The field of finance is abundant with rewarding opportunities in a wide range of industries. By focusing on real-world cases and applied problems, students in the Area of Finance are prepared to become innovative leaders in the financial industry. Whether it is working in banking, investments, real estate, consulting or corporate finance, our graduates hit the ground running with the skills needed to become successful. Recent graduates have been hired at companies such as Bank of America, ConocoPhillips, Goldman Sachs and Lockheed Martin. Our Ph.D. students have been placed at high-profile institutions and agencies including Colorado State University, Ernst & Young LLP, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, University of Missouri, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Students acquire knowledge from nationally prominent faculty who have extensive industry experience. Our faculty members have held a variety of positions such as consultants, financial analysts, research economists, portfolio managers, and other senior positions for well-known employers including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Federal Reserve Banks of St. Louis and Atlanta, Research Affiliates, Ibbotson Associates, and Goldman Sachs. In addition to their professional involvement, faculty members contribute original research which has been published in the Journal of Finance, Journal of Financial Economics, Review of Financial Studies, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, and many other academic and professional publications. Faculty members or their research have also been quoted or cited in numerous prominent publications, including The Wall Street Journal, Barron’s, American Banker, BusinessWeek, Financial Times and USA Today.

EXCELLENCE IN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

“The Area of Finance’s faculty involvement with the financial world is what ultimately distinguishes us. Our students greatly appreciate that when they walk into one of our classrooms, they learn from outstanding academics who have vast practical experience in the business world.”

Jeff Mercer, Ph.D.
Area Coordinator, Finance; Professor and I. Wylie and Elizabeth Briscoe Chair in Finance

EXCELLENCE IN REAL ESTATE

“To enter the broad field of real estate, we offer classes in fundamentals, finance, law, investments, development and appraisal. Students are able to participate in internships and the study abroad programs as part of their degree plans. Completing this degree opens career possibilities in brokerage, management, finance, leasing, development or valuation. Undergraduate students are able to compete in the International Council of Shopping Center Case Competition, where graduate students may compete in the National Association of Industrial and Office Property Case Competition.”

Paul Goebel, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs, and James E. and Elizabeth F. Sowell Professor of Finance

EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY BANKING

“A Finance degree provides a student with well-rounded skills needed to succeed in careers in banking. Students develop the ability to understand, analyze and communicate effectively in key bank decisions, such as which credits are able to pay loans back and how should the funds for a loan be best acquired.”

Scott E. Hein, Ph.D.
Professor, Robert C. Brown Chair of Finance
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

To prepare students to enter the competitive and challenging finance industry, our curriculum focuses on all aspects of finance, including corporate finance, risk management, investments, banking and real estate, which can be applied at the individual, corporate or nonprofit level. All courses emphasize the tools necessary to make financial decisions under uncertainty, and how those decisions affect value.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) in Finance (concentration in Real Estate is available)
- Master of Science in Business Administration (M.S.B.A.) (concentration in Finance)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA) for Working Professionals
- Certificate in Finance*|**
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Business Administration (concentration in Finance)

SAMPLE COURSES

- Financial Markets and Institutions
- Derivative Securities and Markets
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Real Estate Fundamentals
- Investments
- Management of Financial Institutions

STUDENT MANAGED INVESTMENT FUND

The Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF), a security valuation and portfolio management practicum course, offers both graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to manage an equity portfolio with a market value of approximately $2.8 million. SMIF students are required to conduct rigorous, research-based fundamental analysis and valuations of current portfolio holdings and prospective holdings. The course is a mix of instructor lectures, student presentations, and class discussions and debates. Students learn to use many of the tools that investment management professionals use, including the ubiquitous Bloomberg Professional data service. Each semester, approximately 10 undergraduate and 10 graduate students are selected to participate based on GPA, elective courses taken, student interest in pursuing the CFA charter, personal investing experience, and related internships or work experience.

SCHOOL OF BANKING

The Texas Tech School of Banking, which was first established in 1973, provides future leaders in the financial services industry with the skills, tools and perspective necessary to advance their careers and help their banks prosper. The program is designed to enable participants to understand the big picture of the rapidly changing financial services industry. Program graduates will have up-to-date knowledge of all major areas of banking, a fresh network of colleagues, and will be equipped to anticipate and respond to changes in this dynamic industry. The School of Banking is led in a group-live format and covers a wide variety of topics such as investment portfolio fundamentals, risk management, bank regulations, pricing strategies, and real-world cases and simulations.

FINANCE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Financial Management Association | financeassociation.ba.ttu.edu
- Financial Advisors and Analysts Society of Tech | faast.ba.ttu.edu
- Real Estate Organization | reo.ba.ttu.edu

For a complete list of student organizations, visit studentorgs.ba.ttu.edu.