

Master of Science in Finance (MScF)

Programme objectives

The Master of Science in Finance offers an outstanding education in finance. Students gain a profound knowledge in the methods used in practical modern finance. This Master is a full-time two-year finance degree with a strong focus on financial analysis and portfolio management. The programme consists of four semesters of 30 ECTS credits each.

The first semester concentrates on core courses in the foundations of modern finance, accounting, quantitative methods and economics. During the second semester, there is a transition towards case-solving as several courses place a special emphasis on applications. The third semester covers advanced topics in finance and provides exposure to the profession. Through the programme, elective credits (20 ECTS) allow a customization of the curriculum to match students' professional goals. During the last semester, students write their master thesis (30 ECTS) and apply the learning of previous courses. The thesis is written independently or during a training period at a financial institution (or at the finance department of a corporation). For a detailed presentation of the programme, visit our website.

A programme approved by the CFA Institute *

The Master of Science in Finance prepares students for the Chartered Financial Analyst® exams, an internationally recognized certification, which has more than 145'000 recipients throughout the world and among which 1'500 work in Switzerland. Teaching is practically oriented while ensuring a solid academic framework. The strong academic foundation provides the skills necessary to understand contemporary finance both in professional and academic circles.

* Part of the University Affiliation Program



Career opportunities

Students are trained for a broad range of financial positions: investment management, hedge funds, security analysis, corporate finance, venture capital and corporate restructuring, investment, commercial and retail banking, corporate planning, regulatory bodies, audit and consulting firms, investor relations, and finance within the public sector (central banks, governments and international organizations). Examples of firms where our graduates have started their careers: Credit Suisse, UBS, Aravis venture capital, Olympia Capital Holding, KPMG, Deloitte, Elsevier, Louis Dreyfus Commodities, OCBC Bank, PepsiCo, Swissquote, Towers Watson, etc.

Degree awarded

Master of Science in Finance

Credits

120 ECTS, 4 semesters

Teaching language

English

Admission conditions

A Bachelor degree is required. Students with a degree in business, economics, math or engineering from a Swiss university are directly admitted. Other applications are reviewed by the admissions committee.

Students from Swiss universities of applied sciences are admitted to the 30 ECTS pre-programme.

Application deadline

April 30 for the Autumn semester (mid-September)

Registration

Bureau des immatriculations
Av. du 1^{er}-Mars 26
CH-2000 Neuchâtel
www.unine.ch/immatriculation

Information

Institute of Financial Analysis
Phone: +41 32 718 13 50
MScF@unine.ch
www.unine.ch/mscf





Interactive teaching

The comfortable small size of the classes provides a unique atmosphere in the classroom, allowing for interactions with professors and other students. Some other specific features of this programme:

- Practical application knowledge
- Team work presentations
- Preparation for CFA exams
- Solid academic framework
- Possibility to combine the master's thesis with an internship
- Multicultural environment

What our former students say...

Johan Barbezat, MScF 2014, Equity Derivatives Trader, Credit Suisse, Switzerland: *Without the Master, I wouldn't have the capacity to tackle and solve financial problems. The programme taught me to think, to anticipate, and to have an overall view. Now, I can say that this training is excellent! I can even assure that, in comparison to other students, we have a real competitive advantage. It is a "tough" master, which pays off in the end. If I hadn't done it, I wouldn't have been able to get a job as a trader in a bank like Credit Suisse.*

Julien Delvecchio, MScF 2010, Investment Manager, HSBC Private Bank, Switzerland: *The MSc. in Finance is a broad, complete and intensive master that I recommend for everyone wishing to start a career in the financial industry. In addition to the first-class quality of education which prepares [the student] to get the prestigious CFA charter, I appreciated to study practical assessments in group in a multicultural environment totally in line with the day-to-day business of every investment professional. A gateway to the job market allowing to boost my professional career...*

Maira Mazo, MScF 2012, Risk Management Analyst, Suramericana Insurance Company, Colombia: *The MSc. in Finance is a high demanding programme which opened my professional horizons. Learning to apply quantitative tools in the real financial environment has been a very valuable asset for my professional performance.*

Who we are

With over ten specialists, the Institute of Financial Analysis is dedicated to teaching (Bachelor, Master's, PhD and Continuing Education) and research in financial analysis. Among the fields of interest are asset pricing and valuation, risk management, regulation of financial markets, corporate finance, and international accounting and finance.

Master programme

Semester 1 Autumn (30 ECTS)

- Asset Pricing
- Derivatives
- Econometrics
- Economic Policy*
- Financial Accounting

Semester 2 Spring (30 ECTS)

- Corporate Finance
- Ethics I*
- Financial Analysis
- Valuation
- Fixed Income
- Portfolio Management
- International Economics*
- Programming

Semester 3 Autumn (30 ECTS)

- Equity Research Contest
- Ethics II*
- Risk Management*
- Portfolio Optimization*
- Current Issues in Portfolio Management*
- Research in Financial Analysis
- Alternative Investments*

Semester 4 (30 ECTS)

Master thesis

* Elective courses. Other courses can be chosen in place of electives.

