



COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

Corporate Finance

Opening the door to dollars and sense

Finance is one of the more popular options within the College of Business Administration at Winthrop University. We offer knowledgeable professors who teach the practical applications of finance in addition to providing a theoretical foundation. Students also have an opportunity to gain practical experience via internships. In a large number of cases, student internships have led to full-time positions following graduation.

Finance is a part of the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics. Two distinct tracks are offered within the finance option. These are:

- ◆ **Corporate Finance**
- ◆ **Financial Planning**

The **corporate finance track** is designed for students who desire to work for large corporations, small businesses, governmental units or non-profit organizations. Typically, finance graduates start as a financial analyst. In this role, they perform various analyses/studies to lead to an improvement in the operational and financial performance of the organization. Successful financial analysts are prime candidates for mid-and upper-management positions.

Why Major in Finance?

1. Job Prospects Are Strong. The financial services industry now drives our economy. Banks, insurance companies and investment firms are among the largest employers of business students. These companies have a huge appetite for graduates with strong financial skills. In our region, major employers include Bank of America, TIAA-CREF, Wachovia, Vanguard and Lowes.

Finance majors are also in demand by small businesses, governmental units (Federal, state and local) and non-profit organizations. Annually, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) has hired one or more of

our finance graduates for the past several years. Winthrop University now has a special relationship with the OCC that ensures that our finance majors can interview for internships and permanent positions.

2. High Starting Salaries. Our finance graduates typically command some of the highest starting salaries among College of Business graduates.

3. The Language of Business. Finance/accounting is the language of business. Employees with strong financial skills are highly valued in any business organization. This typically leads to enhanced opportunities for advancement.

4. Problem Solving. If you enjoy solving problems, finance is for you. Please note that the study of Finance is not like math. Instead, our mission is to analyze the financial health of a business or individual in order to identify areas for improvement and to recommend appropriate strategies.

5. Moving Up the Corporate Ladder. Finance provides an excellent career path to become an officer of a business organization. Many CEOs of large corporations owe their current position to their financial training.

6. Finance is Fun and Useful. You will learn practical skills that you can use in your everyday life such as how to compute loan payments when you buy a house or car or how to compute the amount of money you will need to save for retirement. You will also learn how to invest your personal and retirement monies.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Barbara Pierce
Chair, Department of
Accounting, Finance and
Economics
Winthrop University
433 Thurmond Building
Rock Hill, SC 29733
803/323-2693

Corporate Finance Requirements

Students complete 18 hours in finance in addition to completing the universitywide general education requirements and required core courses in the College of Business.

Our corporate finance students complete:

- ◆ FINC 312: Intermediate Corporate Finance
- ◆ FINC 498: Advanced Corporate Finance
- ◆ FINC 514: International Financial management

Two of the following courses:

- ◆ FINC 512: Investments
- ◆ FINC 513: Financial Institutions
- ◆ FINC 491: Finance Internship

One of the following courses:

- ◆ ACCT 305: Intermediate Accounting
- ◆ ECON 335: Money and Banking

Carroll Capital Markets Training and Trading Center

We have a state-of-the-art trading room equipped with Bloomberg and Telemet terminals. Students have the ability to perform detailed company-specific analysis in addition to enhancing their knowledge of the capital market through investment simulations and hands-on projects integrated within the finance curriculum. Motivated students have the opportunity to become Bloomberg certified. This is a marketable certification for graduating seniors seeking employment in the world of finance.

Student Organizations

Corporate finance students are eligible for membership in the Beta Alpha Psi honor society. One must have completed a minimum of 54 hours with a 3.0 GPA overall and within finance in order to be a candidate for membership. Further, the student must be enrolled or have completed at least one upper level class in finance.

Faculty

Our finance faculty has a unique blend of education and experience. We have a combination of veteran professors with extensive teaching, research and practical experience and newer faculty who bring a great deal of enthusiasm and new ideas to our program. Our emphasis is on teaching and student learning.

We invite you to contact our department chair to learn why you should strongly consider our corporate finance program.



For more information, contact:

Dr. Barbara G. Pierce, CPA
Associate Professor and Chair
433 Thurmond
Rock Hill, SC 29733
Phone: 803/323-2693
Fax: 803/323-3960
pierceb@winthrop.edu