B.S. in FINANCE

TIMELINE AND POLICIES

1) STUDENTS BELOW 60 UNITS

The B.S. in Finance is an “impacted” program, which means that admission to the major is restricted. Students seeking a major in Finance with fewer than 60 units earned are admitted as Pre-Finance majors.

Typically during this time, students will complete their lower division GE requirements and the 27 units of lower division business core.

2) STUDENTS WITH 60-90 UNITS

Once students reach 60 units, they may declare a major in Finance if they meet the minimum GPA requirement. It is not necessary to have been a pre-major.

Options

When declaring the Finance major, the student will also need to declare one of the three options (pre-majors do not need to declare an option). The three options are (1) Financial Analysis, (2) Financial Planning, and (3) Insurance. The Financial Analysis option is for students interested in careers in investments, corporate financial analysis, or general finance. The Financial Planning and Insurance options are specific options for students interested in working in personal financial planning or insurance. Details of the requirements for each option can be found in the appropriate information sheet on the Department website: http://www.csun.edu/finance/bs-finance.

GPA requirement

To declare a Finance major, students must have at least a 2.6 overall GPA. GPA is measured by the transcript GPA and not the GPA’s reported on the DPR.
**How to Declare**

Change of majors for students who have less than 90 units are handled by SSC/EOP via the online change of major process. Students who have 90+ units earned must submit a change of major to the Associate Dean’s Office. Due to high demand for advisement, students may drop off their change of major request—an appointment is not needed. Students who have 90+ units earned may also submit a change of major by setting up an appointment with the Upper Division Mentor http://www.csun.edu/cobaessc/upper-division-mentoring. Important: Students with more than 90 units should read the instructions in section (3) below.

**Repeating Courses**

Accounting, statistics and economics provide the core background for a finance education. Because of this, third enrollments in ACCT 220, ACCT 230, ECON 160, ECON 161, SOM 120 and MATH 103 are rarely approved for Finance majors. Students who have not passed one or more of these background courses after two attempts should consult with an advisor about selecting a new major.

The gateway course for all Business majors is BUS 302/302L. To advance in the program you must pass both courses. Since Finance is an impacted major, third enrollments in these courses are rarely approved. If you are a declared (pre-) Finance major and have received a “NC” in BUS 302L twice, you should consult with an advisor about selecting a new major.

FIN 303 is the foundation course for the Finance major. Most advanced Finance courses require a grade of “C” or better in FIN 303 (a grade of C does not satisfy this requirement). Third enrollments in FIN 303 for Finance department majors are rarely approved. If you have not earned a “C” or better in this course after two enrollments, you will need to select another major.

**Double Majors**

The Nazarian College of Business and Economics requires double majors to have a minimum (transcript) GPA of 3.0 or greater and complete both majors in 120 units. These requirements are strictly enforced and include individuals who transfer to CSUN with excessive units. Students who would exceed the unit requirement may consider a Finance minor instead (if the existing major and new minor can be completed within 140 units).

Students who major in the Financial Analysis option are not allowed to double major in one of the other Finance options. Students can major in both the Financial Planning option and the Insurance option if they can complete ALL requirements within a maximum of 120 units and have a 3.0 overall GPA.

Double majors in Accountancy and Finance should refer to the Finance Department website for instructions on how to handle electives.
3) STUDENTS WITH GREATER THAN 90 UNITS

Generally, once students have reached 90 units they are expected to commit to a specific major. To improve time-to-graduation, students are discouraged from completing part of one Business major and then switching to another. Because of this, students are not allowed to add the Finance major after 90 units, with two possible exceptions:

a) Students who are currently majoring in an impacted major (e.g. Accountancy), meet the GPA requirement and can graduate faster in Finance.

b) Other majors who meet the following conditions:
   - You must file no later than the semester after taking FIN 303 for the first time.
   - You must have a “C” or better in FIN 303 and “CR” in BUS 302L.
   - You must be able to graduate within the same amount of time as your current major.
   - You must meet the GPA requirement.

Pre-Finance or non-Finance majors who have greater than 90 units but are not eligible to declare the Finance major must select a different major. Students who have completed Finance elective(s) may wish to consider a major in Real Estate, Business Law or Liberal Studies, as these programs may allow the use of Finance courses as electives.

4) ONE YEAR FROM GRADUATION

Students should apply for graduation one year before their expected graduation date. The Admissions and Records website (www.csun.edu/anr/grad) has the application deadlines. Students applying after the deadline have to pay a late fee. Students who do not apply for graduation until their last semester will miss out on the registration advantages of being a “Graduating Senior”.

To file for graduation, complete the “Application for Bachelor’s Degree and Diploma” and submit the form along with a current MAP and a class schedule.

Upon successful completion of the all degree requirements by the declared gradation date, a diploma will automatically be sent to the student.

5) COMMENCEMENT

Commencement (the graduation ceremony) is performed once per year in May. Students who graduate in Fall or Spring of that academic year or have filed for graduation for the Summer may participate in commencement for that year. The Admission and Records website has information on what needs to be filed to participate in commencement.