

# ACADEMIC PLANNING TIPS FOR FINANCE AND BANKING MAJORS



*This information is available to assist finance and banking majors who are unable to meet with an academic advisor prior to registering for classes. It is highly recommended that all business majors meet with an advisor periodically to review their academic progress. If a student is unable to get an advising appointment prior to registering for courses, this information along with a major check sheet may be useful in planning a schedule. The student is advised to still attempt to meet with an advisor at some point.*

## **Priorities, sequencing and availability:**

### **Admission to the College of Business** (<http://www.business.appstate.edu/academics/admission.php>)

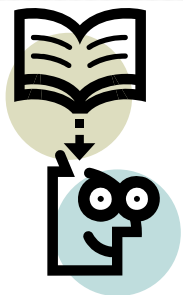
- The first priority is to complete requirements for admission to the COB. This includes courses, earned hours, required GPAs and (for students who entered ASU Fall 2004 or after) the computer proficiency test.
- If you do not feel prepared to take MAT 1030, then MAT 1020 is a good course to take to prepare for it. The hours for MAT 1020 will count as free electives outside of the COB.
- The Basic Computer Skills Proficiency Test can be taken during the freshman year and should be taken no later than the first semester of the sophomore year.

### **Finance and Banking Courses** (<http://www.business.appstate.edu/advising/checksheets.php>)

- FIN 3680 is a COB core course required of all business majors and should be taken as soon as possible by finance and banking majors. It is a prerequisite for most other finance courses.
- FIN 3690, 3790 and 3890 should be taken as soon as possible after FIN 3680. These courses are often offered in the summer. Students wanting to take these in the summer should check for availability prior to beginning spring semester.
- Several of the electives in Elective Set 1 require some combination of FIN 3690, 3790, and 3890 as prerequisites.
- Students interested in commercial banking should choose FIN 4610 and 4660 in elective set one and should consider the accounting courses, especially ACC 3100 and 3110, and the real estate course, FIN 3850, from elective set 2.
- Students who are interested in investments should consider applying for the FIN 4620/4622 sequence. This sequence (which begins in the fall and ends in the spring) allows students to follow a portfolio of real funds (stocks, bonds, etc.) and make decisions about how to invest them. Students must apply for this sequence of courses and, if accepted, **must** complete both courses. Students interested should contact Dr. Delbert Goff in January.
- Students planning to focus on financial planning should also take FIN 3071 (typically offered fall and spring and sometimes summer) in the first semester or two that they are eligible to take 3000 level business courses since it is the first of a three part sequence of courses for financial planning. It will count as an elective from set 2. The next two courses in the sequence, FIN 3780 and FIN 3880, are typically offered only in the fall. They also count as electives from set 2. The final course in the sequence, FIN 4580, is typically offered only in the spring. It counts as an elective from set 1. In addition to these courses, students in the financial planning track must take ACC 3580 which will count as one of the 3000/4000 level free electives (or, for students on the Fall 2004 Onward check sheet, it will count as a COB elective). Students who take these courses and make a minimum grade of C- in each course will have met the educational component required for the Certified Financial Planning certificate.
- Finance and banking majors do not have to focus on any particular area and can simply select the appropriate number of required electives from Set 1 and Set 2.
- **All other COB core courses must be taken prior to MGT 4750 (which must be taken during the final semester of course work). A graduation audit is required in order to get a permit for MGT 4750.**

### **Core Curriculum** (<http://www.business.appstate.edu/advising/checksheets.php>)

- Core curriculum courses (except those listed as requirements for admission to the COB) **do not** have to be completed in order to be admitted to the COB.
- All designators will be automatically met by required courses with the exception of two MC (multicultural) designators which can be found in the social sciences, humanities, COB electives or free electives. Students who entered Fall 2005 or after and who are eligible to take HIS 1103 and an additional social science in place of HIS 1101/1102 may need an additional MC designator.



### Special considerations for finance and banking majors:

- Finance and banking majors who are planning to also major in risk management and insurance should take FIN 3071 with FIN 3680 during the first semester they are eligible to take 3000 level business courses since it is the first course required in the risk management and insurance major and is a prerequisite for many of the other risk management and insurance electives.
- There are typically a few courses in the finance and banking major offered in the summer. However, students hoping to take finance courses in the summer should always check the summer schedule before spring semester begins so that their spring schedules can be adjusted if the courses planned for summer are not offered.

## Internships: (<http://www.business.appstate.edu/career/internships.php>)

- An internship is not required but is recommended.
- Internships are typically done during the summer between the junior and senior years.
- Students must be admitted to the COB to get credit for an internship.
- The internship is worth 6 sh credit which can be applied toward one F&B elective from set 2, a COB elective (for students under the fall 2004 onward check sheet) or 3000/4000 level free electives.
- Students doing a finance internship will be registered for FIN 3900 and will be expected to pay tuition for these hours. Anyone interested in doing a finance and banking internship for credit must contact Heidi Williams, Director of Career Services.



### Planning Summer Classes

(<http://www.business.appstate.edu/advising/summer.php>)

Students planning to take summer classes either at ASU or at another school should pay special attention to which courses will be offered and (for courses taken at another school), how they will count. ASU's summer course offerings will not be available when students pre-register for spring classes (in the middle of the fall semester), but will be available before spring classes begin. Students who are planning to take summer courses at ASU must check the summer offerings BEFORE beginning spring courses in order to be certain that the courses that he/she needs will be offered. If they are not, the student may need to adjust his/her spring schedule.

Students planning to take courses at another school in the summer must complete a form (Permission to Take Course Work at Another School) in the Registrar's Office and, for 3000/4000 level courses, get the approval of the appropriate chairperson.

**Basic Computer Skills Proficiency Test** (<http://www.business.appstate.edu/advising/testsfreq.php>) - Students using a fall 2004 or later catalog must pass the Basic Computer Skills Proficiency Test in order to be admitted to the College of Business.

*Check the COB Advising website (<http://www.business.appstate.edu/advising/>) for more information about COB admission requirements, proficiency test, major requirements, etc. that will help you with your academic planning.*