Economics and Finance Department: Finance Major - Investments Track

About the Department
The Department of Economics and Finance offers a B.S. in finance, as well as three specialization tracks within the major. The current finance curriculum consists of foundation courses and a variety of electives.

What Is Finance & Investments?
Finance is broadly defined as the art and science of making decisions involving money in a variety of contexts. Within finance, the narrower topic of investments typically involves acquiring financial (or other) assets with the hope of earning significant returns over a period of time. This normally exposes the investor to some degree of risk. As a consequence, the practice of investing encompasses many types of risk analyses. Nowhere in business is there more emphasis placed on the risk-expected return trade-off than with respect to investing.

Internship Experience
In their senior year, all finance students have to fulfill the ABLE (Applied Business Learning Experience) requirement, which can be met with an internship. Investments track students must take FINA 449, the Practicum in Portfolio Management, which can fulfill their ABLE Requirement. FINA 449 is an innovative program designed around a student-managed investment fund that manages a portion of the University endowment. There is no doubt that this hands-on experience – with “real money” – is a definite plus when potential employers consider new finance graduates for investment related positions.

CFA Institute Recognition
In fall 2012, CFA Institute, the global association that sets the standard for professional excellence and administers the industry gold standard CFA charter, recognized Salisbury University’s B.S. major in finance, investments track, for incorporating at least 70 percent of the CFA Program Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK) and placing an emphasis on the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice. SU was the first institution in Maryland to receive this honor.

Recognized universities are selected, in part, for their incorporation of CFA Institute-defined best practices into academic curriculum to prepare students for the Chartered Financial Analyst exams.

As a recognized university, SU is eligible to award up to five CFA Program Awareness student scholarships per year. These scholarships offset the cost for taking the level I CFA exam.

SU is listed on the CFA Institute’s Web site: www.cfainstitute.org.

Student Groups
The Financial Management Association (FMA) is an internationally recognized organization that helps members explore and pursue a career in finance. SU’s FMA chapter offers students a chance to participate in a variety of activities including a speaker series, fundraising, field trips to financial districts and workshops.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Students who have graduated from the Finance Program have gone on to careers in:
- Commercial and Investment Banking
- Securities Industry
- Money/Wealth Management
- Insurance
- Real Estate
- Financial Planning
- Law
- Government Agencies
- International Agencies
- Corporate Finance

“...The Investments Track more than prepared me for passing Level I of the CFA exam. In fact, those courses were invaluable in helping me prepare for interviews and ultimately starting my career as an analyst for NASDAQ OMX in Manhattan.”

— Adam Messick, 2010

FINANCE FACULTY
Chair
- Associate Professor Brian Hill, Ph.D.
  University of Tennessee

Professors
- Tylor Claggett, Ph.D., CFA
  University of Houston
- Danny M. Ervin, Ph.D.
  University of Kentucky
- Khashayar “Kashi” Khazeh, Ph.D.
  University of Tennessee
- Herman Manakyan, Ph.D.
  University of Alabama

Associate Professor
- Leonard Arvi, Ph.D.
  Florida International University

Assistant Professor
- K. Ani Mathers, Ph.D.
  University of Florida

CONTACT INFORMATION
For information on the Investments Track:
410-543-6316

www.salisbury.edu/EconFin