisal and risk assessment, financial leverage in real estate, and alternative financing and investment vehicles, such as real estate investment trusts (REITs).

Financial Data Analytics

This module will provide students with a general understanding of current applications of Data Analytics to the Finance and in particular to derivatives and investment banking. It will revolve around problems that will be explained as part of the module delivery such as volatility surface management, yield curve evolution and FX volatility/correlation management. It will provide students with a overview of some standard tools in the field such as Python, R, Excel/VBA and the Power BI Excel functionality. Students are not expected to have any familiarity with coding or any of the topics above as the module will develop these from scratch. It will provide students with the understanding of a field necessary to boost their careers in finance in roles such as trading, structuring, management, risk management and quantitative positions in investment banks and hedge funds.