

Master of Applied Finance (Financial Services)

The requirement to graduate from a single specialisation MAF program is twelve (12) subjects. To complete this program, it will normally take you five or six trimester (based on 3 mandatory intake per year where you take 2 subjects). At this rate, the degree can be completed within two years or less. If you take 2 subjects per mandatory trimester, you can fast-track your degree and complete the program in four or five semesters (just over a year).

Common Finance Subjects

Financial Statement Analysis for Business

This subject examines the framework for financial statement analysis with discussion of the role of accounting information and intermediaries. Emphasis is on the appraisal and prediction of corporate financial performance from publicly available information such as accounting numbers, industry and economic statistics as well as other stock market data. Cases and problems are gradually introduced, provoking an analytical and creative thinking process ending with the evaluation and preparation of appropriate business strategies.

Financial Institutions

This subject reviews the global financial system and investigates the functioning of Australian financial institutions and markets. Particular content may include coverage of the evolution of the global monetary system and organisations; the international financial markets including Euromarket; the framework of Australian financial system; the role of regulation sectors; the operations of money market, capital market and derivative market; the banking industry and payment system; and the implication of monetary and fiscal policies on financial markets.

Quantitative Economic Analysis

This subject develops the fundamental concepts of econometrics used in applied economic work in the academic, business and government sectors. The subject covers the standard and non-standard econometric models based on time series, cross-section and qualitative data. Emphasis will be on applications of the econometric methodologies to empirical research.

Advanced Managerial Finance

This subject examines advanced aspects of corporate finance within the contemporary business environment. The subject first analyses the impact of capital markets, information asymmetries and principal-agent conflicts on practical decision-making in the firm. It then investigates several specialised areas receiving increased scrutiny from corporate stakeholders including financial distress and restructuring, corporate governance, managerial

compensation, organisational architecture and risk management, debt and equity strategies, mergers and acquisitions and emerging market corporate finance.

Risk Management

The focus in this subject will be on providing protection against portfolio, financial and corporate risks that are common to any number of basic and advanced investment decisions. Topics covered include risk insurance; the function of a risk management program to satisfy shareholders, employees, regulators, and other important stakeholders; the continuing evolution of best-practice risk policies and methodologies and associated risk infrastructures; implementation and the efficient communication of an organisation-wide Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) approach that encompasses market, credit, liquidity, operational, legal and regulatory, business, strategic and reputation risks.

Socially Responsible Finance

Contact Faculty of Business for subject description

Specialisation Subjects

Banking Theory & Practice

This subject examines bank management theory as applied to the practice of bank operations within the Australian banking sector. It entails comprehensive discussion on issues that are commonly involved within the banking environment such as the regulatory structure, risk management, commercial lending, capital adequacy analysis, asset and liability management, liquidity management, and the latest developments within the banking world.

International Banking

The global impact of banking is the focus of this subject. The subject incorporates comprehensive discussion of issues that commonly arise in the international banking environment, including development of the international monetary system, the deregulation of banking, methods of payment in international trade, foreign exchange markets, international lending and developments of new technology.

Banking, Lending and Securities

This subject examines a bank's lending process and the securities associated with it. The subject includes comprehensive discussion of issues concerning lending within the banking environment, such as regulation of security offerings, principles of good lending, documents involved in lending, lending and the consumer credit code, new developments in lending and securities, and their impact on the banking sector.

Research Capstone Project | (12CP)

Research in Financial Markets and Institutions

This subject provides students with the skills and knowledge necessary to conduct applied research within the finance industry and to provide innovative solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences. Students are required to draw on their knowledge of relevant literature and research methodologies to collect and analyse data, interpret results and provide convincing recommendations to relevant stakeholders. Potential topics include: interest rate and/or foreign currency swap markets, futures and option pricing models, issues in valuation methodologies, microstructure, developments in either the equity or debt capital markets, the global financial crisis, securitisation, the evolution of infrastructure finance, resource project finance, capital adequacy of banks, issues in bank regulation, stock market exchanges, recent use of technology in markets, financial planning and credit risk measurement.

In addition, you will choose any one elective from the approved list below:

Alternative Investments

Alternative investments have grown into a considerable global industry in recent years. This subject is designed to provide students with an understanding of alternative investment vehicles, tools of their analysis and applications. Students will learn of the non-traditional sources of finance and financial markets, and how these relate to finance theory. Unique characteristics of alternative financial markets and how these intricacies affect market efficiency and trading strategies are covered in this subject.

Recommended elective to be completed by students pursuing CFA accreditation

Entrepreneurial Finance

This subject deals with the financial management tools and techniques appropriate for small and medium-sized business enterprises. It includes the study of potential investors and their mindset at various stages in the firm's life cycle, thus covering sources, uses and management of funds from pre-purchase to public listing. A case study approach is employed. Issues addressed include valuation, performance measurement, obtaining and organising finance, financial planning, and cost of financial capital and exit strategies.

Multinational Financial Management

This subject examines international finance and investment from the perspective of the multinational corporation. Topics studied include various aspects of the international monetary system, the Euromarkets, foreign exchange markets, internal and external exposure management techniques, currency futures and options, swaps, financing multinational corporation investment, multinational corporation investment decision making, political risk analysis and international taxation.

Islamic Banking & Finance

This subject is designed to provide students a basic understanding of the principles, nature and form of Islamic Banking and Finance. Various aspects of Islamic Banking and Islamic Finance will be discussed such as: Modes of Financing, Product Development, Shariah Standards & Rulings, Islamic Investment products, Islamic Capital Markets, Islamic Insurance(takaful) System and Islamic Risk Management, etc. A historical background as well as the challenges for Islamic Banking and Finance will also be discussed.