



University of Maryland University College

**Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems (MSFS)
Management, Accounting, and Finance Department**

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT PLAN
Program Outcomes and Learning Assessment Criteria

Summer 2007

Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program Overview: Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program 3

Program of Study: Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program 4

Development of Program Outcomes: Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program..... 5

Program Outcomes: Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program..... 6

Alignment of Program Outcomes with Learning Objectives and Assessment Methods: Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program..... 7

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems is designed for students who want to gain solid knowledge in financial management of organizations integrated with relevant coursework in the information systems field. Through multidisciplinary studies in fundamental financial theory, valuation techniques, cost management, information systems, and database design, program participants are prepared as financial managers to effectively deal with information systems within organizations. Graduates are equipped to play a leading advisory role in integrating and utilizing information technology to create value within companies and to pursue management positions of increasing responsibility with potential to assume the role of Chief Financial Officer (CFO) or Chief Information Officer (CIO). The curriculum equally benefits individuals in the information systems/CIO field who would like to expand their studies into the area of financial management. An applicant must have at least 15 semester hours in accounting, finance, and technology for admission to the program.

Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program

PROGRAM OF STUDY

CORE COURSES

UCSP 611	Introduction to Graduate Library Research Skills	0 credit hours
FIN 610	Financial Management in Organizations	3 credit hours
FIN 615	Financial Management of Current Operations	3 credit hours
FIN 620	Capital Markets, Institutions, and Long-Term Financing	3 credit hours
FIN 630	Investment Valuation	3 credit hours
FIN 645	Behavioral Finance	3 credit hours
ISAS 610	Information Systems Management & Integration	3 credit hours
ISAS 630	Systems Analysis and Design	3 credit hours
ISAS 650	Information Technology, the CIO, & Organizational Transformation	3 credit hours
INFA 610	Computer Security, Software/Hardware Assurance, & Security Management	3 credit hours
IMAT 637	IT Acquisitions Management	3 credit hours
MGMT 640	Financial Decision-making for Managers	3 credit hours
MSFS 670	Financial Management and Accounting Capstone	3 credit hours

Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program

DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The table below identifies the curricular influences that support the program outcomes specific to the Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program.

SOURCES/RESOURCES PROVIDING CURRICULAR FOUNDATION FOR PROGRAM OUTCOMES Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program		
SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	WEB ADDRESS OR DOCUMENT NAME (if applicable)
Core Learning Areas of the UMUC Graduate School of Management and Technology	<p>UMUC degree programs are required to imbed identified institutional CLAs into each degree program. The CLAs for the Graduate School of Management and Technology are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Communication (COMM) • Technology Fluency (TECH) • Information Literacy (INFO) • Quantitative Literacy (QUAN) • Critical Thinking (THIN) <p>The expanded definition for each Core Learning Area was considered in creating the respective program outcome.</p>	UMUC Institutional Plan for the Assessment of Student Learning
Financial Management Association International (FMA)	The FMA membership of academics and practitioners provides coverage on current research in finance and financial management.	Publications include Financial Management, - The Journal of Applied Finance, and FMA Online.
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)	The AICPA writes the Certified Public Accountant examination and suggests curricula that will prepare students for entry into the accounting profession in both the public and private sectors. AICPA offers financial managers and accounting practitioners guidance on financial management and technology issues through the Financial Management Center and WebTrust Program.	
American Finance Association (AFA)	The AFA is an academic organization that publishes The Journal of Finance, a leading resource on the application of finance theory.	

Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The program outcomes for the Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program are delineated below. The program outcomes describe the expectations for all graduates for the Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program	
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOME
COMM	Use effective oral and written communication to express clearly ideas about accounting and financial management in a professional manner and tone.
TECH	Utilize technology and information systems in the financial management of organizations to share access to information and improve the quality of decision making enterprise wide.
INFO	Identify problem areas in the accounting and financial management and information sources useful in forming resolutions to such problems.
QUAN	Apply valuation and measurement tools used in finance to assess both the financial and technological benefits of investing in new information systems and on the value of a firm.
THIN	Evaluate the professional ethics problems facing financial and information systems management and potential appropriate solutions within the context of the internal structures and external institutions that influence the organization.

Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program

ALIGNMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES WITH LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

The following grid aligns the program outcomes of the Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program with: 1) learning objectives from the designated program coursework and 2) specific methods used to assess student learning within the degree program.

CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
Master of Science in Financial Management and Information Systems Program			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOME	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
COMM	Use effective oral and written communication to express clearly ideas about accounting and financial management in a professional manner and tone.	Explain the role of capital budgeting and long-term financial decisions in meeting the strategic objectives of organizations. (FIN 620)	Research Paper
TECH	Utilize technology and information systems in the financial management of organizations to share access to information and improve the quality of decision making enterprise wide.	Assess the impact of managerial and financial decision making on the value of the firm. (FIN 630)	Other: Homework Problem
INFO	Identify problem areas in the accounting and financial management and information sources useful in forming resolutions to such problems.	Explain the role of capital budgeting and long-term financial decisions in meeting the strategic objectives of organizations. (FIN 620)	Research Paper
QUAN	Apply valuation and measurement tools used in finance to assess both the financial and technological benefits of investing in new information systems and on the value of a firm.	Determine a firm's cost of capital. (FIN 630)	Other: Homework Problem
THIN	Evaluate the professional ethics problems facing financial and information systems management and potential appropriate solutions within the context of the internal structures and external institutions that influence the organization.	Explain why reliance on heuristics and susceptibility to framing effects make managers vulnerable to making faulty decisions that reduce firm value. (FIN 645)	Research Paper