

FINANCE

CONCENTRATION GUIDE

There is a vast array of opportunities awaiting you in the finance industry.

You may choose to work in corporate finance, commercial banking, insurance, real estate, investment banking or money management. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that you conduct research as well as network with others to explore your career-related interests.

Finance is a nice complement to any concentration; some of our more popular choices include Accounting, Business Analytics, Information Systems, or Strategy. Additionally, many students also seek minors outside of Questrom and interest can range based on the area most interested in. For all available minors, please visit the Boston University programs website found [here](#).

For more information about required courses and to contact the Concentration Faculty Advisor, please visit [here](#).

FINANCIAL ANALYST/BANKING, M&A

A Financial Analyst utilizes financial data in order to make informed decisions. Financial Analysts may work either privately for clients or publicly for organizations. A Financial Analyst compiles, analyzes, and disseminates financial reports as needed. Forecasting models, updated analyses, and ledger maintenance are additional ongoing duties for a Financial Analyst.

Careers Include: Financial Analyst, Junior Research Analyst, Capital Markets Analyst, Junior Portfolio Manager

CONSULTING: STRATEGY, MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL

Evaluates business processes, identifies needs, and develops strategies to maximize opportunities. These people may work with business, IT or consultants. Those involved with Consulting interact with developers, stakeholders, system architects and various subject experts. They may advise on strategic or operational questions for company or not for profit clients.

Careers Include: Business Analyst, Consultant, Not for Profit Consultant

CREDIT RISK ANALYST

Evaluating clients' credit data and financial statements in order to determine the degree of risk involved in lending money to them. Preparing reports about the degree of risk in lending money to clients. Analyzing client records and using the data to recommend payment plans or structure mortgage bond funds.

Careers Include: Credit Analyst, Loan Officer, Commercial Lender, Mortgage Lender

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS/FINTECH

Determines cost of operations by establishing standard costs collecting operational data. They also improve financial status by analyzing results, monitoring variances, identifying trends and recommending actions to management.

Careers Include: Financial Operations Analyst, Risk Analyst, FinTech Analyst

CORPORATE M&A

Researches and analyzes industries, market segments, and business models. They evaluate the merits of alternatives and presents findings to executive management. Other tasks include executing mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, and capital raising in-house for a corporation. Professionals in this job role work alongside investment bankers.

Careers Include: Corporate Development Analyst, Business Development Analyst

CORPORATE TREASURY

Responsible for managing and analyzing their employer's financial activity. This includes managing cash flow, income, liability obligations and assets. Those involved with Corporate Treasury are employed by businesses, nonprofit organizations and government agencies to oversee their finances. They play an integral role in making sure a business can stay in operation.

Careers Include: Treasury Analyst, Hedging Analyst, Tax Analyst, Transfer Pricing Analyst

CLASSES TO CAREER GRID

Interested in seeing how different career paths connect back to the classes you take? Take a look at the grid below to help you strategize which classes will help you build the skills and knowledge you need to meet your career goals.

CLASS	FINANCIAL ANALYST/ BANKING M&A	CONSULTING: Strategy, Management, Financial	CREDIT RISK ANALYST	FINANCIAL OPERATIONS/ FINTECH	CORPORATE M&A	CORPORATE TREASURY
FE 449 Corporate Financial Management	×	×	×	×	×	×
FE 445 Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management	×	×	×	×	×	×
FE 442 Money, Financial Markets and Economic Activity	×			×		×
FE 430 Entertainment Finance (LA ONLY)						
FE 427 International Finance Management				×		×
FE 429 Futures Options and Risk Management	×			×		
FE 450 Private Equity Leverage Buyouts	×				×	
FE 454 Investment Banking	×				×	×
FE 455 Financing New Ventures					×	
FE 456 Fixed Income	×		×	×		
FE 458 Equities and Securities Analysis	×		×			×
FE 459 Computational Tech in Finance			×	×		
FE 460 Equity Analysis for Strategic Decision Making		×			×	
FE 469 Real Estate Finance*	×					
AC 410 Corporate Financial Reporting	×		×		×	×
AC 414 Financial Statement Analysis	×		×		×	×
AC 445 Advanced Managerial Accounting	×				×	×
LA 365 Securities Regulation						×
PL 350 The Psychology of Decision Making for Business and Public Policy		×				

* See Real Estate Concentration

INTERNSHIP AND JOB SEARCH RESOURCES

- [Vault](#)
- [Pardee Library](#)
- [eFinancialCareers](#)
- [Financial Job Bank](#)
- [NBN, inc.](#)
- [Indeed](#)
- [Simply Hired](#)
- [Internships](#)
- [Glassdoor](#)

POPULAR EMPLOYERS

- Accenture
- Bank of America
- Black Rock
- Citigroup
- Citizens Bank
- Credit Suisse
- Deutsche Bank
- Duff & Phelps
- Fidelity Investments
- General Electric
- Hanover Insurance
- The Hartford Financial Services
- HSBC
- HSBC
- John Hancock
- JP Morgan
- Liberty Mutual
- Moelis (M&A)
- Morgan Stanley
- Praxair
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- RBC Capital Markets
- Santander
- State Street Bank
- TD Ameritrade
- Thermo Fisher

NEXT STEPS

QUESTROM/BU CLUBS

Questrom/BU Clubs: Joining clubs is a great way to gain experience and build your professional network.

Below are specific clubs within Questrom for those interested in Finance. For a complete list of business specific Questrom Clubs, please visit [here](#) and for a list of BU wide clubs that offer organizations across larger interest areas ranging from health to nonprofits, please visit [here](#).

- [Finance & Investment Club](#)
- [Financial Planners Association](#)
- [Financial Modeling Club](#)
- [FinTech Club](#)
- [Personal Finance Club](#)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Professional Associations exist on the regional and national level. They host national conferences discussing relevant topics, networking events, training and professional development opportunities and other resources to prepare in various CFA and other exams.

If you are interested in careers in finance here are some professional associations, you may want to consider joining:

- [American Bankers Association](#)
- [American Finance Association](#)
- [Boston Women in Finance](#)
- [The Financial Planning Association](#)
- [National Association of Personal Financial Advisors](#)
- [Boston Chinese Investment Club](#)

LINKEDIN GROUPS

LinkedIn is a crucial part of anyone's job search and networking strategy. Using LinkedIn groups, you can develop more targeted networks for various criteria including location, industry, function and more!

Below is a list of sample LinkedIn groups finance concentrators may want to consider, for more assistance on using this feature please make an appointment with a UDC Career Advisor at bu.joinhandshake.com:

- Capital Markets, Private Equity & Global Finance Group
- Finance Plus: Private Equity, Venture Capital and M&A News