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UNIVERSITÉ DE
NEUCHÂTEL

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
AND BUSINESS

Master of Science in Finance (MScF)

The Master in Finance (MScF) degree provides you with excellent career opportunities through studying in small classes in the heart of Switzerland, acquiring profound practical knowledge of modern problem-solving techniques in finance, and by preparing for the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) and FRM (Financial Risk Manager) exams.

Profound. Practical. Personal.

Profound: Our programme is profound and offers you excellent training in the tools sought by financial institutions, corporations and government agencies. The MScF is partner of the CFA Institute University Affiliation Program and the Global Association of Risk Professionals (GARP). This means that the programme covers a significant portion of the CFA and FRM curricula and ensures that you acquire up-to-date knowledge in finance.

Practical: The programme focuses on practical applications where you learn how to utilize modern methods in finance. You will solve real-life problems during hands-on exercises, computer-lab sessions, internships, or field projects. Meetups with practitioners and the CFA research challenge provide you direct exposure to the practical world.

Personal: Small classes allow for interactive teaching and teamwork in a multicultural environment. Our campus is located in the heart of Switzerland right next to the beautiful lake of Neuchâtel - an ideal place to form the basis for your career in finance.

MSc in Finance (90 or 120 ECTS)

Our Master in Finance offers a core programme where you earn 90 ECTS in 3 semesters (18 months). Students interested in a research career have the option to complete a research thesis to earn additional 30 ECTS during an additional semester and bring the total amount of ECTS to the number of 120 (24 months).

MSc in Finance with Data Science Major (120 ECTS)

Do you plan to work in the intersection between Finance and Data Science? You can complement the Master in Finance core programme (90 ECTS) by earning additional 30 ECTS in Data Science courses (e.g., Machine Learning, Data Management, Programming, Computational Thinking, Business Analytics, Data Science for Business) during an additional semester and bring the total amount of ECTS to the number of 120 (24 months).

Degree awarded

- Master of Science in Finance (90 ECTS)
- Master of Science in Finance (120 ECTS)
- Master of Science in Finance with Data Science Major (120 ECTS)

Credits

90 ECTS, 3 semesters, 18 months, or
120 ECTS, 4 semesters, 24 months

Teaching language

English

Admission conditions

A Bachelor degree is required. Students with a degree in business, economics, math or engineering from a Swiss university are directly admitted. Other applications are reviewed by the admissions committee. Students from Swiss universities of applied sciences are admitted to the 30 ECTS pre-programme.

Application deadline

April 30 for the Autumn semester (mid-September)

Registration

Bureau des immatriculations
Av. du 1^{er}-Mars 26
CH-2000 Neuchâtel
www.unine.ch/immatriculation

Information

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University Affiliation Program  CFA Institute®

October 2021





Student Profile

Are you fascinated by financial markets, have strong analytical skills and curious to explore state-of-the-art financial techniques? Then the Master of Science in Finance programme might be the right choice for you. Every year, 30 – 40 students with an excellent Bachelor degree in economics, finance, management, or in the hard science (e.g., engineering, mathematics, and physics) join our programme. Over the past years, the class intake has been highly diverse with more than 60% of students showing an international (i.e., non-Swiss) background and more than 40% of our students being female.

Sustainability and Social Responsibility Matter

We make sure that our graduates know the ethics of business conduct and are able to apply ethical principles in decision making. They understand how to avoid financial misbehavior and foster good business practices. For this purpose, our students learn the foundations of «Sustainable Finance» right from the beginning and attend classes in Finance Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility and Governance.

Career opportunities

The Master of Science in Finance programme prepares you for a successful career in asset management, banking, consulting, industry, insurance, and academia. Graduates from our programme have started their career with local and international companies, such as, Banque Bonhôte, Banque Cantonale Vaudoise, Blackrock, BNP Paribas, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, Deloitte, EY, HSBC, J.P. Morgan, KPMG, Lazard, Leonteq, Lombard Odier, Moody's, Morgan Stanley, Procter & Gamble, PwC, Roche, SwissLife, UBS, Unilever, and Vontobel.

What our former students say...

Anna Maria Di Giorgio, MScF 2016, Senior Global Finance Manager, Procter & Gamble: *The Master of Science in Finance programme is a very demanding programme that offers an excellent preparation to its students and enables them to become attractive candidates for the job market, in any finance field. This is due to the comprehensive curriculum offered, coupled with first-class teaching that prepares students to the concrete challenges of the business world.*

Tibaut de Coulon, MScF 2016, Credit analyst & junior portfolio manager, Lombard Odier Asset Management, Switzerland: *After the highly demanding Master of Science in Finance from the University of Neuchâtel, you will have all the cards in hand to kickstart your career in finance. Besides providing me with all the necessary academic concepts, the curriculum also prepared me to enter the professional world with a wide array of practical skills. The teaching angle of the Master strikes the perfect balance between theory and real-life practical examples, giving you a valuable overview into the competitive and thrilling finance industry.*

Master programme

Semester 1 Autumn (30 ECTS)

- Asset Pricing
- Corporate Social Responsibility and Governance
- Financial Accounting
- Fixed Income
- Quantitative Methods for Finance
- Economic Policy*

Semester 2 Spring (30 ECTS)

- Corporate Finance
- Derivatives
- Finance Ethics
- Financial Analysis
- Portfolio Management
- Programming
- International Monetary System*

Semester 3 Autumn (30 ECTS)

- Alternative Investments
- Equity Research Contest
- Field Project in Financial Analysis*
- Portfolio Optimization*
- Research in Financial Analysis*
- Risk Management*

Optional

- Master thesis or internship thesis
- Data Science courses: Business Analytics, Computational Thinking, Data Management, Data Science for Business, Econometrics, Machine Learning

* Elective courses. Other courses can be chosen in place of electives.

