

USC SCHOOL	Marshall School of Business
ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT	Finance
GRADUATE PROGRAM	M.S. Finance
POST CODE	1525
TERM EFFECTIVE DATE	Fall 2022

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A brief description of the graduate program.

The primary objective of the Master of Science in Finance is to provide individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge to make an immediate impact as analysts within the various realms of finance and thus advance their careers. The program is designed to offer a comprehensive foundation in finance and the flexibility to pursue individual interests. Core courses in accounting, economics, finance and statistics are supplemented with analysis and portfolio theory, forecasting, and risk. Students can personalize their degrees with elective courses on such topics as real estate, mergers and acquisitions, and hedge funds. The program is open to both business and non-business majors. Academic history must convey potential to succeed in a rigorous STEM-designated quantitative program.

COMMON BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAM PATHWAYS

A list of common bachelor's degrees that undergraduate students pursue in advance of pursuing a progressive degree option with this graduate program. Some programs are restricted to certain majors while others are open to all students.

Business Administration	Viterbi Majors
Economics, Economics/Mathematics	Dornsife: Natural Sciences Majors
Mathematics	
Accounting	

PREPARATORY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

A list of courses at the undergraduate level that prepare students for the graduate program. Required coursework is listed first, followed by recommended courses. If not applicable, this section will be blank.

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Required or Recommended	Units
BUAD 306	Business Finance	Recommended	4
ECON 351	Microeconomics for Business	Recommended	4
FBE 421	Financial Analysis & Valuation	Recommended	4
ECON 352	Macroeconomics for Business	Recommended	4
BUAD 310/312	Applied Business Statistics/Statistics & Data Science for Business	Recommended	4
MATH 118/125	Fundamental Principles of Calculus/ Calculus I	Recommended	4
BUAD 302	Communication Strategy in Business	Recommended	4

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES USED TO REDUCE GRADUATE LEVEL UNITS

A list of undergraduate level courses that may be used to reduce the number of graduate level units required for the graduate program. If there are none, that is specified instead.

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Units
BUAD 306	Business Finance	4
ECON 351	Microeconomics for Business	4
FBE 421	Financial Analysis & Valuation	4
BUAD 302	Communication Strategy in Business	4
Accounting Majors		

CORE GRADUATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (# units required)

A list of all required graduate courses for the graduate program. None of these courses may be used toward satisfying undergraduate degree requirements.

If special exceptions for any of these courses are made by the academic department, the course # is marked with an asterisk () and the exception is explained in the "Department Notes" section at the end of this course plan template.*

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Units
GSBA 510*	Accounting Concepts and Financial Reporting	3
GSBA 511*	Microeconomics for Management	3
GSBA 542*	Communication for Management	1.5
GSBA 548*	Corporate Finance	3
FBE 506	Quantitative Methods in Finance	3
FBE 529*	Financial Analysis and Valuation	3
FBE 555	Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management	3
FBE 531	Corporate Financial Policy and Corporate Governance	3

PRE-APPROVED ELECTIVE COURSEWORK

Elective coursework is approved at the discretion of the academic department. Note the following details about the total number and units required of elective coursework.

5-6	TOTAL ELECTIVE COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE TRADITIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE
13.5	TOTAL ELECTIVE UNITS REQUIRED FOR THE TRADITIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE

TOTAL UNIT COUNTS AND REQUIRED GRADUATE UNITS

36	TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED FOR THE TRADITIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE
6	TOTAL GRADUATE UNITS THAT MAY BE WAIVED (IF ANY)
30	MINIMUM NUMBER OF GRADUATE UNITS THAT MUST BE AT THE 500 LEVEL OR ABOVE

NOTES FROM THE DEPARTMENT

This section highlights any unique considerations, exceptions, or requirements for the graduate program. If a program has specific restrictions (courses, majors, etc.), they are detailed below.

*GSBA 510 may be waived for Accounting majors. GSBA 511 may be waived if ECON 351 has been completed with an A- or better. GSBA 548 may be waived if BUAD 306 has been completed with an A- or better. FBE 529 may be waived if FBE 421 has been completed with an A- or better. GSBA 542 can be waived with successful completion of BUAD 302.

Students who are eligible to waive more than 6 units of coursework must replace any excess units with 500-level FBE electives.

The Master of Science in Finance (MSF) program, and progressive degree program in particular, is very competitive often with a higher GPA standard (3.5+ GPA preferred).

All 500-level FBE courses and a select list of approved non-FBE courses may be taken to satisfy the elective requirements.

Elective courses may be taken in 3 unit or 1.5 unit increments and must equal to a minimum total of 13.5 units.

Rahsan Akbulut

Name of Authorizing Master's Program Dean

9/1/2022

Date Approved

Assistant Vice Dean for Graduate Programs

Authorizing Dean's Title