

## What can I do with my major in...

# Finance?

### Overview:

"A successful career in finance calls for a unique set of skills; it's ideally suited for you if you are outgoing and inquisitive by nature. You'll make use of your mathematical aptitude and ability to take your organization's or client's goals, resources and options into consideration while making your suggestions for their continued financial growth. This is one area where employment opportunities can be influenced by your GPA and previous professional success."<sup>1</sup>

### Skills:

- ✔ Combine mathematical abilities with people skills as you look at the big picture of a client's situation and develop a course of action to help ensure their financial growth.
- ✔ Managing the flow of money through an organization or individuals accounts
- ✔ Analyze financial data








### Sample Occupations

Occupation	What Could This Career Include? <sup>2</sup>
<b>Bank Branch Manager</b> Organizations include: Banks, consumer loan companies, credit card companies, credit unions, mortgage investment companies, mutual fund investment firms, trust companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✔ Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the activities of financial establishments</li> <li>✔ Achieves individual and branch sales goals</li> <li>✔ Provides leadership, training and supervision</li> </ul>
<b>Credit Manager</b> Organizations include: car dealerships, commercial or industrial organizations, department stores, insurance companies or utility companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✔ Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the activities of credit departments in industrial and commercial establishments.</li> <li>✔ Using company goals and policies they oversee business development and manage overall performance</li> </ul>
<b>Financial Analyst</b> Organizations include: banks, insurance companies, mutual and pension funds, securities firms, the business media, and other businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✔ Provide guidance to businesses and individuals making investment decisions</li> <li>✔ Asses the performance of investments such as stocks, bonds, and commodities.</li> <li>✔ May work for Assist in preparing operating and investment budgets</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> WorldWideLearn: <http://www.worldwidelearn.com/online-education-guide/business/finance-major.htm>

<sup>2</sup> As according to the National Occupational Classification. HRSDC 2006 Career Handbook.

<p><b>Financial Auditor</b> Organizations include: Private or Public sector accounting and auditing firms/departments or self-employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Examine and analyze the accounting and financial records of individuals and establishments to ensure accuracy and compliance with established accounting standards and procedures.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Financial Examiners and Inspectors</b> Organizations include: Banks, Governments, investment firms, self-employment, trust companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Financial examiners and inspectors review financial establishments and services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Financial Investigator</b> Organizations include: Banks, Governments, investment firms, self-employment, trust companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Investigate the practices of securities and commodity futures traders and other financial service providers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Financial Manager</b> Organizations include: Financial and accounting departments in companies throughout the private or public sectors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the operation of financial and accounting departments.</li> <li>🌿 Develop and implement the financial policies and systems of establishments.</li> <li>🌿 Establish performance standards and prepare various financial reports for senior management.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Financial Planner</b> Organizations include: Banks, Governments, investment firms, self-employment, and trust companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Provide professional services to assist individuals in identifying and attaining personal financial goals.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Investment Analyst</b> Organizations include: Brokerage houses and Trust companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Collect and analyze financial information – such as economic forecasts, trading volumes and the movement of capital, financial backgrounds of companies, historical performances and future trends of stocks, bonds and other investment instruments – to provide investment advice for their companies or their companies' clients.</li> <li>🌿 Their studies and evaluations cover areas such as takeover bids, private placements, merges and acquisitions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mortgage Broker</b> Organizations include: Banks, Governments, investment firms, self-employment, trust companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Provide services related to procuring mortgages.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Risk and Insurance Managers</b> Organizations include: Insurance companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the activities of departments and establishments that provide insurance services.</li> <li>🌿 Generally responsible for business development and must ensure that their group reaches performance levels related to established objectives.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Senior Managers – Finance</b> Organizations include: Financial, communications and other business service companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate, through middle managers, the operations of finance, communications and other business service companies.</li> <li>🌿 Working either alone or in conjunction with the board of directors, they develop and establish objectives for companies and develop and approve policies and programs.</li> </ul>

<b>Treasurers and Financial Officers</b> Organizations include: Financial and accounting departments in companies throughout the private or public sectors	 *See Financial Manager
<b>Trust Officers</b> Organizations include: Banks, Governments, investment firms, self-employment, trust companies	 Administer trusts, direct trust investments and disburse trust funds.
<b>Underwriter</b> Organizations include: Banks, Governments, investment firms, self-employment, trust companies	 Provide services related to the issuing of new stocks, bonds and securities.
<b>Strategies for developing experience (Which is definitely important for Finance)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Find volunteer opportunities, such as tutoring, where you can improve interpersonal skills</li> <li> Obtain an entry level job at a financial institution</li> <li> Apply for a Co-op position</li> <li> Join an association, such as BASA, to gain experience and enhance your resume</li> </ul>	

## University Links:

Business Administration:

<http://www.ufv.ca/busadmin.htm>

Finance Degree: [http://www.ufv.ca/busadmin/Programs/Bus\\_Admin\\_degree/Financial\\_Management\\_concentration.htm](http://www.ufv.ca/busadmin/Programs/Bus_Admin_degree/Financial_Management_concentration.htm)

Business Administration Student Association (BASA):

<http://ufvbasa.com/>

## Association Links:

The International Association of Business Communicators

[www.iabc.bc.ca](http://www.iabc.bc.ca)

The Canadian Public Relations Society Inc.

[www.cprs.ca](http://www.cprs.ca)

## Volunteer Links:

Volunteer BC

[www.volunteerbc.bc.ca](http://www.volunteerbc.bc.ca)

Abbotsford Community Services

[www.abbotsfordcommunityservices.com](http://www.abbotsfordcommunityservices.com)

Canadian Internships

<http://www.canadiancareers.com/internships.html>