



## **GUIDE TO MAJORS AT YESHIVA: FINANCE**

Choosing a major can be stressful, but it is important to understand that you can pursue almost any career regardless of which major you choose. While there are some exceptions, most entry-level positions simply require general transferable skills—those that can be learned in one setting and applied in another. Relevant experience through internships and activities is generally more important to employers than a major. It is best to choose an area that you find interesting and where you have the ability to do well.

### **What is the Finance Major?**

Finance addresses the ways in which individuals, businesses, governments, and organizations raise, allocate, and use monetary resources. It describes the system of moving money in order to provide capital where it is most needed. This movement can occur across different sectors, such as the public markets, personal finance, and private investment in corporations. The Finance program at Yeshiva “develops an understanding of the domestic and international financial environment by studying shareholder value creation, financial structuring, capital markets and instruments, speculative markets and derivatives, strategies in risk management, and the nature of risk/reward in long term investment planning and entrepreneurship.” There are 27 credits for the finance major at Sy Syms School of Business. To review all of the requirements visit <http://www.yu.edu/syms/ug/finance/requirements/>.

### **What can I do with a Finance Major?**

Finance majors are prepared to succeed in a wide range of positions at corporations, portfolio management and venture capital firms, investment banks and commercial banks, insurance and brokerage firms, mutual funds and real estate corporations as well as at nonprofits and the public sector. Some occupations include:

- Investment and commercial banking
  - Equity research
  - Sales & trading
  - Portfolio management
  - Risk Management
  - Corporate finance
  - International finance
  - Hedge fund management
  - Real estate management
  - Management consulting
  - Venture capital
  - Governmental financial agency management
  - Nonprofit financial management
  - Operations
- Graduate School required:
- Finance Professor
  - Corporate Lawyer
  - Public Official (Treasury, Federal Reserve, Monetary Funds, etc.)

## **Skills and Abilities**

Quantitative and analytical skills are crucial to entering the world of finance. Through this major you will develop additional skills in math, technology and basic accounting principles as well. Being detail-oriented, highly organized, and a strong communicator will help you succeed in this realm.

### Research/Analysis

- Gathering information
- Reviewing market trends
- Computing data
- Analyzing results
- Applying statistical methods

### Financial

- Modeling
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Manipulating data
- Developing budgets
- Performing cost/benefits analyses
- Creating and evaluating financial reports/statements
- Projecting/forecasting

### Communication

- Writing clearly
- Summarizing
- Reading and interpreting reports/statements
- Speaking persuasively
- Explaining ideas/goals
- Justifying a position
- Assessing needs
- Defining problems
- Evaluating goals
- Relating theory to practice
- Generating solutions
- Evaluating policies
- Problem solving