

KING SAUD UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



Description of course and program requirements and regulations

Master of Science in Finance

Department of Finance

College of Business Administration

King Saud University

Updated 12/9/2015

PROGRAM DETAILS

Program Length

The student should complete the program in no less than four semesters and no more than ten semesters, not including summer. The model program structure is designed around 4 semesters if there were no required pre-requisite courses.

An Overview of Program Structure

The course structure of the program is composed of three components with a total of 42 credit hours.

Courses From Related Fields	12 Cr Hrs	These courses provide students with tools and basic skills necessary to function in advanced finance courses
Core Courses	24 Cr Hrs	These eight courses are designed to enhance understanding of the principles and practice of finance. This will enable participants to deal more readily with the increasingly complex concepts and body of knowledge faced by finance professionals
Electives	6 Cr Hrs	These electives give each student an opportunity to gain Students select knowledge and focus on an area of interest. two courses from a pool of four finance master level courses.
Total	42 Cr Hrs	



Detailed Course Structure for the Master of Science in Finance

Code	Course	Cr Hrs	Cr Hrs (Total)
Courses From Related Fields			
QUA 512	Statistical Methods with Applications in Finance	3	12
ECON 510	Economics	3	
ACCT 514	Financial Accounting	3	
ECON 543	Financial Econometrics	3	
Core Courses			
FIN 501	Corporate Finance	3	24
FIN 511	Financial Markets and Institutions	3	
FIN 521	Investment Analysis	3	
FIN 531	Advanced Corporate Finance	3	
FIN 542	Assets Valuation	3	
FIN 551	Derivatives	3	
FIN 571	Financial Risk Management	3	
FIN 599	Research Projects	3	
(two courses) Elective Courses			
FIN 561	Financial Modeling	3	6
FIN 573	Asset Management	3	
FIN575	Real Estate Finance	3	
FIN 581	Seminar in Finance	3	
FIN 591	Case Studies in Finance	3	
Program Total			42



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 501
Course Title	Corporate Finance (Core Course)
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	ACCT 513
Course Level	Semester(2)
Course Description	This course serves as an Introduction to the basic concepts of corporate finance. The topics covered by this course include financial markets and instruments, time value of money, risk and return, financial statements and their analysis, security valuation. Other topics that will be introduced to students in this course include project analysis, capital budgeting, capital structure, and dividend policy.
Course Material	Name of the book Brigham, Eugene F. and Joel F. Houston, <i>Fundamentals of Financial management</i> , Sixth Edition, South-Western, Latest edition.
Reading Recommendation	Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan (2010). <i>Fundamentals of Corporate Finance</i> , Latest edition, McGraw-Hill CFA curriculum readings, levels I & II., 2014. <i>Journal of Finance</i> <i>Journal of Financial Economics</i> <i>Journal of Business</i> <i>Journal of Corporate Finance</i> <i>Review of Financial Studies</i> Some useful Websites: Good sources for financial news: www.cfonews.com www.dowjones.com www.economist.com (The Economist) www.ft.com (The Financial Times) www.wsj.com (The Wall Street Journal – partly restricted to subscribers) www.brint.com
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 511
Course Title	Financial Markets and Institutions (Core Course)
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 501
Course Level	Semester(2)
Course Description	This course gives an overview of financial markets and institutions. It provides students with knowledge about the reasons for markets existence, their importance, and the roles they play in the financial environment. Other topics included in this course are: supply and demand for loans and securities, financial instruments, financial authorities and institutions, markets transactions, and laws and regulations that govern financial markets and institutions.
Course Material	Name of the book Anthony Saunders, and Marcia Million Cornett, Financial Markets and Institutions, 6 th Edition, McGraw Hill, Latest edition.
Reading Recommendation	Financial Management Theory and Practice, Brigham, E.F., and Ehrhardt, M.C. South Western Cengage Learning, 13th Edition Corporate Finance by Aswath Damodaran Financial Reporting & Analysis (Eighth Edition), by Charles H. Gibson Seekingalpha.com Bloomberg.com Cnbc.com SEC Regulation, SAMA Regulations, BIS, IMF, TADAWUL
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 521 (Core Course)
Course Title	Investment Analysis.
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 501
Course Level	Semester(2)
Course Description	The objective of this course is to provide students a rigorous introduction to the fundamental principles of investments. Topics include: risk and return, efficient market theory; valuation of stocks and bonds; modern portfolio theory; security analysis, portfolio management and performance measurement.
Course Material	Name of the book: Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management by Reilly & Brown (10thed. Or later)
Reading Recommendation	News Paper Specialized in Financial and Economic News http://www.stocktrak.com/public/members/registrationstudents.aspx?p=Fin521-InvestmentAnalysis-Active http://www.stocktrak.com/public/members/registrationstudents.aspx?p=Fin521-InvestmentAnalysis-Passive http://www.stocktrak.com/public/content/tradingrules.aspx x http://finance.yahoo.com/etf http://screener.finance.yahoo.com/presetscreens.htm http://biz.yahoo.com/charts/index.html http://screen.yahoo.com/stocks.html http://www.morningstar.com http://cxa.marketwatch.com/finra/MarketData finance.yahoo.com www.wsj.com www.nyt.com www.investopedia.com Walker Management Library Research Links for Managerial Studies Students http://www.cnbc.com/
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 531 (Core Course)
Course Title	Advanced Corporate Finance
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 501
Course Level	Semester(3)
Course Description	This course is a continuation of the corporate finance course with an emphasis on the theories that shaped corporate financial decision-making processes. Main topics and theories included in this course are: advanced concepts in capital budgeting and capital structure, dividend policy, mergers and acquisitions, leasing, asset pricing models, agency theory, signaling theory, and the neo-classical theory of Miller and Modigliani.
Course Material	Name of the book Brigham, Eugene F. and Michael C. Ehrhardt , Financial Management, Theory & Practice 13th edition or latest.
Reading Recommendation	Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan (2010). Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, Latest edition, McGraw-Hill CFA curriculum readings, levels I & II., 2014. <i>Journal of Finance</i> <i>Journal of Financial Economics</i> <i>Journal of Business</i> <i>Journal of Corporate Finance</i> <i>Review of Financial Studies</i> Some useful Websites: Good sources for financial news: www.cfonews.com www.dowjones.com www.economist.com (The Economist) www.ft.com (The Financial Times) www.wsj.com (The Wall Street Journal – partly restricted to subscribers) www.brint.com
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 542 (Core Course)
Course Title	Assets Valuation
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 501
Course Level	Semester(3)
Course Description	This course provides students with theoretical frameworks used in real-world to value different types of assets. Traditional as well as contemporary asset pricing models are discussed and compared. After learning traditional pricing models, students will then learn how to value special classes of assets which include: start-ups, private companies, and financial services firms.
Course Material	Texts: Valuing a Business, the analysis and appraisal of closely held companies/ Shannon P. Pratt with Alina V. Niculita – 5th ed., 2008
Reading Recommendation	Supporting text: Valuation, measuring and managing the value of companies / T. Koller, M. Goedhart and D. Wessels - 2010 Package: "Wall Street Prep" might be used in this course for financial model training. Cases: cases will be provided one week ahead of each class.
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 551
Course Title	Derivatives
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 501
Course Level	Semester(3)
Course Description	This course provides students with an understanding of the world of financial derivatives both in theory and practice. Students will learn how to value and use different types of derivatives. Main topics include: options valuation and their theories, options applications and markets, pricing of futures and their applications, swaps, structured securities, and complex derivatives. The overall emphasis in this course is on the use of derivatives to hedge risks.
Course Material	John C. Hull, <i>Option, Futures, and Other Derivatives</i> , Pearson Prentice Hall, Eighth Edition or latest.
Reading Recommendation	Neftci, Salih N., <i>Principles of Financial Engineering</i> , Second Edition, Elsevier Inc., 2008 or latest. Don M. Chance, <i>An Introduction to Derivatives & Risk Management</i> , 6 th ed., Thomson, 2009 or latest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Journal of Finance</i> • <i>Journal of Financial Economics</i> • <i>Journal of Business</i> • <i>Journal of Corporate Finance</i> • <i>Review of Financial Studies</i> • www.cfonews.com • www.dowjones.com • www.economist.com (The Economist) • www.ft.com (The Financial Times) • www.wsj.com (The Wall Street Journal – partly restricted to subscribers) • www.brint.com • www.duke.edu/~charvey • www.equity.stern.nyu.edu • http://aida.econ.yale.edu
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 571
Course Title	Financial Risk Management
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 551
Course Level	Semester(3)
Course Description	This course covers modern techniques for managing risk. Knowledge of derivatives and their use is essential for the purpose of the course. Other topics include identification, measurement, and management techniques for different types of financial risk which include market risk, credit risk, liquidity risk, and operational risk. Great emphasis is placed on the measurement and management of corporate risk exposure.
Course Material	Anthony Saunders, Marcia Million Cornett Financial Institutions Management "A Risk Management Approach", 8th Edition, McGraw Hill, 2014 or latest.
Reading Recommendation	John C. Hul, Risk Management and Financial Institutions, Third Edition, John Wiley & Son, New Jersey, 2012. Financial magazines and financial pages of newspapers <u>Journal of Risk Management in Financial Institutions</u> BIS web page. (www.bis.org) SAMA web page (www.sama.gov.sa) Blackboard is used for the course
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 599
Course Title	Research Projects
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	Department of Finance Approval
Course Level	Semester(4)
Course Description	The Research Project in Finance is the final course in the MSF Program. The objective of the course is to test the student's ability to demonstrate a broad mastery of the knowledge and skills gained throughout the program. Through a combination of theoretical and applied financial concepts and techniques in the key fields of Corporate Finance, Investments Analysis, Asset Valuations, Derivatives, Banking and Financial Institutions, Insurance and Risk Management, the expected outcome of the course is the production of a high quality investment/Finance analysis report. This final project should demonstrate the student's expertise in the field of finance. This course involves Thesis work supported by the oral defense (In presence of at least the Advisor and two more faculty members of the department) of the student's thesis work. This course requires either pass or fails without having grading implication.
Course Material	There is no single prescribed text book for the course; however the students are advised to go through text books related to research methodology, text book of domain knowledge. They are instructed to go through the research papers, working papers and literatures related to their field of research. They are supposed to take the help of their faculty adviser and also contact me in this regard for further help.
Reading Recommendation	http://www.ac-knowledge.net/ksu/ http://library.ksu.edu.sa/en https://sdl.edu.sa/SDLPortal/en/A-ZDataBases.aspx www.ssrn.com different internet based search engines
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 561
Course Title	FINANCIAL MODELING
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 501
Course Level	Elective Course
Course Description	The objective of this course is to develop students' skills in financial modeling and valuation. The course provides students with hands-on experience in developing and implementing financial models for applications in valuation, capital budgeting, option pricing, and portfolio management. In this course, computer spreadsheets and other software packages are used for modeling financial planning problems and forecasting.
Course Material	Name of the book Benninga, Simon, Financial Modeling, 4th Edition (2014), The MIT Press
Reading Recommendation	www.finance.yahoo.com www.tadawul.com.sa MS Excel with Visual Basic Application VBA Computer lab with E-Podium
Course Language	English



Department	Finance
Course Code	FIN 573
Course Title	ASSET MANAGEMENT
Course Credit	3 hours
Prerequisite Course	FIN 521
Course Level	Elective Course
Course Description	This course introduces students to the world of asset management. Main topics covered are: portfolio performance measurement and evaluation, style analysis, behavior of professionals in the asset management industry, active and passive portfolio management, mutual funds and hedge funds, and offshore investment. Students will have the opportunity to manage portfolios and compete with their classmates.
Course Material	Name of the book Asset Management: A Systematic Approach to Factor Investing, Andrew Ang, OXFORD University Press, Latest edition.
Reading Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.investorguide.com • http://www.aaii.com • http://www.economist.com • http://online.wsj.com • http://www.fortune.com • http://www.smartmoney.com • http://www.worth.com • http://money.cnn.com • http://www.mta.org • http://www.bigcharts.marketwatch.com • http://www.stockcharts.com • http://www.ryanalm.com • http://www.finpipe.com
Course Language	English

