Online Master of Science in Finance

School of Business
D’Amore-McKim
Northeastern University
Congratulations on your acceptance!
The material in this package outlines the next steps following your acceptance. It will also prepare you for your one-to-one Welcome Call with a Student Services advisor.

Please review the following sections:

- Program Overview
- Message From the Director
- Support Resources
- Technical Requirements
- Online Environment
- Registration and Billing Information
- Financial Aid
- Next Steps

The material above is designed to introduce you to the program. Additional term specific information (such as course textbooks) will be accessible via the Online Graduate Business Resource Center – housed in Blackboard. You will have immediate access to this community upon creation of your MyNEU account.

We are happy to have you join the NU community!

Best,
Student Support Services
Pre-requisite Core
Your first three months of study consists of 3 core classes delivered lock-step. The order of these courses depends upon your start term. A tailored program schedule will be shared with you following your one-to-one welcome call.
Students MUST complete these three core courses before completing any other courses in the program.
The first three courses include:
FINA 6201 Financial Theory and Policy
FINA 6202 Analysis of Financial Institutions and Markets
FINA 6203 Investment Analysis

Program Electives
Upon completing your three pre-requisite courses, you will progress to four elective courses. Students may tailor their electives so as to focus on Corporate Finance or Investment Finance.
Your Student Services Advisor will work with you to tailor your electives and to focus your studies – should you so wish.

Capstone Sequence
Your MSF study concludes with 3 capstone courses. These courses are:
FINA 6204 International Finance Management
FINA 6205 Financial Strategy
FINA 6206 Financial Seminar

Elective Courses
To complete the Online MSF, you are required to take four elective courses.

Finance
FINA 6211 Financial Risk Management
FINA 6212 Fixed Income Securities and Risk
FINA 6213 Investment Banking
FINA 6214 Mergers and Acquisitions

FINA 6215 Business Turnarounds
FINA 6216 Valuation and Value Creation
FINA 6217 Real Estate Finance and Investment
FINA 6219 Portfolio Management
Message from the Director

Matthew Foster
Director of Online Graduate Programs
The program is designed with a number of built-in support resources. These include:

**Student Services Advisor**
Your Student Services Advisor are available to address any concerns or questions you may have during the program. He or she is available from your first course until graduation, providing you with registration assistance and administrative support. Do not hesitate to reach out to the student support team at:
Phone: 1 866 291 8058 Opt. 2
Email: onlinegradsupport@neu.edu

**Technical Support Team**
The Technical Support Team provides 24/7 live technical support to make your online experience as technically seamless and convenient as possible. You will always receive helpful and friendly advice to resolve your software problems.
Phone: 1 866 291 8058 Opt. 1
Online Support Center:
[https://supportcenter.embanet.com/nu/](https://supportcenter.embanet.com/nu/)

**Section Instructor**
Your Section Instructor acts as the liaison between you and the faculty. Your section instructor will engage and challenge you. He or she is available to provide support and coaching at a personalized level that is difficult to obtain in other programs. Your section instructor will introduce him or herself at the beginning of each course.

**Faculty**
Northeastern’s Faculty develops the curriculum and works directly with your section instructor to ensure that the content and delivery of each course is of the highest quality. The Lead Faculty will introduce him or herself at the beginning of each course.
Technical Requirements

In order to have the best possible online learning experience, Northeastern’s online learning management system needs to be able to run quickly and efficiently. To do so, your computer must meet specific minimum hardware and software requirements. If your system does not meet or barely meets the minimum requirements, the online learning software may run slowly or not at all. In order to have the best possible online learning experience, it is recommended that your computer exceeds the minimum standards as much as possible.

Minimum requirements for PC users:
- Operating System: Windows XP/Vista/7
- RAM: 512 MB recommended
- Free Disk Space: 200 MB recommended
- CPU Speed: 1 GHz recommended
- Modem: DSL or cable modem recommended
- Audio: Sound card and speakers
- Browser: Internet Explorer 9 or newer
- Also recommended: Chrome or Firefox

Minimum requirements for Mac users:
- Operating System: Mac OSX 10.5/10.6/10.7
- RAM: 512 MB recommended
- Free Disk Space: 200 MB recommended
- CPU Speed: 1 GHz recommended
- Modem: DSL or cable modem recommended
- Audio: Sound card and speakers
- Browser: Safari 4.0 or newer
- Also recommended: Chrome or Firefox
Online Graduate Business Resource Center

The Resource Center will become available to you within 24 hours of creating your MyNEU account. The resource center consists of two parts. First, it houses the student orientation course. This orientation provides you with an overview of the Learning Management System and teaches you how to effectively navigate through the site with ease. Second, it houses important program information and announcements.

Online MSF Primer

The Online MSF Primer will become available to you within 24 hours of creating your MyNEU account. The Primer is designed with both entering students and currently enrolled students in mind. Its purpose is to enable all levels of students to increase their competencies in three fundamental skill areas essential to success in this program and, more broadly, to success in the finance profession. In other words, it aims to provide students with the resources they need to be successful in FINA 6201, 6202 and 6203, as well as in their careers beyond the MSF program.

The Primer is divided into four self-contained learning modules: (1) Basic Math, (2) Accounting and Financial Statement Analysis, (3) Finance, Valuation and Time Value of Money and (4) Statistics and Data Analysis. All four modules provide a combination of new and review content depending on a student’s background, experience and standing in the program. The student is responsible for navigating each module and monitoring his or her progress throughout the Primer.

Students have the freedom to navigate the Primer nonlinearly. That is, they are able to engage each module and its component parts in any order they see fit. However, it is essential to keep in mind that each module has been designed to flow in the most logical order. Thus, the greatest intellectual benefits stem from following the Primer’s established order.

Your First Course

One week before your first course in the program begins, you will be provided access to the course space of your course. The course space is composed of two main areas, each becoming available at different times:

A. Course Overview Section

The course overview section provides students a ‘preview’ of their course. This section, available one week prior to the course start date, provides access to the course syllabus as well as an introduction to the Lead Faculty.

B. Course Material Section

The course material section becomes available to students the day the course begins. Organized around weekly modules, this section of the course provides access to course lectures, assignments, discussion boards and quizzes. All course content is housed in this folder.
Upon entry into the program, students will be automatically registered for all classes in their start semester. Thus, students that begin in Fall 2015 are registered for, and only for, all classes they will take in Fall 2015. This only applies to the courses you are scheduled to take in that given semester. Students register themselves for all semesters following their start semester. Your Student Services Advisor will send you registration instructions once the registration window opens.

Dropping Classes

Students are able to drop their classes through their MyNEU account within the first 20% of the course. During that time students are responsible for course drops through Banner Self Service. Your advisor is unable to drop your course for you on your behalf. Ceasing to attend class or notifying the Lead Faculty or Section Instructor does not constitute an official drop.
Full refunds will be granted until 20% of the course*.
In a five week course, students may obtain a refund until midnight Day 7.

*This refund does not include the non-refundable $1,000 matriculation deposit.

Past the 20% mark, and before the last 7 days of course, you may withdraw from a course by contacting your advisor. Note – refunds are not available beyond the first 20% drop period and withdraws are not permitted within the last 7 days of the course.

Billing

Northeastern University uses online billing and payment services to provide quick access to billing information and the ability to make payments worldwide 7 days a week.

You will be notified at your Northeastern e-mail address whenever an online bill is generated. You should then log on to your MyNEU account and click on the “NUPay” link.

You may pay electronically at any time using an electronic check, Mastercard, Visa, Discover and American Express. You may keep your payment method information on the website or enter it each time you make an online payment.

Please note: Northeastern’s online billing system cannot accept payments from foreign bank accounts. If you cannot pay your bill through a bank account in the United States, we recommend wiring the payment.

Please visit the Student Financial Services Website for additional information.
Financial Aid

Your Student Services Advisor is prohibited from accessing or providing any financial aid information. Please contact Student Financial Services for assistance: 617.373.5899 or sfs@neu.edu.

I’ve been accepted, now what?
Congratulations on your acceptance! You may be eligible for fixed-interest rate federal student loans. Please refer to the Northeastern University Student Financial Services website for graduate students at http://www.northeastern.edu/financialaid/aid/graduate/
Having read the above information, we encourage you to engage in the following steps prior to your welcome call with your Student Services Advisor.

**Next Steps**

**Right Now**

1. If you have not yet done so, log into AY (Apply Yourself) website to download your official NU Acceptance Letter
   - Fill out the ‘Acceptance Form’ link embedded with Acceptance Letter confirming acceptance into the NU online Graduate program.
   - Submit your non-refundable $1,000 tuition deposit (applied to first term tuition) via the instructions on the Acceptance Form.

2. Create your MyNEU account
   - MyNEU is the centralized student information system accessible via https://my.neu.edu.
     This is where registration, billing, and academic records are stored.
   - Students who did not provide a Social Security Number during their application will require a SSN substitute (called a PKID). This number can be obtained from your Student Services Advisor.

3. Prepare to order your course materials through the Online Bookstore:
   http://www.northeastern.bkstore.com. Your Advisor will offer to assist you in navigating the bookstore website during the welcome call.

**Two Weeks Prior to Start**

1. Complete the ‘Student Orientation’ tutorial within the Online Graduate Business Resource Center. This tutorial introduces you to the Blackboard portal.

2. Review the NU Student Handbook.
   This handbook orients you to important NU policies and procedures.

**One Week Prior to Start**

1. Review the ‘Preview Section’ of your first course in the program. This section becomes accessible the Monday prior to your course start date.

2. Follow up with a Student Services Advisor for any outstanding questions you may have prior to beginning the program. Your Advisor will also be checking in with you to ensure you are well prepared.