



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

1119 Main Administration Building  
College Park, Maryland 20742-5031  
301.405.5252 TEL 301.405.8195 FAX

October 2, 2013

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Alexander J. Triantis  
Dean, Robert H. Smith School of Business

**FROM:** Elizabeth Beise *EB*  
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

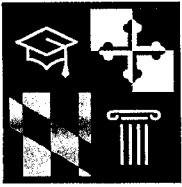
**SUBJECT:** Proposal to Establish a Master of Finance Program (PCC log no. 12031)

On June 21, 2013, the Board of Regents approved your proposal to establish a Master of Finance program. On September 4, 2013, the Maryland Higher Education Commission gave final approval. A copy of the proposal is attached.

This Master of Finance program is effective immediately. The College should ensure that the program is fully described in the Graduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

MDC/  
Enclosure

cc: Marilee Lindemann, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid  
Reka Montfort, University Senate  
Erin Howard, Division of Information Technology  
Pam Phillips, Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment  
Anne Turkos, University Archives  
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
Alex Chen, Graduate School  
Joyce E. A. Russell, Robert H. Smith School of Business



**MHEC**

*Creating a state of achievement*

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

Anthony G. Brown  
Lt. Governor

Anwer Hasan  
Chairperson

Danette G. Howard  
Secretary

September 4, 2013

Mary Ann Rankin, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President and Provost  
University of Maryland College Park  
1119 Main Administration Building  
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Dr. Rankin:

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has reviewed a request from the University of Maryland College Park to offer a Master of Finance (M.Fin.) program.

I am pleased to inform you that the request has been approved. This decision was based on an analysis of the program in conjunction with the Maryland Higher Education Commission's Policies and Procedures for Academic Program Proposals, the Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education, and a thirty-day review by the Maryland higher education community. The program demonstrates potential for success, an essential factor in making this decision.

For purposes of providing enrollment and degree data to the Commission, please use the following HEGIS and CIP codes:

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>Degree Level</u>	<u>HEGIS</u>	<u>CIP</u>
Finance	Master	0504-00	52.0801

Should the program require any substantial changes in the future, please keep the Commission apprised. I wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

Danette G. Howard, Ph.D.  
Secretary of Higher Education

DGH:JVF:wrf

- C: Ms. Theresa Hollander, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USM
- Ms. Diane C. Hampton, Director of Institutional Relations, MICUA
- Dr. Martha Wharton, Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs and Diversity  
Office of Academic Affairs, Loyola University
- Dr. Elizabeth Beise, Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, UMCP



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

June 27, 2013

Dr. Wallace Loh  
President  
University of Maryland, College Park  
1101 Main Administration Bldg.  
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Wallace:

This is to officially inform you that the Board of Regents, meeting in public session on Friday, June 21, 2013, at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, approved the University of Maryland, College Park's proposal to offer the Master of Finance.

The Committee on Education Policy and Student Life, meeting in public session on June 5, 2013, recommended Board approval.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Kirwan".

William E. Kirwan  
Chancellor

WEK/weo

cc: Joann Boughman  
Teri Hollander  
Janice Doyle

1807  
University of Maryland,  
Baltimore

1856  
University of Maryland,  
College Park

1865  
Bowie State University

1866  
Towson University

1886  
University of Maryland  
Eastern Shore

1898  
Frostburg State University

1900  
Coppin State University

1925  
Salisbury University

1925  
University of Baltimore

1925  
University of Maryland  
Center for Environmental  
Science

1947  
University of Maryland  
University College

1966  
University of Maryland,  
Baltimore County

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

• Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to [pcc-submissions@umd.edu](mailto:pcc-submissions@umd.edu).

PCC LOG NO.

12031

• Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

**College/School:**

Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01202900

Unit Codes can be found at: [https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html\\_Reports/units.htm](https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm)

**Department/Program:**

Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: ~~1200403~~ 1291501

**Type of Action (choose one):**




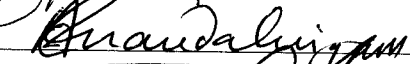
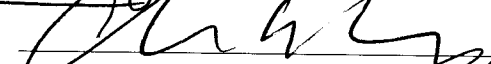
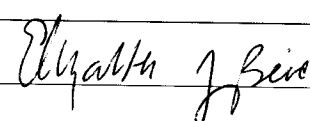
- Curriculum change (including informal specializations)
- Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration
- Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration
- Suspend/delete program
- New academic degree/award program*
- New Professional Studies award iteration
- New Minor
- Other

*Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.*

**Summary of Proposed Action:**

The Robert H Smith School of Business proposes launching a Masters in Finance (MFin) program designed to provide students with a rigorous understanding of and the ability to apply core finance principles. The school currently offers a Masters of Science in Business with a concentration in Finance (MSBF). Unfortunately there is no distinction between the concentrations on the diplomas or transcripts and we are limited in our ability to treat the programs differently (such as offering lower tuition rates for some concentrations). The creation of this formal degree program will provide us with an opportunity to better reflect the degree being earned and provide the school with the ability to align our administrative activities with the market demands.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair  MIKE FAULKENDER
2. Department Chair  MICHAEL BALL
3. College/School PCC Chair  JOYCE RUSSELL
4. Dean  ANAND ANANDALINGAN
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)  3/7/13
6. Chair, Senate PCC W. IDSARDI, UMD, 7/2/13 3/1/13
7. University Senate Chair (if required) \_\_\_\_\_
8. Senior Vice President and Provost  Oct 2, 2013

PROPOSAL FOR  
NEW INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND  
MASTERS IN FINANCE (MFin)

ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL OF **BUSINESS**

DEAN G. "Anand" Anandalingam

**MASTERS IN FINANCE**

---

Award to Be Offered Fall 2013

## **I. OVERVIEW and RATIONALE**

**A. Briefly describe the nature of the proposed program and explain why the institution should offer it. [You may want to refer to student demand, market demand for graduates, institutional strengths, disciplinary trends, synergy with existing programs, and/or institutional strategic priorities.]**

### **Goal and Contribution to the Strategic Plan**

The Robert H. Smith School of Business proposes launching a Masters in Finance (MFin) program designed to provide students with a rigorous understanding of and the ability to apply core finance principles. The financial crisis on Wall Street and around the globe has forever changed the way we think about finance. The world of modern finance is now shaped by evolving regulation, globalization and a renewed focus on corporate responsibility. Now more than ever, financial planning and decision making depend on understanding and using the new ideas and tools required in sophisticated financial management. Students who complete the MFin degree will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to address the challenges confronting financial decision makers and financial market participants.

The Robert H. Smith School of Business houses one of the strongest academic finance departments in the world as well as the recently created Center for Financial Policy (CFP). The research and experience of the faculty are particularly suited to attract some of the brightest students in the world who are seeking a more thorough understanding of financial issues. Faculty and staff currently affiliated with the Robert H. Smith School of Business and the Center for Financial Policy hold appropriate degrees in finance, economics, and public policy that are relevant and necessary for the Masters in Finance degree.

The strategic plan of the Robert H. Smith School of Business states as its first objective the goal of “Growing future leaders to address global issues.” The University of Maryland College Park mission statement sets a goal to “continue to build a strong, university-wide culture of graduate and professional education” and to provide knowledge-based programs and services that are responsive to the needs of the citizens of the state and the nation. Faculty and students in the Masters of Finance program will collaborate with financial institutions and regulators at the state, national, and international level to address current issues challenging financial markets. Given UMCP’s proximity to the nation’s capital, our facility in Washington DC, and the significant changes in financial regulation resulting from the Dodd-Frank financial reform bill, we are in a unique position to offer students opportunities unmatched by competitor institutions.

The School currently offers a Masters of Science in Business with a concentration in Finance (MSBF). However, the diploma does not state the word “finance” on it. This degree name will strengthen the recognition of the degree and increase its attractiveness to a worldwide applicant pool. Some of our MSBF graduates have informed us of difficulty in getting recognition of their degree by foreign governments and institutions because it is viewed as a degree in business and not in finance. Offering a degree with the word finance in the title will clarify the content of the knowledge our students obtain. The creation of this degree will also provide greater opportunities to be flexible within our portfolio of Masters of Science degrees to uniquely address issues within each discipline rather than pooling all of them under the same Masters of Science in Business degree that is currently offered.

The School currently offers a joint MBA-MSBF program for students and we would also seek to offer students the opportunity to enroll in a joint MBA-MFin program. Such an opportunity enables our MBA students to further distinguish themselves in the MBA marketplace and the fact that the joint program would likewise have the word “finance” in it would improve our ability to market these students.

This program is also an ideal path for some of our students to pursue PhD programs in finance. One graduate from our MSBF program is currently enrolled in our PhD program and our graduates have also placed into other PhD programs. Having the program entitled Masters in Finance will again likely improve the marketability of our students seeking to pursue a PhD specializing in finance.

**Market Demand for Graduates**

In light of the financial crisis, employers are looking for finance specialists who have a thorough understanding of financial concepts and the ability to rigorously apply these concepts within organizations. In particular, as international financial markets become more interdependent, international companies and foreign countries have significant demand for students with the skill set that our current MSBF offers. We anticipate this demand to increase due to the increased international acceptance and recognition of MFin program relative to an MSBF. Appendix 1 shows that the inclusion of the word “finance” in the degree name is standard for this type of degree.

**Student Demand**

Business schools are undergoing a significant shift in the applicant pool for Master’s degree programs. Applications for traditional MBA programs that provide a general management focus have seen a sustained reduction nationwide. Contemporaneously, more students are seeking Master’s degrees that specialize in a particular business field, particularly finance and accounting. In addition to the MSBF program that we launched three years ago, competitor institutions such as MIT (2008) and University of Texas at Austin (summer 2012) have similarly launched Master’s degree programs in finance within the last five years. Institutions such as Georgetown University are currently exploring whether to enter this market and launch their own Master’s in Finance programs. Such degrees are becoming an increasingly common offering at peer and aspirational institutions.

Student demand for a Master’s in Finance program is extremely high. For the 2011-2012 academic year, we received 1,123 applications and enrolled 183 students in our MSBF program. For the 2012-2013 academic year, we received 1,507 applications. Admitted student statistics demonstrate the quality of students demanding this offering:

	Fall 2012	Fall 2011
Average GMAT	723	722
Average GPA	3.5	3.44

**B. How big is the program expected to be? From what other programs serving current students, or from what new populations of potential students, onsite or offsite, are you expecting to draw?**

Current enrollment in our MS Business with a concentration in Finance (MSBF) is approximately 180 newly admitted students per year. Students take 30 credits in the program. Students have the ability to complete the program within one academic year but many choose to elongate the program to two academic years. Such elongation provides students an opportunity to seek an internship. We anticipate that students enrolled in the MSBF program will all instead enroll in the MFin program. Therefore, enrollment should remain at the current 150 student class size after creating the Masters in Finance degree.

Most of the students we attract to this program are international, primarily from East Asia. The strategic plan for this program seeks to expand domestic enrollment, primarily by targeting students receiving

Bachelor's degrees in mathematics, statistics, and physics who are looking for an opportunity to apply their skill set to the financial industry.

## **II. CURRICULUM**

### **A. Provide a full catalog description of the proposed program, including educational objectives and any areas of concentration.**

The Masters in Finance degree (MFin) is a professional degree for students wishing to pursue careers in investment banking, money management, commercial banking, corporate finance, and financial market regulation. Core courses provide excellent fundamentals and a large number of electives will allow students the flexibility to become specialists or highly qualified generalists. They will learn how to analyze and direct the financial decisions of an organization, and gain a fresh understanding and a deep appreciation for the theoretical foundations of finance today.

The proposed MFin program offered by the Robert H Smith School of Business will provide students with:

- a) Comprehensive knowledge of foundational financial concepts, products, and financial market structure necessary for engaging in any form of financial analysis.
- b) In-depth understanding of estimating value creation on the part of private enterprises
- c) The ability to measure and manage trade-offs between risk and return
- d) Analytical skills including detailed financial modeling, the ability to design and empirically estimate financial relationships, and the creation of financial statements and forecasts
- e) Knowledge of the legal and ethical issues related to financial management and an understanding of the role of all stakeholders when capital allocation decisions are made
- f) An understanding of the regulatory structure of financial markets and the role that policymakers and regulators play in the efficient operation of financial markets
- g) Skills that will endure beyond the next business cycle and that will enable institutions to endure and thrive, even during times of economic downturn
- h) Expertise in financial management that will make our students valuable contributors to a variety of employers and organizations in diverse communities

### **B. List the courses (number, title, semester credit hours) that would constitute the requirements and other components of the proposed program. Provide a catalog description for any courses that will be newly developed or substantially modified for the program.**

Students will enter the MFin program with a Bachelor's degree. The proposed MFin program requires 30 credit hours comprised of core courses (14 credits) and electives (at least 16 credits). Completion of the degree is feasible within one academic year though many students may choose to spread their coursework over two academic years to offer an opportunity to gain experience from an internship during the summer.

While not required, some students may pursue the option of writing a master's thesis as part of reaching their 30 credit hours requirement. Others may take advantage of experiential learning opportunities for course credit. In both cases, such credit would be limited to 6 credit hours, **be overseen by a faculty member, and follow the Graduate School's guidelines for the Master's degree with thesis.** Appendix 2 provides a curriculum comparison of the Finance Programs offered by MBA ranked peers.

#### **Core Courses**

Course descriptions are provided below. All courses are 2 credits.



**BUSI 610 Introduction to Financial Accounting:** Provides an overview of financial accounting, periodic financial statements and the financial reporting process.

**BUSI 640 Financial Management:** Explores capital budgeting, security portfolio theory, operation and efficiency of financial markets, options pricing, financing decisions, capital structure, payout policy and international finance.

**BUFN740 Capital Markets:** Designed to deepen the foundations necessary to finance focused students, especially those intending to specialize in the quantitative areas of finance including investments, fixed income, and financial engineering.

**BUFN 750 Valuation in Corporate Finance:** Examines investment decisions by corporations, using various tools such as NPV, APV, and real option valuation. Particular attention is paid to cost of capital computation, pro forma cash flow statements, and other important elements of carefully executed evaluation of capital investments.

**BUFN 758N/O Financial Econometrics I/II:** Introduces the basic skills for analyzing financial data and testing financial models. The course includes a review of linear optimization for use in factor models, the statistical properties of asset returns, event studies, time series analysis and models of stochastic volatility. The course will include theory mixed with several applications.

**BUFN 761 Derivative Securities:** Introduces options and futures contracts, and presents an overview of why and how they are used. The course focuses on the valuation, and the measuring and management of risk exposure, of options and futures. Derivative securities on various underlying assets (equities, indices, commodities, foreign exchange, etc.) are analyzed, using different application contexts

The part-time curriculum consists of the same core courses. However, part-time students who are unable to take the Financial Econometrics classes may substitute for this requirement by taking at least four credits in the more quantitative finance electives upon approval of the Academic Director. Possible options include:

**BUFN 758Q Quantitative Investment Strategies:** Provides an advanced treatment of asset allocation strategies and performance evaluation. Quantitative techniques are applied to examine equity and fixed-income portfolio management strategies. The course provides a deeper understanding of the measurement of risk and its relationship to return, as well as of multi-factor models. Implementation issues, including statistical estimation, backtesting and portfolio construction, are covered, as are strategic versus tactical asset allocation, and performance evaluation.

**BUFN 765 Fixed Income Derivatives:** Introduces the use and valuation of fixed income assets such as exchange-traded bond futures and options, forward contracts on interest rates, fixed and floating rate bonds with embedded options, floating rate notes, caps, collars, floors, interest rate swaps, and mortgage backed securities. Tools include the application of binomial option pricing trees, and the analysis of stochastic yield curves.

**BUFN 766 Financial Engineering:** Introduces and applies various computational techniques useful in the management of equity and fixed income portfolios and the valuation of financial derivatives and fixed income securities. Techniques include Monte Carlo Simulation and binomial/lattice pricing models. Emphasis is on bridging theory with the design of algorithms and models that can be directly applied in practice.

## **Elective Courses**

All courses listed below are 2 credit courses. In addition to these finance electives and upon approval of the academic advisor, students may take up to six credits in related fields.

**BUFN 751 Financial Strategy For Corporations:** An advanced course in corporate finance, focusing on the issues that firms face when they plan to raise external capital from financial markets. The focus is on the financing problems faced by mid-market to large firms and on capital raised from public markets. The forms of external finance vary from simple debt or equity to more complex securities that bundle with an element of risk management.

**BUFN 752 Financial Restructuring:** Examines alternative ways to increase firm value through corporate restructuring, including domestic and international acquisitions, spin-offs, carve-outs, and leveraged buy-outs. Focus is on theory, practice, and empirical evidence related to each of these forms of restructuring, and emphasis is placed on valuation analysis and strategic considerations.

**BUFN 753 Corporate Governance:** Examines corporate governance and its impact on shareholder value. Topics include conceptual foundation for corporate governance, the role and duties of the board of directors, indicators of board effectiveness and best practices, design features of executive compensation contracts, the significance and prevalence of stock options, the perverse incentives of stock options and controversy over compensation practices, corporate governance failures and anatomy of corporate scandals, the essentials of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and other regulatory reforms.

**BUFN 754 Corporate Risk Management:** Explores the theory and practice of financial risk identification, measurement, and mitigation at financial and non-financial firms. Topics include hedging with options and futures, interest rate risk management, Value-at-Risk (VaR), Cashflow-at-Risk (CaR), Earnings-at-risk (EaR), credit risk, equity risk, commodities risk, exchange rate risk, and lessons from risk management disasters.

**BUFN 755 Entrepreneurial Finance and Private Equity:** Explores advanced topics in corporate finance, with major emphasis on how financiers help firms plan for growth and develop finance strategies firms use for different types of securities at different points in the industry's and firm's life. Securities will include private financing and placements, Venture Capital (VC), Initial Public Offerings (IPOs), Private Equity and Leveraged Buyouts.

**BUFN 758Q Quantitative Investment Strategies:** Provides an advanced treatment of asset allocation strategies and performance evaluation. Quantitative techniques are applied to examine equity and fixed-income portfolio management strategies. The course provides a deeper understanding of the measurement of risk and its relationship to return, as well as of multi-factor models. Implementation issues, including statistical estimation, backtesting and portfolio construction, are covered, as are strategic versus tactical asset allocation, and performance evaluation.

**BUFN 760 Applied Equity Analysis:** Applies financial concepts and tools to the analysis and valuation of equity securities. In addition to focusing on fundamental (DCF based) analysis of corporations, the course covers topics such as the EIC (Economy/Industry/Company) framework, financial statement analysis, relative value analysis, and contingent value analysis. Students will apply tools to value stocks and provide stock recommendations.

**BUFN 762 Fixed Income Analysis:** Focuses on understanding and valuing financial instruments whose market values are tied to interest rate movements. Develops tools such as discount functions, duration, convexity, and immunization to analyze the interest rate sensitivity and value of fixed income securities and portfolios. A variety of fixed income securities are examined, particularly zero coupon and coupon bearing bonds.

**BUFN 763 Portfolio Management:** Examines the theory and application of portfolio management techniques in detail, including the use of various asset classes in constructing efficient portfolios. Various risk and performance measurements for portfolios are examined, drawing on classic portfolio theory, as well as more recent index and factor models.

**BUFN 765 Fixed Income Derivatives:** Introduces the use and valuation of fixed income assets such as exchange-traded bond futures and options, forward contracts on interest rates, fixed and floating rate bonds with embedded options, floating rate notes, caps, collars, floors, interest rate swaps, and mortgage backed securities. Tools include the application of binomial option pricing trees, and the analysis of stochastic yield curves.

**BUFN 766 Financial Engineering:** Introduces and applies various computational techniques useful in the management of equity and fixed income portfolios and the valuation of financial derivatives and fixed income securities. Techniques include Monte Carlo Simulation and binomial/lattice pricing models. Emphasis is on bridging theory with the design of algorithms and models that can be directly applied in practice.

**BUFN 770 International Investment:** Examines foreign exchange markets (spot, forwards, futures, swaps, options), focusing on the use and valuation of these instruments. Other issues related to international security markets (equities and bonds/interest rates) and global portfolio management are discussed.

**BUFN 771 International Corporate and Project Finance:** Focuses on the role of financial management in the multinational firm, and the financing and management of international projects. Topics include international capital budgeting, global cost of capital, project financing, and the measurement and management of exchange rate exposure by corporations.

**BUFN 772 Bank Management:** Examines the economic role and regulation of banks and other financial institutions, and the structure of assets, liabilities and capital in these institutions. Tools are presented to analyze the various risks faced by banks, including interest rate risk, market risk, operational risk and off-balance sheet risk. Topics also include liquidity risk, liability risk, reserve management, deposit insurance, and capital requirements.

**BUFN 773 Institutional Asset Management:** Examines how money is managed by organizations such as university endowments, pension funds, mutual funds, hedge funds, and private equity funds. Emphasizes the incentives professional money managers face within the context of the organizational structure in which they operate. Particular attention will be paid to compensation structures and monitoring mechanisms.

## Sample Student Schedule

Below are tables showing how a typical MFin student can complete the required coursework over a one-year period as a full-time student and over a two-year time period as a full-time or part-time student.

### Student Schedule for Full-time MFin, Masters in Finance, completed in one year

Fall A	Fall B	Spring C	Spring D
BUSI 610*	BUFN 750*	BUFN 758N*	BUFN 758O*
BUSI 640*	BUFN 761 *	BUFN 754	BUFN 751
BUFN 740*	BUFN 760	BUFN 763	BUFN 765
	BUFN 762	BUFN 773	BUFN 766

### Student Schedule for Full-time MFin, Masters in Finance, completed in two years

	Fall A	Fall B	Spring C	Spring D
First Year	BUSI 610* BUSI 640* BUFN 740*	BUFN 750* BUFN 761*	BUFN 758N* BUFN 754 BUFN 763	BUFN 758O* BUFN 751
Second Year	BUFN 755 BUFN 770	BUFN 760 BUFN 762	BUFN 773	

\*Core MFin Course

### C. Describe any selective admissions policy or special criteria for students selecting this field of study.

Applicants to the MFin program must have completed all of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree prior to their acceptance into the program, with particular emphasis on the student having sufficient mathematical background. All applicants must submit: Transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions that have been previously attended, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores or the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) scores, a complete online application form that includes a written essay articulating qualifications and motivation for pursuing advanced education, two letters of recommendation from supervisors or from professors competent to judge the applicant's probability of success in graduate school.

In addition, an admissions interview may be required. After initial screening, the Admissions Office may select candidates for interviews which may be done in person or by telephone. Proof of English language proficiency (TOEFL or IELTS official scores) is also required unless the applicant has received an undergraduate or graduate degree from a select list of countries. For international student needing an F1 visa, a completed certification of finance form and supporting financial documentation are required.

In addition to Graduate School requirements, admission decisions for the MFin program will be based on the quality of previous undergraduate and graduate course work (if applicable), the strength of Graduate Record Examination scores or the Graduate Management Admissions Test scores, the relevance of prior work and research experience, and the congruence of professional goals with those of the program. Students should submit application materials for the fall semester by April 1. This program does not accept applications for Spring semester admission.

### III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

#### List the program's learning outcomes and explain how they will be measured and assessed

<b>Learning Outcome 1</b>	Students will demonstrate a clear understanding of the basic concepts of Corporate Finance, Capital Markets, Financial Accounting and Financial Econometrics.
Measure:	Students will be required to pass a core set of classes in each of these areas.
Criterion:	At least 90% of students will receive a rating of "Satisfactory" or better from the Academic Director, who will review their performance in the core classes. The Academic Director will meet with students rated below "Satisfactory" to help improve their performance or determine their continued participation in the program.
Assessment:	Every Year, starting in the 2012-2013 academic year.
<b>Learning Outcome 2</b>	Students will demonstrate critical reasoning and written communication skills through the analysis of financial case studies.
Measure:	Students must take at least one class that uses the case study method.
Criterion:	At least 90% of students will receive a rating of "Satisfactory" or better from the course instructor.
Assessment:	Every Year, starting in the 2012-2013 academic year.
<b>Learning Outcome 3</b>	Students will demonstrate oral communication skills through the presentation of a financial case study.
Measure:	Students must make at least one presentation of a case study.
Criterion:	At least 90% of students will receive a rating of "Satisfactory" or better from the course instructor.
Assessment:	Every Year, starting in the 2012-2013 academic year.
<b>Learning Outcome 4</b>	Students will demonstrate their ability to work effectively with other members of a team in the preparation of a group project..
Measure:	Students must prepare group projects as part of a class.
Criterion:	At least 90% of students will receive a rating of "Satisfactory" or better from the course instructor.
Assessment:	Every Year, starting in the 2012-2013 academic year.
<b>Learning Outcome 5</b>	Students will demonstrate a deeper understanding of one or more areas of Finance, related to their chosen career path or specialized plan of study
Measure:	Students will be required to pass elective classes related to their educational plan.
Criterion:	At least 90% of students will receive a rating of "Satisfactory" or better from the Academic Director, who will review their performance in the core classes.
Assessment:	Every Year, starting in the 2012-2013 academic year.
	The Master in Finance degree is designed to be a flexible program that allows students to specialize in one area of finance or to become a generalist. All students are required to gain a basic understanding of each major area of Finance through taking core classes in Corporate Finance, Capital Markets, Financial Accounting, Derivative Securities, Corporate Valuation and Financial Econometrics. All students must

take electives to enhance this basic training. Some students may want to be generalists to give them more options for the future or to prepare for the Certified Financial Analyst certification. Others may want to do advanced work in preparation for a career track in Finance. The department has identified five career tracks and has made suggestions for how students can best prepare for these fields. The tracks are:

- Corporate Finance
- Investment banking
- Equity Analysis/Portfolio Management
- Financial Engineering/Risk Management
- Commercial Banking

The following table shows classes that will help students to achieve the desired learning outcomes.

Elective ↓	Career Track →	Corporate Finance	Investment Banking	Equity Analysis Portfolio Management	Financial Engineering Risk Management	Commercial Banking
751 – Financial Strategies for Corporations		★★	★★			★★
752 – Corporate Restructuring		★★	★★			
753 – Corporate Governance		★		★		
754 – Corporate Risk Management		★			★★	★★
755 – VC, Private Equity		★★	★★	★		★
760 – Applied Equity Analysis		★★	★★	★★		
762 – Fixed Income Analysis				★★	★★	★★
763 – Portfolio Management				★★	★★	
765 – Fixed Income Derivatives					★	★
766 – Financial Engineering					★★	
758Q – Quantitative Investment Strategies				★★	★	
770 – International Investments		★	★	★	★	★
771 – International Corp/Project Finance		★	★			★
772 – Bank Management and Regulation			★			★★
773 – Institutional Money Management			★	★	★	★

★★ - Should probably take

★ - Nice to have

#### **IV. FACULTY AND ORGANIZATION**

##### **A. Who will provide academic direction and oversight for the program? [This might be a department, a departmental subgroup, a list of faculty members, or some other defined group.]**

Primary oversight of this program will be provided by a faculty member assigned as the director of the program. A committee of faculty members has been created to address issues including admissions, academic policies, student activities, and internship / placement opportunities. The program would also be overseen by the chair of the finance department and the Dean's office.

The finance department of the Robert H Smith School of Business currently has 28 FTE faculty. Twenty-one of these are tenure/ tenure track. All of these twenty-one faculty have doctoral degrees in economics, finance, or industrial engineering. Seven additional teaching faculty also have graduate degrees in economics, finance, or business.

##### **Finance Faculty Expected to Teach in the Proposed MFin Program**

Vojislav Maksimovic, PhD, Dean's Chair Professor of Finance and Department Chair  
Teaching / research focus: corporate finance, industrial organization, international finance  
Course: To be Determined

Michael Faulkender, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance and MFin Director  
Teaching / research focus: empirical corporate finance, risk management, executive compensation  
Course: BUFN 751 Financial Strategy For Corporations

Mark Taranto, PhD, Lecturer and MFin Academic Director  
Teaching / research focus: empirical corporate finance  
Courses: BUFN 762 Fixed Income Analysis  
          BUFN 765 Fixed Income Derivatives  
          BUFN 766 Financial Engineering

Gurdip Bakshi, PhD, Dean's Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: asset pricing, international finance, fixed income, derivatives  
Course: BUFN 740 Capital Markets  
          BUFN 770 International Investment

Steve Heston, PhD, Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: asset pricing, derivatives, volatility, international finance  
Courses: BUFN 770 International Investment  
          BUFN 771 International Corporate and Project Finance

Gordon Phillips, PhD, Bank of America Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: empirical corporate finance, industrial organization  
Course: BUFN 755 Entrepreneurial Finance and Private Equity

Albert "Pete" Kyle, PhD, Charles E. Smith Chair Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: asset pricing, market microstructure  
Course: BUFN 773 Institutional Asset Management

Lemma Senbet, PhD, William E. Mayer Chair Professor of Finance, Director: Center for Financial Policy  
Teaching / research focus: corporate governance, financial institutions, international finance  
Course: BUFN 753 Corporate Governance

Dilip Madan, PhD, Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: asset pricing, mathematical finance, derivatives  
Course: BUFN 761 Derivative Securities

Alex Triantis, PhD, Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: corporate finance, risk management, real options  
Course: BUSI 640 Financial Management

Haluk Unal, PhD, Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: financial institutions and banking, executive compensation  
Course: BUFN 762 Fixed Income Analysis

Gerard Hoberg, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: corporate finance, industrial organization, security issuance  
Course: BUFN 752 Financial Restructuring

Mark Loewenstein, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: theoretical asset pricing, portfolio selection  
Course: BUFN 763 Portfolio Management

N.R. Prabhala, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: empirical corporate finance, executive compensation  
Course: BUFN 751 Financial Strategy For Corporations

Russ Wermers, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: empirical asset pricing, institutional money management  
Courses: BUFN 763 Portfolio Management  
BUFN 758Q Quantitative Investment Strategies

Laurent Fresard, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: empirical corporate finance, international corporate finance  
Course: BUFN 750 Valuation in Corporate Finance

Dalida Kadyrzhanova, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance  
Course: BUFN 750 Valuation in Corporate Finance

Richmond Matthews, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: theoretical corporate finance, corporate governance  
Course: BUSI 640 Financial Management

Anna Obizhaeva, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: market microstructure  
Course: BUFN 773 Institutional Asset Management

Alberto Rossi, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance

Teaching / research focus: empirical asset pricing, financial econometrics  
Courses: BUFN 758N Financial Econometrics I  
BUFN 758O Financial Econometrics II



Georgios Skoulakis, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: empirical asset pricing, financial econometrics  
Courses: BUFN 758N Financial Econometrics I  
          BUFN 758O Financial Econometrics II

Yajun Wang, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: theoretical and empirical asset pricing, market microstructure  
Course: BUFN 740 Capital Markets

Liu Yang, PhD, Assistant Professor of Finance  
Teaching / research focus: empirical corporate finance  
Course: BUSI 640 Financial Management

David Kass, PhD, Senior Lecturer  
Teaching / research focus: corporate finance, industrial organization  
Course: BUFN 752 Financial Restructuring

Elinda Kiss, PhD, Lecturer  
Teaching / research focus: financial institutions, bank regulation  
Course: BUFN 772 Bank Management

Sarah Kroncke, MBA, Lecturer  
Teaching / research focus: investment banking, equity analysis  
Courses: BUFN 760 Applied Equity Analysis  
          BUFN 763 Portfolio Management

Cliff Rossi, PhD, Lecturer  
Teaching / research focus: financial institutions, risk management  
Courses: BUFN 754 Corporate Risk Management  
          BUFN 761 Derivative Securities  
          BUFN 772 Bank Management

Steve Wallenstein, M.A., J.D., Professor of the Practice  
Teaching / research focus: corporate governance, international finance  
Courses: BUFN 755 Entrepreneurial Finance and Private Equity  
          BUFN 771 International Corporate and Project Finance

Sue White, PhD, Lecturer  
Teaching / research focus: corporate finance, taxes and payout policy  
Courses: To be Determined

### **Accounting Faculty Expected to Teach in the Program**

Michael Kimbrough, PhD, Associate Professor of Accounting  
Teaching / research focus: corporate financial reporting, disclosure  
Courses: BUSI 610 Introduction to Financial Accounting

#### **B. If the program is not to be housed and administered within a single academic unit, provide details of its administrative structure. This should include at least the following:**

Not applicable. All classes will be housed and administered within the Robert H Smith School of Business

### **V. OFF CAMPUS PROGRAMS**

#### **A. If the program is to be offered to students at an off-campus location, with instructors in classrooms and/or via distance education modalities, indicate how student access to the full range of services (including advising, financial aid, and career services) and facilities (including library and information facilities, and computer and laboratory facilities if needed) will be assured.**

In addition to holding classes on the UMCP campus, some sections of the program will meet at our DC location in the US Department of Commerce building, our Baltimore facility in the Baltimore BioPark, or our facility at the Universities of Shady Grove. Those facilities already contain adequate classrooms, computer facilities, study rooms, and administrative space for academic advising, career advising, and student activity support.

#### **B. If the program is to be offered mostly or completely via distance education, you must describe in detail how the concerns in Principles and Guidelines for Online Programs are to be addressed.**

Currently, the program is structured to be entirely delivered in a traditional classroom setting. Over time, we may evaluate online learning opportunities, but nothing is currently scheduled. Should we move towards some courses being offered online, all online courses would adhere to the policies and concerns outlined in the University of Maryland document, Principles and Guidelines for Online Programs.

Program Development, Control and Implementation Would Be By Faculty - The faculty would have overall control over the design, development, and will have the overall bulk of any online academic instruction. Smith school technical support personnel would be available, as well as agreements with the off-campus sites for technical support during classroom hours. Support will be available to faculty during course development, as well as during the offering of the program.

### **VI. OTHER ISSUES**

#### **A. Describe any cooperative arrangements with other institutions or organizations that will be important for the success of this program.**

Not applicable. All aspects of the program from admissions to academic programming to career advising will be provided by the Robert H Smith School of Business. While the program will reach out to local companies and institutions for guest speakers, internship opportunities, experiential learning projects, and job placement, no particular relationship is pivotal to the success of the program.

**B. Will the program require or seek accreditation? Is it intended to provide certification or licensure for its graduates? Are there academic or administrative constraints as a consequence?**

The University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business is already accredited by the AACSB (American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business). No accreditation is sought for this individual program.

**VII. COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY**

**Identify specific actions and strategies that will be utilized to recruit and retain a diverse student body.**

The Robert H. Smith School of Business community is multifaceted at every level – students, staff and faculty represent a diverse blend of backgrounds, nationalities, ethnicities and experiences. About a dozen Smith School and student clubs are focused on bringing members together who have similar interests in gender, nationality, religion, and sexual orientation.

To attract the most diverse population possible for the proposed Master of Finance program, Smith School recruiting staff will focus on domestic efforts. These efforts will be targeted at recruiting U.S. minorities and American women of all ethnicities.

Current efforts include:

- Representing Masters programs in U.S. MBA and Masters Fairs and Tours
- Representing Masters programs in International MBA and Masters Fairs and Tours
- Online Chats
- U.S. College Visits
- International College Visits
- GMASS-based Mailings
- GRE-based Mailings
- Direct Mail
- Email Campaigns
- Outreach to College and Campus Organizations and Clubs
- Participating in Career/Graduate Study Panels or Workshops
- Presentations at Professional Conferences
- Creation of "Leap Your Career Forward" for Current UMD Students Looking At MBA and Masters Study Post-Undergraduate Studies (An Annual Event)
- Advertising in UMD Campus Newspapers
- Masters Only Education Fairs (Fall And Spring) Throughout the U.S.
- Participation in a Masters-focused Business School Alliance
- Participant in Graduate Business Education Events Targeted for Underrepresented Populations, Particularly U.S. Minorities and Women

Future efforts include:

- Including Master's Level Programming in Marketing Content Targeted to U.S. Military/Veterans
- Outreach to College Organizations in the Washington, D.C. Area
- Enhancement of Website for All Masters Programs
- Inclusion of Spotlight and Vignettes of Masters Alumni and Current Students who Reflect Diversity
- Participation in Events Targeted for Women Seeking Graduate Study (General And Non-MBA Based Events)
- Social Media and Online Advertising within U.S. Markets
- Partnerships with Academic Testing Centers and Overseas Advisors For International Graduate Study
- Marketing Targeting Young UMD Alumni and Young University Of Maryland System Alumni

## **VIII. REQUIRED PHYSICAL RESOURCES**

The proposed Masters in Finance (MFin) program replaces the existing Masters of Science in Business with a concentration in Finance (MSBF) degree currently offered. The proposed program can be implemented in accordance with Section 11 206.1 in which programs developed under this provision can be implemented within existing resources of the campus. In proceeding with the submission of this program, the institution's president certifies that no new general funds will be required for the implementation of this master's-level program.

### **A. Additional library and other information resources required to support the proposed program. You must include a formal evaluation by Library staff.**

The evaluation is attached.

### **B. Additional facilities, facility modifications, and equipment that will be required. This is to include faculty and staff office space, laboratories, special classrooms, computers, etc.**

As this proposed program replaces a current program and we do not at this time anticipate growing the program beyond its current scale, no additional facilities or facility modification is required. The School has adequate space in Van Munching Hall and in our DC location to house current faculty and students in the proposed program. No additional classrooms or computer laboratories are required.

### **C. Impact, if any, on the use of existing facilities and equipment. Examples are laboratories, computer labs, specially equipped classrooms, and access to computer servers.**

See response to VIII.B above.

## **IX. RESOURCE NEEDS and SOURCES**

**Describe the resources that are required to offer this program, and the source of these resources. Project this for five years. In particular:**

**A. List new courses to be taught, and needed additional sections of existing courses. Describe the anticipated advising and administrative loads. Indicate the personnel resources (faculty, staff, and teaching assistants) that will be needed to cover all these responsibilities.**

As this proposed program replaces a current program and we do not at this time anticipate growing the program beyond its current scale, no additional courses or changes in advising or administrative workload is required.

**B. List new faculty, staff, and teaching assistants needed for the responsibilities in A, and indicate the source of the resources for hiring them.**

Faculty resources of the Robert H Smith School of Business and in particular the finance department of the School (as described herein) are adequate to cover the size of the proposed MFin program. Approval of this proposal would not alter the responsibilities of the faculty beyond those already generated by the MSBF program that this proposal seeks to replace.

**C. Some of these teaching, advising, and administrative duties may be covered by existing faculty and staff. Describe your expectations for this, and indicate how the current duties of these individuals will be covered, and the source of any needed resources.**

As described above, teaching, advising, and administrative duties will be handled by existing faculty members (who are already teaching and conducting research on finance topics).

**D. Identify the source to pay the for the required physical resources identified in Section VIII. above.**

No additional resources are required.

**E. List any other required resources and the anticipated source for them.**

Not applicable.

**F. Provide the information requested in [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#) (for Academic Affairs to include in the external proposal submitted to USM and MHEC).**

Given that this degree replaces a degree already offered, there are no incremental revenues or expenses.

**Appendix 1: Peer Comparisons – Degree Name of Finance Program offered by MBA Ranked Peers**

<b>MBA Ranking</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Degree Name of Finance Program</b>
#4	MIT	Masters in Finance
#7	UC Berkeley	MFE
#15	UCLA	MFE
#17	University of Texas	MS Finance
#18	CMU	MS – Computational Finance
#25	University of Wisconsin	Quantitative MFin
#25	Vanderbilt University	MS in Finance
#25	Ohio State University	Specialized Master - Finance
#37	University of Rochester	MS in Finance
#37	Boston College	MS Finance
#43	Tulane University	Master of Finance
#44	Michigan State University	MS Finance
#44	University of Florida	MS Finance
N/A	American University	MS Finance
N/A	George Washington University	MS Finance
N/A (No MBA)	Princeton University	Masters in Finance

**Appendix 2: Peer Comparisons – Curriculum Content Comparisons of Finance Programs offered by MBA Ranked Peers**

Key:

**Bold** - Class currently offered by UMCP as part of our core.

*Italics* – Class currently offered by UMCP but not as part of the core.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>MIT Masters in Finance #4</b>	<p><b>Finance Theory I</b>  <b>Corporate Fin Accounting</b>  <b>Analytics of Finance</b></p> <p><b>Electives:</b>  <i>Corporate Risk Management</i>  <b>Investments</b>  <i>Advanced Corporate Finance</i>  <b>Options and Futures</b>  <i>Fixed Income</i>  <i>International (Cap Mkts)</i>  <i>International (Corp)</i>  <i>Analytics of Finance II</i>  <i>Business Analysis/Fin Statements</i>  <i>Mergers &amp; Acquisitions</i>  <b>Valuation</b>  <i>Applied Fixed Income Strategies</i>            Data Technologies for Quant Fin            Retirement Finance            Learning Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Financial Engineering</li> <li>b. Financial Management</li> <li>c. Research Practicum</li> </ul>	Suggested Math Background: Linear Algebra Calculus Probability Statistics Computer Literacy	<p>Despite its reputation, this MIT degree is a general one comparable to ours. While students could get a more quantitative degree there, it is not required. They actually have fewer requirements.</p> <p>The Financial Engineering class looks different from ours, with teams assigned to tackle a problem for a sponsoring organization.</p>

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<p><b>UC Berkeley</b> <b>MFE</b> <b>#7</b></p>	<p><b>28 units to graduate. 16 units required,</b></p> <p><b>Investments &amp; Derivatives</b> <b>Empirical Methods in Finance</b> Intro to Stochastic Calculus <i>Financial Institutions Seminar</i> Derivatives: Quant Methods <i>Fixed Income Markets</i> Credit Risk Modeling Accounting/Taxation Derivatives Financial Institutions Seminar II <i>Fin Risk Management</i> Advanced Comp Finance Fin Innovation in Global Mkt <i>International Equity/Currency</i> Topics in Fin Eng Required Internship Finance Project ABS Markets <i>Dynamic Asset Management</i> Behavioral Finance Real Options</p>	<p>Programming experience in C or C++</p> <p>Background in Calculus, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, <b>Statistics</b> and Numerical Analysis</p> <p>Training in Finance</p> <p><b>Language Skills</b></p>	<p>Berkeley's MFE is a very different degree from ours. It is not aimed at generalists, but is specifically designed for students who want to work as financial engineers who already have a strong quantitative background. Many of their students already have a MS in engineering or a PhD in a quantitative field.</p> <p>The first course combines our Capital Markets class and our Derivatives class. Quant Methods has some overlap with our Fin Engineering class, but also emphasizes continuous time models. Some of the material in the Credit Risk course is covered in Fixed Income Derivatives and Risk Management. Some of the topics in ABS Markets are covered in Fixed Income Derivatives.</p>



University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
UCLA MFE #15			UCLA's MFE is very similar to the one at Berkeley. Originally, it was a joint program between the two schools.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
University of Texas MS Finance #17	<b>Required</b> <b>Financial Management</b> <b>Valuation</b> <b>Financial Accounting</b> <b>Statistics for Fin</b> <b>Applications</b> <i>Security Analysis</i> Practicum <b>Investments</b> <i>Advanced Corporate Finance</i> <i>Financial Mkts and</i> <i>Institutions</i> <b>Derivatives</b> <i>Fixed Income</i> Advanced Valuation Practicum II <i>Raising Capital</i> Alternative Investments <i>Risk Management</i> <i>Global Fin Strategies</i>		It looks like Texas has a lockstep program which incorporates many of the classes that we offer. It includes two practicums, but does not offer the flexibility that we have and may be a little less quantitative.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>CMU MS-Computational Finance #18</b>	It is unclear what is required. The program offers 25 courses. I see no corporate classes offered. There are many capital markets classes that look extremely quantitative. There are also a number of mathematics classes, IT classes and economics classes. There are two classes on Stochastic Calculus		This program is nothing like ours. It is sponsored jointly by four different schools within the university.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>University of Wisconsin Quantitative MFin #25</b>	<p><b>Core</b> Microeconomics <b>Econometrics I &amp; II</b> <b>Investments</b> <b>Futures and Options</b> <i>Derivatives</i> Theory of Finance I Independent Study Project Brownian Motion (Math) Computational Math (Math)</p> <p><b>Electives</b> <i>Security Analysis</i> Intermediate Investments Courses offered by Economics, Statistics, Mathematics and Real Estate-</p>		Wisconsin's program seems lighter than ours on finance and heavier on mathematics and statistics than ours. It is more quantitative, but does not look very strong in terms of finance training.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>Vanderbilt University</b> <b>MS in Finance</b> <b>#25</b>	<p><b>Required</b>  <b>Financial Economics I &amp; II</b>  <b>Financial Accounting</b>  <b>Econometrics I &amp; II</b>  <i>Financial Modeling</i>  <b>Corporate Valuation</b>  <b>Derivatives</b></p> <p><b>Electives</b>  <i>Financial Reporting</i>  <i>Game Theory</i>  <i>Corp Fin Policy</i>  <i>International Markets</i>  <i>International Corporate</i>  <i>Equities Markets</i>  <i>Bond Markets</i>  <i>Financial Institutions</i>  Real Estate I &amp; II  <i>Active Portfolio Analysis</i></p>		The degree looks very similar to ours.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>Ohio State University</b> <b>Specialized Master- Finance</b> <b>#25</b>	<p><b>Required</b>  Economics I &amp; II  Data Analysis I &amp; II  <b>Intro Finance</b>  Leadership  <b>Corporate Finance</b>  <b>Derivatives</b></p> <p><b>Electives</b>  Standard electives in  Corporate Finance,  Investments, Risk  Management and Real  Estate.</p>		Ohio State requires MBA type classes outside of Finance and offers courses very similar to ours. We have more requirements. They do not offer Econometrics, and we do not offer Real Estate classes.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>University of Rochester</b> <b>MS in Finance</b> <b>#37</b>	<p><b>Required without MBA</b>  <i>MBA Economics</i>  <i>MBA Statistics</i>  <b>Financial Accounting</b></p> <p><b>Required</b>  <b>MBA Accounting</b>  <b>Capital Budgeting</b>  <i>Economic Theory/Organizations</i>  <i>Managerial Accounting</i>  <b>Investments</b>  <b>Corporate Finance</b>            Business Communications</p> <p><b>Electives</b>  <i>Accounting/Economics classes</i>  <i>Corporate Financial Policy</i>  <b>Derivatives</b>  <i>Financial Institutions</i>            Cases in Finance  <i>Investment Mgt/Trading Strat</i>  <i>International Finance</i>            Financial Information Systems  <i>Fixed Income Securities</i>  <i>Advanced Financial Economics</i>  <i>Advanced Topics/Corporate Governance</i></p>	Students without an MBA must start in the Summer and take foundation classes	Rochester is one of our closest peers. It is a generalist degree. They require more core classes outside of finance and fewer inside finance.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>Boston College</b> <b>MS Finance</b> <b>#37</b>	<p><b>Required</b></p> <p><b>Investments</b></p> <p><b>Corporate Finance</b></p> <p><i>Financial Institutions</i></p> <p><b>Financial Econometrics</b></p> <p>Corporate Finance Theory</p> <p><i>Portfolio Theory</i></p> <p><b>Derivatives/Risk</b></p> <p><i>Management</i></p> <p><i>Fixed Income</i></p> <p><i>Financial Policy</i></p> <p><b>Electives</b></p> <p>These were not listed on the page</p>	<p>Calculus</p> <p>Linear Algebra</p> <p>Statistics</p> <p>Accounting</p>	<p>Boston College offers an MSF that looks pretty standard.</p> <p>However, they also offer a quantitative track that includes PhD level courses in economics and finance.</p>

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>Tulane University</b> <b>Master of Finance</b> <b>#43</b>	<p><b>Required</b></p> <p><b>Financial Accounting</b></p> <p><b>Corporate Finance</b></p> <p>Financial Communications</p> <p><b>Valuation</b></p> <p><b>Investments</b></p> <p><i>Fixed Income</i></p> <p><b>Derivatives</b></p> <p><i>Equity Analysis</i></p> <p><b>Electives</b></p> <p>Cases in Real Estate</p> <p><i>International Finance</i></p> <p>Real Estate Planning</p> <p><i>Private Equity and VC</i></p> <p><i>Student Managed Fund</i></p> <p>Energy/Environmental Econ</p> <p>Energy Markets</p>		<p>The degree looks very similar to ours.</p>

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
Michigan State University MS Finance #44	<b>Required</b> 30 Credits including 18 Credits in Finance. It must include Managerial Finance.		There is no strong core, and they do not offer a large number of electives.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
University of Florida MS Finance #44	It is difficult to see the requirements, however, they offer standard MBA type classes.		It looks like Florida's program is aimed at combined BS/MS students. The degree looks less quantitative than ours.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
American University MS Finance N/A	<b>Required</b> <b>Financial Management</b> <i>Financial Modeling</i> <b>Derivatives/Risk</b> <i>Management</i> <b>Quantitative Methods I &amp; II</b> <i>Fixed Income</i>  <b>Electives</b> Similar to our MBA electives		American requires courses similar to our core and to our MBA level courses. It does not look like it offers the same level of flexibility nor does it offer as many quantitative classes.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>George Washington</b> <b>MS Finance</b> <b>N/A</b>	<b>Required</b> <b>Financial Econometrics</b> <i>Global Financial Markets</i> <i>I-Banking Cases</i> <b>Corporate Finance</b> <b>Investments</b> <i>Fin Eng and Derivatives</i> <i>Market Regulation</i> Financial Theory and Research <i>Real Estate/Fixed Income</i> <i>Financial Institutions</i> <i>Cases in Financial Modeling</i> <b>Advanced Fin Econometrics</b>		GW is a lockstep program that hits many of the same themes as our program. It is less flexible, and does not allow for deeper study as our program does.

University Degree MBA Ranking	Curriculum/Required Classes	Prerequisites	Comments
<b>Princeton University</b> <b>Masters in Finance</b> <b>N/A (No MBA)</b>	<p>Core</p> <p><b>Financial Investments</b></p> <p>Asset Pricing I</p> <p><b>Regression and Time Series</b></p> <p><b>Corp Fin/Fin Accounting</b></p> <p>Asset Pricing II</p> <p><b>Financial Econometrics</b></p> <p>Electives.</p> <p>Some electives are similar to our classes. Many are more quantitative.</p>		<p>The Asset Pricing classes are more like our PhD level classes.</p> <p><b>Asset Pricing I:</b></p> <p>Topics include: no arbitrage, Arrow-Debreu prices and equivalent martingale measures, security structure and market completeness, mean-variance analysis, Beta-pricing, CAPM, and introduction to derivative pricing.</p> <p><b>Asset Pricing II</b></p> <p>Stochastic calculus and stochastic differential equations Topics include Brownian motion, martingales, and diffusions and their uses in stochastic volatility; volatility smiles; risk management; interest-rate models; and derivatives, swaps, credit risk, and real options.</p>



# Full - Time MSB:Finance Curriculum DC

## FIRST YEAR (2012-2013)

Fall Semester (10 - 14 credits)	Winter Semester (2 credits)	Spring Semester (8 - 16 credits)
Term A		Term C
BUSI 610 - Introduction to Financial Accounting (2)	Optional BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)	BUFN 758N - Financial Econometrics I (2)
BUSI 640 - Financial Management (2)		BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)
BUFN 740 - Capital Markets (2)		Optional BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)
		Optional BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)
Term B		Term D
BUFN 750 - Valuation of Corporate Finance (2)		BUFN 758O - Financial Econometrics II (2)
BUFN 761 - Derivative Securities (2)		BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)
BUFN 762 - Fixed Income Analysis (2)		Optional BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)
Optional BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)		Optional BUFN 7xx - Finance Elective (2)

## Michael D Colson

---

**From:** Mike Marcellino [mmarcellino@rhsmith.umd.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 26, 2013 8:53 PM  
**To:** Michael D Colson  
**Cc:** kenwhite-contact; Michael Faulkender  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Master of Finance  
**Attachments:** MS-Finance Curriculum Fall 2012.xlsx

Hi Mike C,

Here is a followup to our conversation this afternoon.

Here is the link to the current MSB: Finance curriculum and I've attached a document with this layout as well.  
[https://mbanetworth.rhsmith.umd.edu/MBACOP/PortalHub.nsf/id/curriculum\\_fall2012\\_admits\\_MSBF\\_CP](https://mbanetworth.rhsmith.umd.edu/MBACOP/PortalHub.nsf/id/curriculum_fall2012_admits_MSBF_CP)  
The curriculum requirements will be the same for the Masters in Finance as they currently are for the MSB: Finance.

Regarding the faculty director (question #4), the MSB: Finance has a overall Director (Dr Michael Faulkender) and an Academic Director (Dr Mark Taranto). They are currently serving in these roles for the MSB Finance and no responsibility changes are expected with the change in the program.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Thanks

Mike

**Michael R Marcellino**  
**Assistant Dean**  
**MBA & MS Programs**  
**Masters Programs Office**  
**Robert H. Smith School of Business**  
**2308 Van Munching Hall**  
**University of Maryland**  
**College Park, MD 20742-1815**  
**(301) 405-0010 TEL**  
**(301) 314-9862 FAX**

[mmarcellino@rhsmith.umd.edu](mailto:mmarcellino@rhsmith.umd.edu)  
<http://www.rhsmith.umd.edu>  
<http://www.mbanetworth.rhsmith.umd.edu>

On Tue, Feb 26, 2013 at 4:54 PM, Michael D Colson <[mcolson@umd.edu](mailto:mcolson@umd.edu)> wrote:

---