Master of Applied Finance
When you’re studying business, you want to be where the action is.

Sydney Graduate School of Management (SGSM), the Postgraduate Business School of Western Sydney University, is located in the centre of Parramatta. As more businesses – from large multinationals to small and medium enterprises – choose to base their operations in Parramatta, the area is one of Sydney’s fastest growing business districts.

SGSM engages with these businesses to provide you with opportunities to gain the practical experience you need to take on executive finance roles with confidence.

Parramatta is a thriving multicultural community, with a major shopping centre and international dining options, ensuring your free time is as enjoyable as your time at uni.

With students coming from diverse cultural backgrounds, both local and international as well as a range of industries, you’ll benefit from fresh perspectives and insights into business and finance in Australia and internationally.

INTRODUCING THE MASTER OF APPLIED FINANCE

The Master of Applied Finance prepares students for executive careers in finance, banking and property investment sectors. It provides students with the opportunity to acquire technical knowledge necessary to function in an evolving and increasingly sophisticated financial environment with an emphasis on the practical application of these techniques.

The degree exposes students to modern theoretical approaches. All of the units have been developed by individuals who are actively involved in the financial and investment sectors. Applicants will find having a background in Business or Commerce advantageous. The course length and structure varies based on previous qualifications and work experience.

On enrolment to this course, based on previous study and work experience, students can follow either a 160 or a 120 or an 80 credit point entry pathway allowing them to graduate on completion of the relevant credit points with a Master of Applied Finance.

Students may also exit the course on completion of 40 credit points with a Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance or on completion of 80 credit points with a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance.

ACCREDITATION

The Master of Applied Finance fulfils the educational requirements for admission as a Senior Associate (SA Fin) of Finsia – the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (Finsia). Senior Associate membership with Finsia also requires at least five years career experience in the financial services industry.

The Master of Applied Finance also satisfies the education requirements for professional membership of the Finance and Treasury Association (FTA) - Certified Finance and Treasury Professional (CFTP) and the Financial Risk Manager. The Master of Applied Finance 160 credit points course has been accepted into the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute University Affiliation Program.

This status is granted to institutions whose degree program(s) incorporate at least 70 percent of the CFA Program Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK), which provide students with a solid grounding in the CBOK and positions them well to obtain the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation, which has become the most respected and recognised investment credential in the world. Entry into the CFA Institute University Affiliation Program signals to potential students, employers, and the marketplace that the Master of Applied Finance curriculum is closely tied to professional practice and is well-suited to preparing students to sit for the CFA examinations.

SUCCESS STORY

Aspiring to a career in the finance sector, Alex Gao came to Australia from China to complete a Master of Accounting, before undertaking the Master of Applied Finance at Western Sydney University.

Having recently completed a four-month internship at State Street, Alex is now hopeful of landing a permanent position with the global financial services institution. Working in the operations divisions of the company, Alex felt his Masters degree prepared him well for the dynamic world of corporate finance. He also believes the interactive style of teaching at Western Sydney University also gave him the edge when it came to preparing for the workplace.

‘We were encouraged by our lecturers to participate, not to just sit there and listen – we could ask, we could discuss, and challenge what the teachers say. We benefited a lot from that because we learned actively and they encouraged us to think,’ he says.

Alex now hopes to take advantage of the opportunities that a role with the International Bank could bring, including rotations to other parts of the business.

Chartered Financial Analyst® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute.
Master of Applied Finance

ADMISSION
Entry Pathway 1: Master of Applied Finance (80 credit points)
Applicants must have successfully completed a graduate certificate, or higher, in a business discipline.

OR
Successfully completed an undergraduate degree, or higher, in a business discipline
AND
a minimum of two years full-time equivalent managerial/professional work experience in roles facilitating financial administration, budget management, financial advising, stockbroking, applied finance, or associated roles.

International applicants must achieve IELTS 6.5 overall score with a minimum 6.0 in each subset; or have achieved equivalent outcomes on other recognised English Language proficiency measures.

Entry Pathway 2: Master of Applied Finance (120 credit points)
Applicants must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree, or higher, in a business discipline;

OR
Successfully completed an undergraduate degree, or higher, in any discipline
AND a minimum of two years full-time equivalent general work experience.

International applicants must achieve IELTS 6.5 overall score with a minimum 6.0 in each subset; or have achieved equivalent outcomes on other recognised English Language proficiency measures.

Entry Pathway 3: Master of Applied Finance (160 credit points)
Applicants must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree, or higher, in any discipline.

MASTER OF APPLIED FINANCE – 1 year pathway (80 credit points)
Quarter 1
$1168 Funds Management and Portfolio Selection
200426 Corporate Finance
Quarter 2
$1163.2 Financial Institutions and Markets (MAF)
$1165.3 Financial Institution Management
Quarter 3
$1212 Security Analysis and Portfolio Theory
And one elective
Quarter 4
200945 Applied Project (Finance and Property)
And one elective
Alternative units
Choose two from
$1169 Derivatives
$1054 Financial Modelling
$1166 Credit and Lending Decisions

MASTER OF APPLIED FINANCE – 1.5 year pathway (120 credit points)
Year 1
Quarter 1
200821 Financial Reports for Decision Making
200849 New Venture Finance
Quarter 2
300962 Applied Business Statistics
200425 Economics
Quarter 3
$1168 Funds Management and Portfolio Selection
200426 Corporate Finance
Quarter 4
$1163 Financial Institutions and Markets (MAF)
$1165 Financial Institution Management

Year 2
Quarter 1
$1212 Security Analysis and Portfolio Theory
And one elective
Quarter 2
200945 Applied Project (Finance and Property)
And one elective
Alternative units
Choose two from
$1169 Derivatives
$1054 Financial Modelling
$1211 International Finance
$1166 Credit and Lending Decisions

MASTER OF APPLIED FINANCE – 2 year pathway (160 credit points)
Year 1
Quarter 1
200849 New Venture Finance
200821 Financial Reports for Decision Making
Quarter 2
300962 Applied Business Statistics
200425 Economics
Quarter 3
$1168 Funds Management and Portfolio Selection
200426 Corporate Finance
Quarter 4
$1163 Financial Institutions and Markets (MAF)
$1165 Financial Institution Management

Year 2
Quarter 1
$1169 Derivatives
$1212 Security Analysis and Portfolio Theory
Quarter 2
$1166 Credit and Lending Decisions
$1054 Financial Modelling
Quarter 3
$1211 International Finance
200945 Applied Project (Finance and Property)
Quarter 4
Choose 20 credit points from
200891 Property Portfolio Analysis
200696 Property Investment Analysis
OR
200830 Internship
ADMISSION
Applicants must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree, or higher, in any discipline;

OR
Have an Associate Degree, or higher, in a business discipline;

OR
Have an advanced diploma, or higher, in a business discipline AND have a minimum of five years general work experience in a related field;

OR
Have a minimum of three years full-time equivalent managerial/professional work experience in a related field;

OR
Submitted other evidence of general and professional qualifications that demonstrates potential to pursue graduate studies.

STATEMENT OF SERVICE
Applicants seeking admission on the basis of work experience MUST support their application with a Statement of Service for all work experience listed on the application.

International applicants must apply directly to Western Sydney University via the International Office. International students applying to the University through the International Office can find details of minimum English proficiency requirements and acceptable proof on their website.

COURSE STRUCTURE
Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of the four core units.

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Alex Gao

MASTER OF ACCOUNTING
MASTER OF APPLIED FINANCE

‘Usually when we study at university, what we learn from textbooks is quite different from what happens in the real world. At Western Sydney University, many of the lecturers have careers in the finance or accounting sector, so they are very experienced, and as they taught us, combined the knowledge with their own experience. So I had no difficulty relating what I learned to what I do in my work.

‘Having completed the course in Applied Finance, I found it much easier to have a clear picture of what I was doing at work, so I wasn’t just like a machine, but actually understanding the purpose of each movement.’
PROGRESS. UNLIMITED.

You’ve come a long way. Go further.

Located in the heart of one of Australia’s fastest growing economic regions, Western Sydney University offers unlimited potential to students with the drive, ambition and will to succeed.

Ranked amongst the top two per cent of universities on the globe, Western Sydney is a world-class university with a growing international reach and reputation for academic excellence and impact-driven research.

To take your career to the next level, you need more than classrooms, more than theory. That’s why we offer a combination of on campus learning environments, with real-life, on-the-ground, hands-on opportunities for skill development in professional and community settings. We value academic excellence, integrity and the pursuit of knowledge.

We equip our students with the means to do more than just advance their careers. We are unlocking the potential of the next generation of global citizens, leaders and change-makers.

WHY POSTGRADUATE STUDY AT WESTERN SYDNEY?

How to apply

International students apply direct to Western Sydney University. westernsydney.edu.au/international/apply

Applicants must meet minimum academic entry and English proficiency requirements. westernsydney.edu.au/international/entryrequirements

International students are also required to have genuine access to sufficient funds while studying in Australia. Funds should be sufficient to contribute to the cost of travel, tuition, school costs for any dependants, and living costs. westernsydney.edu.au/international/fees

Further information

For further details about courses, including course structure, unit descriptions, work placement requirements (if applicable), visit handbook.westernsydney.edu.au

For information about studying at Western Sydney University, including assessment methods, course progression and attendance requirements, accommodation options, working and living in Australia, visit westernsydney.edu.au/studyandlife

Disclaimer

Western Sydney University reserves the right to withdraw or vary courses listed within this publication. In the event that the course or courses are to be changed, or in the event of cancellation, applicants will be advised to the address specified on their application.

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