Course Planning Information
Requirements for the Finance major are available on the Finance Department website [http://www.csun.edu/fin/finance-major](http://www.csun.edu/fin/finance-major).

In general, the Finance major is very flexible. Students need to take four electives from a large selection of finance courses and one of the electives can be selected from a basket of courses offered outside the Department.

However, not all electives are offered every semester, so it is beneficial to plan a schedule in advance. Also, students interested in a career in a specific field should choose a bundle of electives with a common theme.

Timing of courses and registration priority
Finance majors should take FIN 303 as soon as possible. It will likely take at least two semesters after finishing FIN 303 to graduate, so students should plan accordingly.

A grade of “C” or better in FIN 303 is required to take more advanced Finance courses. The exceptions to this are FIN 336 and FIN 338 which do not have a FIN 303 prerequisite. Students planning on taking these courses as electives may decide to take them early on.

After FIN 303, Finance majors should take the two required courses, FIN 352 and FIN 355. Students should be sure to file for graduation a year before their intended graduation date in order to get registration priority in their last semester.

Students should plan one of the following elective paths:

General Finance
Most students simply pick the courses that best match their interests and schedule. FIN 430 and FIN 438 will generally be available in large sections at night and are good choices. FIN 336 and FIN 338 are also typically available in large sections.

Investments
Students interested in a career in investments may wish to choose FIN 436, FIN 452 and FIN 462 as their electives. Typically, these classes are offered once per year, generally in the day. FIN 437BH is a special course where students manage over $1 million dollars of the University’s endowment. This course is offered each semester and is open to all students by competitive admission.

CFA is an industry designation for investment professionals. Students interested in taking this exam should contact the CFA advisor, Professor Vincent Covrig.

Personal Finance Planning
The Department offers a CFP® Board-Registered program in personal financial planning. Students must sign up for this program which will give them priority when registering for the financial planning courses. The Director of the program is Professor Monica Hussein and more information can be found on the Department website at [http://www.csun.edu/fin/financial-planning-2](http://www.csun.edu/fin/financial-planning-2).

Insurance
Insurance electives beyond FIN 336 are generally offered once per year. Students interested in a career in insurance should contact Professor David Russell.

Real Estate
Finance majors may also use real estate finance courses as electives. Students interested in working in the real estate field should consider the Real Estate Option of the B.S. Business Administration.
Finance Courses by Topic Area and Sequence

FIN 303
Financial Management
(Required for all business majors)

FIN 355
Corporate Finance I
(Required for Finance majors)

FIN 352
Investments I
(Required for Finance majors)

“GENERAL ELECTIVES”

FIN 359
Quantitative Finance I

FIN 425
Entrepreneurial Finance

FIN 430
International Financial Management

FIN 438
Management of Financial Institutions

“INVESTMENTS”
CFA Advisor: Prof. Vincent Covrig

FIN 436
Options and Futures

FIN 452
Investments II

FIN 462
Fixed Income

FIN 437BH
Advanced Topics “Portfolio Management”

“PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING”
Program Advisor: Prof. Monica Hussein

FIN 437
Advanced Topics “Tax Planning”

FIN 440
Retirement Planning and Employee Benefits

FIN 442
Theory and Practice of Financial Planning

FIN 430
International Financial Management

FIN 356
Principles of Insurance

FIN 338
Real Estate Principles

“INSURANCE”
Advisor: Prof. David Russell

FIN 431
Risk Management

FIN 434
Life and Health Insurance

FIN 437
Advanced Topics “Insurance”

“REAL ESTATE”
Advisor: Prof. Ray Calnan

FIN 433
Real Estate Finance

FIN 439
Real Estate Valuation

BLAW 481 – Real Estate Law is also required for Real Estate majors.

Students in this sequence will also take FIN 336 – Principles of Insurance. They may also wish to take BLAW 409 - Wills, Estates and Trusts.