



Maynooth University School of Business

Accounting & Finance

Higher Diploma in Finance

Why study Finance?

Finance is a stimulating and challenging discipline that offers a wide range of exciting and dynamic careers across the Financial industry. The Finance sector has grown in terms of complexity as it meets the needs of increasingly international, technologically complex, and data-driven markets. By studying finance, you will acquire a wide range of skills that can be applied to problems faced by agents ranging from entrepreneurs who need to fund their ideas to investors seeking the best opportunities to grow their wealth; from private investment banks who engineer innovative financial products to regulators tasked with protecting the industry; and from individuals searching for a mortgage to multinational firms seeking to finance their operations. The study of Finance opens the door to a myriad of diverse career opportunities.

Why this programme?

If you have the desire and ambition to forge a successful career in the world of Finance, then this is the perfect programme for you. This course provides an accelerated route to the equivalent of an honours degree in Finance in one year. Students will cover the basic concepts, empirical methods and applications in Investment, Derivatives, International Finance and Econometrics as well as choosing field courses of interest from a range of optional modules such as Corporate Finance, Fixed Income Markets and Financial Accounting.

How will this help my career?

After this 1-year intensive programme, graduates will be well-equipped with the skills to begin a career in the Financial sector. This is a high-growth, constantly-evolving sector with diverse career opportunities at home and abroad. Graduates who wish to continue their studies may pursue one of our MSc programmes subject to meeting the entry requirements.

What are my career options?

Graduates of this programme are currently enjoying successful careers in Investment and Retail Banking, Portfolio Fund Management, Professional Accountancy, Corporate Recovery, Regulatory Agencies, NGOs, Government service, Stockbroking, Bond trading in the private sector. Others have taken up research positions at the Central Bank of Ireland, some continue to PhD programmes to pursue an academic career. The diverse careers of our graduates reflect the adaptability and flexibility of our graduates.



What do our graduates say?

“An emphasis is placed on presenting your thesis to your class and lecturers. Workshops aimed at building presentation skills are embedded into the course. I found this exercise both challenging and rewarding and the ability to competently present my thesis to my lecturers increased my confidence. This Master and the professionalism of Maynooth University have resulted in me securing a financial role in a prominent international bank and will continue to serve me as my career progresses.”

Bryan Cullen – Custody Administrator, Société Générale
Higher Diploma in Finance and MA Finance

What are the entry requirements?

A high 2.2 undergraduate degree in any subject. No prior knowledge of accounting required. Applicants must have a recognised primary degree which is considered equivalent to Irish university primary degree level.

Course Structure

The course consists of two semesters (September to May) of taught modules. Lectures are timetabled across Monday to Friday each week. A comprehensive range of modules in Finance, including Corporate Finance, Fixed Income Markets, Derivatives, Financial Modelling, and a broad range of optional modules. Students take three compulsory modules and nine optional modules. To assimilate students from diverse academic backgrounds, the Programme Director will advise each student on which optional modules to choose to provide them with a solid foundation in Finance.

Module Themes

- > Econometrics
- > Investments
- > Derivatives
- > Fixed Income Markets
- > Microeconomics
- > Macroeconomics
- > Corporate Finance
- > Financial Modelling

Course Fees

EU Tuition Fees (2024/25)

€7,000 1 year full-time

International Tuition Fees (2024/25)

€14,000 1 year full-time

Fees may be liable to change.

See www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-fees-grants

How to apply?

Apply online at www.pac.ie, choose Maynooth University
PAC Code: MH26D Full time (1 Year).

Where can I find more information?

For more information on the Higher Diploma in Finance, please contact:

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👉 www.maynoothuniversity.ie/school-business