

FINANCE

Description

Finance majors enjoy great demand in the labor market because they take the lead in making decisions concerning asset valuation, initial public offerings, stock portfolios, financial statements, dividend policy, market regulation, international diversification, and capital budgeting. The area of finance encompasses concepts and techniques utilized by individuals, businesses and government agencies in making decisions about acquiring and investing funds. Finance also deals with those institutions that individuals and organizations need to carry out their financial activities. The degree program is designed to prepare students for professional, managerial or investment careers in the private and public sectors. Graduates in finance find jobs in corporate and public finance, investment banking, commercial banks and credit unions, mutual funds, portfolio management, venture capital, securities trading, and personal financial banking.

Skills Needed

Ability to work in teams/independently	Information gathering	Persuasive
Ability to work under pressure	Initiative	Preparing financial reports
Analytical ability	Interpersonal communication	Problem solving
Commitment	Managing people	Strategic thinking
Creativity	Negotiation	Written communication
Data analysis		

Sample Occupations

Visit the Bureau of Labor and Statistic's online Occupational Outlook Handbook: <http://www.bls.gov> for more information.

- Account Analyst
- [Bank Examiner](#)
- Bank Trust Officer
- Broker/Dealer
- [Budget Analyst](#)
- Commercial Lender
- [Comptroller](#)
- [Credit Analyst](#)
- Credit Manager
- [Financial Analyst](#)
- Financial Consultant
- [Financial Examiner](#)
- [Financial Manager](#)
- Financial Planner
- International Advisor
- Management Analyst
- Mortgage Banker
- [Personal Financial Advisor](#)
- Property Manager
- Portfolio Manager
- Real Estate Appraiser
- [Risk Manager](#)
- Security Analyst

Organizations That Have Employed Mason Finance Graduates

Accenture, American Express, Ameriprise Financial, Bank of America, Bearing Point, Booz Allen Hamilton, CACI, Cambridge Associates, Charles Schwab, Deloitte, Fannie Mae, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Freddie Mac, John Hancock, KPMG, Maximus, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, PricewaterhouseCoopers, SAIC, Securities & Exchange Commission, Scottrade, Inc., and TRW

Sample Professional Associations

- [Association for Financial Professionals](http://www.afponline.org): <http://www.afponline.org>
Membership represents a broad spectrum of financial disciplines, with resources such as networking groups, industry information and a job database.
- [Financial Management Association International](http://www.fma.org): <http://www.fma.org>
Dedicated to education, research and networking within the field of financial decision-making.
- [Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards](http://www.cfp.net): <http://www.cfp.net>
Provides information on financial planning and certification.
- [National Association of Real Estate Brokers](http://www.nareb.com): <http://www.nareb.com>
Provides industry information, training and networking opportunities, particularly geared toward minority professionals.

Certifications

Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA)

Certified Financial Planner (CFP)

Certified Financial Consultant (ChFC)

Student Clubs

[Financial Management Association](#)

Visit <http://som.gmu.edu/studentorganizations> for a complete listing of SOM's student organizations.

Sample SOM Career Services Library Resources

- Resumes for Banking and Financial Careers
- 100 Best Resumes to Sell Yourself
- 201 Best Questions to Ask on your Interview
- Best 109 Internships
- Internship Bible
- Big Book of Jobs (03-04)
- Career Opportunities in Banking, Finance and Insurance
- Careers in International Business
- Case in Point: Complete Case Interview Prep
- Power Networking – 59 Secrets for personal and professional success
- Vault Career Guide to Investment Banking
- Vault guide to Finance Interviews
- Washington, DC Job Bank

To view the on-line version of this information, please visit: <http://som.gmu.edu/OptionsKnowledge.html>

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