The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Finance

Department Chair, Allen Wilhite
333 Business Administration Building
Telephone: 256.824.6590
Email: wilhitea@uah.edu

Mission
The Department of Accounting, Economics, and Finance provides academically rigorous programs in accounting, economics and finance. We strive to teach sound principles and concepts as well as the analytical tools for applications to practical business problems. Through its scholarly activity, the departmental faculty develops and disseminates knowledge related to accounting, economics and finance theory, pedagogy, and practice.

Finance
Finance careers vary widely in today's complex, global economy. The finance curriculum equips graduates with the modern analytic principles of the discipline that prepare them to function in a wide variety of institutional settings. The finance graduates may have careers in banking, investments, corporate finance, and federal contract management. Graduates may find themselves helping investment clients develop and monitor investment portfolios for retirement, managing a bank office and all its personnel, making multi-million dollar loans to corporations, taking a private firm public so its stock can be traded on stock exchanges, or managing the budget of a multi-billion dollar federal project.

The finance major is offered only during the day.

Majors in Finance
Students who major in Finance may choose from four different concentrations. The details about each of the four options are described at the links below.


FIN 100 - PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING
Semester Hours: 3
An introduction to the study of personal money management. Topics include budgeting, home ownership, insurance, investing, and retirement planning. Cannot be used by finance majors as an elective in the major.

FIN 301 - PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE
Semester Hours: 3
A study of the basic principles of modern finance: financial statement analysis, time value of money, security valuation, risk and return, capital investment, cost of capital, and international finance. Prerequisites: ECN 143, MSC 287, and ACC 212.

FIN 352 - MONEY & BANKING
Semester Hours: 3
Organization, operation, and economic significance of monetary and banking systems. Fractional reserve banking systems, money creation, the Federal Reserve System, U.S. financial intermediaries, introduction to monetary theory and international finance. Prerequisites: ECN 143.

FIN 370 - COMMERCIAL BANK MANAGEMENT
Semester Hours: 3
A study of the financial management of commercial banks emphasizing both current events and principles of sound management. Topics range from measuring bank performance, asset and liability management, risk management, and international banking.

FIN 375 - FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Semester Hours: 3
Role and activities of financial intermediaries as they affect flow of funds and capital formation money markets, in which these institutions operate.
FIN 378 - INTERMEDIATE CORPORATE FINANCE
Semester Hours: 3
Financial theory as it relates to long-term and short-term financial planning, capital investment decisions, and capital structure policy decisions. Prerequisites: FIN 301.

FIN 400 - INVESTMENT PRACTICUM
Semester Hours: 4
Small number of students work closely with finance faculty in the UAH Capital Management Group (CMG) to manage actual investment portfolios. Emphasis is placed on individual stock selection and management of the portfolio to meet objectives. Prerequisites: FIN 460.

FIN 431 - ADVANCED CORPORATION FINANCE
Semester Hours: 3
Financial principles applied to financial management problems such as cash management; payables and receivables management; cost of short-term credit; and forecasting and financial planning. Prerequisites: FIN 378.

FIN 454 - INTERNATIONAL FINANCE
Semester Hours: 3
An introduction to international finance for tomorrow's global business leaders, with a focus on the financial management dimensions of leading a multinational enterprise. Prerequisites: FIN 301.

FIN 460 - INVESTMENTS
Semester Hours: 3
A study of standard investment securities, as well as an overall view of the investment process. Securities covered include equities, fixed income, options, futures and mutual funds. Associated topics include financial markets, valuation models, and fundamental portfolio theory. Prerequisites: FIN 301.

FIN 461 - PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT
Semester Hours: 3
A continuation of FIN 460 with an emphasis on the application of investment portfolio management. An understanding of the functional areas of portfolio management is stressed, including investment policy, investment strategy, portfolio construction, performance evaluation, and portfolio protection. Prerequisites: FIN 460.

FIN 490 - SPECIAL PROJECTS
Semester Hours: 3
Independent study in an area of interest to the student in the field of finance. Approval of department chair is required.

FIN 495 - INTERNSHIP IN FINANCE
Semester Hours: 1-3
Active involvement in a business enterprise, professional organization, or government agency that has particular interest and relevance to the student. Course grade will be given on a satisfactory (S)/unsatisfactory (U) basis. Subject to College's guidelines on internships.