

FINANCE CONCENTRATION



Financial decisions require a rational and systematic way of thinking. If learning to make solid rational decisions intrigues you, finance is a field for you. A degree in finance will teach you how to raise capital, manage funds and to make sound investment decisions. At San Jose State University, three areas of financial decision-making are emphasized: **corporate finance**, **investments**, and **financial institutions**.

- **Corporate finance** courses are designed to prepare students for financial analysis and planning as essential functions of business enterprise.
- **Investment** courses emphasize the decision-making processes required to analyze the valuation of securities such as stocks or bonds and the principles of managing an investment portfolio.
- **Financial institutions** are studied both from an external viewpoint that emphasizes the function of money and capital markets, and from the internal perspective of a manager of a financial institution such as a commercial bank, mutual fund or life insurance company.

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I chose to pursue concentration in finance at SJSU because every company needs a financial department to be successful. Since Silicon Valley has hundreds of companies big and small, a degree from SJSU would provide amazing opportunities for my career.

— RohanPrasad, Finance Student

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FINANCE CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT

Core Classes

- Financial Institutions and Markets
- Investment Analysis
- Financial Management: Theory and Policy

Elective Classes

- Honors Practicum in Corporate Financial Management
- Advanced Honors Practicum
- Commercial Banking
- Portfolio Management
- Futures and Options
- Student Managed Investment Fund
- Problems in Financial Management
- Entrepreneurial Finance
- Real Estate Finance
- International Business Finance
- Selected Topics in Business Finance

Career Opportunities in Finance

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of financial analysts is expected to experience solid growth from 2018 to 2028. The opportunities in finance are diverse and the possibilities tremendous. Regardless of economic conditions - either strong or weak - a well-prepared analyst is a critical part of any organization and will be sought after by firms. Successful individuals trained in finance could be promoted to Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in a corporation. Others may follow their dreams to start their own businesses.

Career paths in Finance include positions such as:

- Financial analyst
- Credit analyst in a financial institution
- Investment analyst
- Fixed income analyst
- Financial planning/personal financial advisor
- Corporate treasury
- Risk analyst
- Research analyst
- Profit and Loss analyst

“

I started liking finance after I took some classes at community college. I like how finance has little bit of math but also a logical approach to it. I believe finance will really help me in the future since I want to be a financial analyst or consultant.

—Maria Nam, Finance Student

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The Banking and Investment Association (BIA)

BIA believes in bringing students together to form a powerful learning environment through informative speakers, networking opportunities, community involvement, and exclusive internships that will effectively create financial leaders of the future.

For additional information, please visit: <https://www.biasjsu.org>

The Financial management Association (FMA)

FMA provides its members with increased knowledge of business through professional, educational, and social development opportunities. It also bridges the gap among business executives, the community, faculty, and students; striving to serve as an interface between students and business executives within the Silicon Valley. Information can be found at www.sjsufma.com

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