

Finance:

A finance major provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to manage and analyze financial assets, investments, and markets. The program focuses on financial analysis, corporate finance, risk management, and financial planning. Students learn to evaluate investment opportunities, manage financial risks, and make data-driven decisions to enhance business profitability. Finance professionals work in various industries, helping organizations optimize their financial strategies and achieve long-term goals.

Typical Industry Sectors:

- ❖ Banking and Financial Services
- ❖ Investment Management
- ❖ Corporate Finance
- ❖ Insurance
- ❖ Real Estate

Entry-Level Job Title Examples:

- ❖ Financial Analyst
- ❖ Investment Banking Analyst
- ❖ Financial Planner
- ❖ Credit Analyst
- ❖ Risk Management Analyst
- ❖ Hedge Fund Analyst
- ❖ Accounting Associate
- ❖ Loan Officer
- ❖ Treasury Analyst
- ❖ Business Analyst

Skills Needed (Hard):

- ❖ Financial Modeling Skills
- ❖ Proficiency in Data Analysis and Excel
- ❖ Accounting Software
- ❖ Financial Reporting
- ❖ Investment Analysis

Skills Needed (Soft):

- ❖ Analytical Thinking
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Attention to Detail
- ❖ Problem-solving
- ❖ Time Management

Further Education/Training:

While a degree in finance provides a strong foundation, additional certifications can enhance your career prospects. Some key certifications include the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst), FRM (Financial Risk Manager), or Series 7 for securities trading. Knowledge of financial modeling and proficiency in software like Excel or financial planning tools can also be valuable.

Student and National Organizations to Join:

- ❖ [Financial Planning Association \(FPA\)](#) – A professional association for students interested in financial planning.
- ❖ [CFA Institute](#) – Offers resources for aspiring Chartered Financial Analysts.
- ❖ [National Association for Business Economics \(NABE\)](#) – Provides networking and educational resources for finance professionals.
- ❖ [Beta Alpha Psi](#) – An international honor society for accounting, finance, and information systems students.
- ❖ Investment Club – A student-run organization for those interested in investing and financial markets.