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# Finance

In the College of Business Administration

**OFFICE: Student Services 3356**  
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A member of AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

The Personal Financial Planning Certificate is registered with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc.

## Faculty

Emeritus: Block, Bost, Cherin, Fisher, Gitman, Hippaka, Houston, Hungate, Hutchins, Nye, Omberg, Reints, Sachdeva, Schmier, Short, Vandenberg, Warschauer, Willbur

Chair: Varaiya

Professors: Badrinath, Do, Ely, Haddad, Salehizadeh, Song, Sterk, Varaiya

Assistant Professors: Graf, Gubellini, Kim, Lachance, Pukthuanthong, Tanimura, Xie, Yoo, Zebedee

## Offered by the Department

Master of Science degree in business administration.

Master of Business Administration.

Major in finance with the B.S. degree in business administration.

Major in financial services with the B.S. degree in business administration.

Major in real estate with the B.S. degree in business administration.

Minor in finance.

Minor in real estate.

Certificate in personal financial planning.

## The Majors

The Department of Finance offers three majors: Finance, Financial Services, and Real Estate.

**Finance.** All forms of human endeavor involve finance to some degree. Within our economic system, finance is concerned with capital, which is money or property owned or used in business. Finance majors study both the sources and the uses of capital. The finance curriculum revolves around the valuation process in a free market system. Once an individual or company can value various alternatives, the allocation of resources and the decision process in business becomes much simpler.

Students who are interested in business should have a thorough understanding of the financial process. Upon graduation, students accept a wide variety of positions with business in general. The curriculum of the finance major is designed to give the student breadth in a variety of fields in addition to finance and business.

Employment prospects for graduates with finance majors are very good and forecasts remain encouraging. Graduates are typically found in six types of employment: large and small industrial firms (manufacturers of automobiles, steel, household appliances, and electronic equipment); service oriented firms (electric power, real estate and retail firms); financial institutions (banks, state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, and insurance companies); nonprofit enterprises (universities, labor unions, and foundations); and private businesses.

The diversity of entry level positions obtained by finance majors makes it difficult to describe a typical position. A major in finance does not limit career potential to banking or to any single area of business. A large number of individuals go to work for industrial companies in a variety of entry level positions that allow them to develop into top decision-making positions with those companies. A significant number of chief executive officers and other top officers of corporations have followed the "finance path" to the top.

**Financial Services.** Although the financial services major is based on many of the same analytical skills and theoretical foundations as the finance major, it is designed specifically to prepare students for careers in one of the segments of the financial services industry: securities, banking, insurance, real estate finance and personal financial planning. It is very common for single firms to own subsidiaries in each of these areas, so it is important for graduates entering these fields to be familiar with all aspects of these important financial sectors.

Graduates can look forward to analytical, managerial or sales careers in the financial services industry. Sales careers include insurance and securities sales. Analytical careers include loan and security analysis and personal financial planning. Managerial careers include management in each of the component industries.

**Real Estate.** The vision of the real estate program at SDSU is to create a ready-day-one educational program for students who aspire to become future leaders and professionals within the multifaceted real estate industry. The changing nature of today's real estate market requires that graduates from university real estate programs receive a complete and broad approach to this field. Graduates with a major in real estate should be capable of making a wide variety of management decisions concerning real estate and related land resources. This includes the ability to utilize new economic concepts, understand changing social concerns, and apply up-to-date analytical tools to the process of real estate decision making. SDSU's program in real estate provides students with analytical skills, technical competence to perform market analyses, and a better understanding of the tools necessary to perform in today's complex real estate and land markets. This is in addition to the conventional knowledge required for a license. It is the goal of the real estate program at SDSU to provide a high level of education, and thus prepare its graduates for job opportunities in a variety of organizations, large and small, public and private.

With more than two billion acres of land in the United States, important public and private decisions must be made every day about the use, management, and disposition of this vast real estate acreage. This means job opportunities for the real estate major are created in a variety of areas such as valuation, development, financing, brokerage, market analysis, and public regulation. Job opportunities in real estate may also exist even in times of economic uncertainty. For example, during recent times many enterprises, large and small, have turned their attention to maximizing returns generated by their often extensive real estate holdings. This has created a demand for a new real estate expert—one who can manage asset disposition, value existing properties, upgrade underutilized property, and negotiate lease terms and conditions. In addition, the changing nature of the financial environment in which real estate markets must operate has created a demand for people not only with basic real estate training, but also with good general business and financial skills. SDSU's real estate program recognizes this changing real estate environment and prepares majors for these diverse opportunities.

## Business Honors Program

The Business Honors Program offers excellent upper division business students the opportunity to explore issues in our local, regional, and global business environments focusing on the social and ethical responsibility that business has to the community and society. Honors students will enroll in a one unit business honors seminar each semester. During their enrollment they will participate in activities to promote their academic and personal growth, documenting their work in a written portfolio.

Generally, students should apply to this program at the time of application to upper division business. Applicants must submit an essay with their application. Applicants must have a 3.6 cumulative GPA or good standing in the University Honors Program. Students not

meeting these requirements may petition for admission to the program. Successful completion of the Business Honors Program will be recognized at graduation. Contact Dr. Carol Venable, School of Accountancy, for more information about this program.

## Statement on Computers

Before enrolling in upper division courses in the College of Business Administration, students must be competent in the operation of personal computers, including word processing and spreadsheets. Business students are strongly encouraged to have their own computers capable of running word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, e-mail, and Internet applications such as those found in packages sold by major software publishers. Availability of on-campus computing resources can be limited due to increasing demand across the University.

## Retention Policy

The College of Business Administration expects that upper division students will make reasonable academic progress towards the degree. Students earning less than a 2.0 average in their classes for two or more semesters may be removed from the upper division major and required to declare a non-business major.

## Transfer Credit

**Lower Division:** Courses clearly equivalent in scope and content to San Diego State University courses required for minors or as preparation for all business majors will be accepted from regionally accredited United States institutions and from foreign institutions recognized by San Diego State University and the College of Business Administration.

**Upper Division:** It is the policy of the San Diego State University College of Business Administration to accept *upper division transfer credits* where (a) the course content, requirements, and level are equivalent to San Diego State University courses and (b) where the course was taught in an AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accredited program. Exceptions require thorough documentation evidencing the above standards.

## Impacted Program

The majors in the Department of Finance are impacted. Before enrolling in any upper division courses in business administration, students must advance to an upper division business major and obtain a business major code. To be admitted to an upper division business major (accounting, finance, financial services, real estate, information systems, management, or marketing), students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete with a grade of C or higher: Accountancy 201 and 202; Finance 240; Information and Decision Systems 180 and 290 (290 is not required for the accounting major); Economics 101 and 102; Mathematics 120 (or other approved calculus course); and either Statistics 119 or Economics 201. These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.9;

Students who meet all requirements except the GPA may request to be placed on the waiting list. Students on the waiting list will be admitted on space-availability basis only. Contact the Business Advising Center (BA-448), 619-594-5828, for more information.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Finance Major

**With the B.S. Degree in Business Administration (Major Code: 05041)**

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Finance 240; Accountancy 201, 202; Economics 101, 102; Information and Decision Systems 180, 290; Mathematics 120 (or other approved calculus course); and Economics 201 or Statistics 119. (27-29 units)

These prerequisite courses may not be taken Cr/NC; the minimum grade in each class is C. **Additional progress requirements must be met before a student is admitted to an upper division major.**

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** Forty-five upper division units consisting of Finance 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 423; Accountancy 325, 326; Business Administration 300; Information and Decision Systems 302; Management 350; Business Administration 404 or Management 405; Marketing 370; and six units selected from Finance 326, 328, 421, 425, 427. A "C" (2.0) average is required in the courses stipulated here for the major.

A minimum of 60 units of coursework applicable to the bachelor's degree must be completed outside the areas of business administration, economics, and statistics.

## Financial Services Major

**With the B.S. Degree in Business Administration (Major Code: 05043)**

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Finance 240; Accountancy 201, 202; Economics 101, 102; Information and Decision Systems 180, 290; Mathematics 120 (or other approved calculus course); and Economics 201 or Statistics 119. (27-29 units)

These prerequisite courses may not be taken Cr/NC; the minimum grade in each class is C. **Additional progress requirements must be met before a student is admitted to an upper division major.**

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** Forty to 41 upper division units consisting of Finance 323, 326, 327, 331, 522, 589; Accountancy 503; Business Administration 300; Information and Decision Systems 302; Management 350; Business Administration 404 or Management 405; Marketing 370; six to seven units selected from Finance 421, 425, 427, 431, 435\*, 445, 523; Accountancy 326; Economics 320 or 422, 490; and Marketing 377. A "C" (2.0) average is required in the courses stipulated here for the major.

\* Prerequisite waived for this course.

A minimum of 60 units of coursework applicable to the bachelor's degree must be completed outside the areas of business administration, economics, and statistics. This means that at least two units of electives (upper or lower division) must be completed in areas other than business administration, economics, and statistics.

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## Real Estate Major

**With the B.S. Degree in Business Administration  
(Major Code: 05111)**

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Finance 240; Accountancy 201, 202; Economics 101, 102; Information and Decision Systems 180, 290; Mathematics 120 (or other approved calculus course); and Economics 201 or Statistics 119. (27-29 units)

These prerequisite courses may not be taken Cr/NC; the minimum grade in each class is C. **Additional progress requirements must be met before a student is admitted to an upper division major.**

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** Forty to 41 upper division units consisting of Finance 323, 331, 335, 431 or 433, 435; Business Administration 300; Information and Decision Systems 302; Management 350; Business Administration 404 or Management 405; Marketing 370; Public Administration 320; and 9 to 10 additional units selected from Accountancy 503; Finance 333, 431 or 433; Marketing 373; Economics 422, 490; Geography 354, 559. A "C" (2.0) average is required in the courses stipulated here for the major.

A minimum of 60 units of coursework applicable to the bachelor's degree must be completed outside the areas of business administration, economics, and statistics.

## Finance Minor

The minor in finance consists of a minimum of 21 units to include Accountancy 201; Finance 321, 323, 326, 327, and 329; Statistics 119.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University. Students with a major in the College of Business Administration, Hospitality and Tourism Management, or International Business may not complete a minor in the College of Business Administration.

Students must officially declare the minor before taking any upper division business courses. **Students must meet the prerequisites for the minor in effect at the time that they declare the minor.** The current prerequisites for admission to the finance minor include completion of the following courses with a grade of C or better: Economics 101, 102, and a three unit course in statistics (Statistics 119 is recommended); completion of the General Education requirements in Communication and Critical Thinking; completion of an additional nine units in the department of the student's major, including at least six units of upper division courses. Students must also meet the GPA

requirement in effect at the time that they declare the minor. Contact the Business Advising Center (BA-448) for admissions criteria and procedures.

## Real Estate Minor

The minor in real estate consists of a minimum of 18 units to include Economics 102; Finance 240, 331, 335; and six units selected from Finance 333, 431, 433, and 435.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University. Students with a major in the College of Business Administration, Hospitality and Tourism Management, or International Business may not complete a minor in the College of Business Administration.

Students must officially declare the minor before taking any upper division business courses. **Students must meet the prerequisites for the minor in effect at the time that they declare the minor.** The current prerequisites for admission to the real estate minor include completion of the following courses with a grade of C or better: Economics 101, 102, and a three unit course in statistics (Statistics 119 is recommended); completion of the General Education requirements in Communication and Critical Thinking; completion of an additional nine units in the department of the student's major, including at least six units of upper division courses. Students must also meet the GPA requirement in effect at the time that they declare the minor. Contact the Business Advising Center (BA-448) for admissions criteria and procedures.

## Personal Financial Planning Certificate

The purpose of this program is to provide a strong educational basis for persons desiring careers in the field of personal financial planning. Two categories of students are admitted: Matriculated students who have been admitted to an upper division College of Business Administration major and nonmatriculated students who work in the financial services industry, who may take the courses on a space-available basis.

This certificate is a program registered with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc.

Prerequisites to the program include Finance 240; Accountancy 201; Economics 101, 102; and Statistics 119. (15 units.)

The certificate requires 23 units to include Accountancy 503, Finance 323, 327, 421, 445, 522, 523, and 589. In order to qualify for this certificate a "B-" (2.7) average in the upper division certificate courses is required.

The adviser for the certificate is Dr. Thomas M.D. Warschauer, Department of Finance. All course units may be used for business majors where applicable. Courses in the certificate may not be counted toward the minor.