

What is Finance?

Finance is the study of how individuals, businesses, and organizations acquire and utilize capital (i.e. money). Two basic elements of finance include the tradeoff between expected returns and risk and the importance of timing of future cash flows.

LSU's Department of Finance in the E. J. Ourso College of Business

- Is home to top-notch students (undergraduate, MS, and PhD) in high demand. Finance faculty members (including five distinguished chairs) are of national caliber, dedicated to research, teaching, and service.
- Houses LSU's Real Estate Research Institute (RERI), which is ranked third in the nation for core real estate publications and has brought in over \$1.5 million in grants (including NSF and Sea Grant) and gifts over the last decade.
- Offers students access to the Securities Markets Analysis Research and Trading (SMART) Lab, a 44-station classroom/laboratory modeled after an investment company's trading room. The SMART Lab provides state-of-the-art software and data feeds for financial analysis.

Student Organizations and Activities

- **Student Finance Association** – The Student Finance Association is an informative support group for finance students and faculty. Activities encourage students to socialize with fellow students, faculty members, and financial economists in the business community. The society also offers assistance with job searches and graduate school information.
- **Student Managed Investment Fund** – The LSU Foundation has committed to invest \$1,000,000 in SMIF. Established in 2006, SMIF has given students hands-on experience in security research, valuation of risky assets, asset allocation, and portfolio management. The objective of SMIF is to exceed the total return of the Standard & Poor's 100 index.

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Did You Know?

LSU Finance Students can register for on-campus Bloomberg Certification and CFA-1 Prep.

Department of Finance

2163 Patrick F. Taylor Hall • Baton Rouge, LA 70803 • finance@lsu.edu
225-578-6291 Voice • 225-578-6366 Fax • www.bus.lsu.edu/finance

Areas

Business Finance
Investments
Capital Markets and Institutions
Real Estate
Risk and Insurance

Employers

Investment Banking
Financial Management
Financial Services Consultants
Banks/ Financial Institutions
Private Equity Companies
State Retirement Systems
Industry (Credit Analysts)
Real Estate Investment Trusts
Appraisers

