

FINANCIAL PLANNING, BS

Overview

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Financial Planning

The Financial Planning, BS is accepting applications for admissions effective Spring 2027.

Students in Financial Planning study finance and economics as they apply to individuals, households, and small businesses in the course of accumulating and using financial resource. Students are introduced to issues of credit management, insurance and other risk management strategies, saving and investing, retirement planning, and estate planning. Students also study the financial marketplace as it relates to the needs of households and small businesses.

Degree Requirements

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Financial Planning

Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

Minimum hours required in the College of ACES: 35 hours, 20 of which must be in the Department of ACE.

University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300 and 400 level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (<https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part8/3-801/>) (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
	Composition I	4-6
	Advanced Composition	3
	Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
	Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
	Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
	fulfilled by ACE 100 or ECON 102; and ECON 103	
	Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3

Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
fulfilled by MATH 220, MATH 221, or MATH 234; and ACE 262	

Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)	0-15
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Code	Title	Hours
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Department Foundation

ACE 123	Introduction to ACE	2
or ACES 200	ACES Transfer Orientation	
ACE 100	Introduction to Applied Microeconomics	3 or 4
or ECON 102	Microeconomic Principles	
ECON 103	Macroeconomic Principles	3
ACE 161	Computer Concepts & Applications	3
or CS 105	Intro Computing: Non-Tech	
ACCY 201	Accounting and Accountancy I	3
ACE 262	Applied Statistical Methods and Data Analytics I	3

Communication Option:	3 or 6
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CMN 101	Public Speaking	
ALEC 115	Let's Talk about Food, Agriculture, and the Environment	
CMN 111 & CMN 112	Oral & Written Comm I and Oral & Written Comm II	
ACE 341	Careers and Professionalism	1 or 2
ACE 300	Intermediate Applied Microeconomics	3

Code	Title	Hours
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Major Coursework

Calculus Option - Select one of the following:	4 or 5	
MATH 220	Calculus	
MATH 221	Calculus I	
MATH 234	Calculus for Business I	

ACE International Course or Study Abroad Experience Option - Select one of the following:	3
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ACE 398	Experiential Learning (Study Abroad/Other Campus Study Abroad)	
ACE 411	Environment and Development	
ACE 417	Climate Change Economics and Policy	
ACE 435	Global Agribusiness Management	
ACE 436	International Business Immersion	
ACE 451	Agriculture in Intl Dev	
ACE 455	International Trade in Food and Agriculture	
ACE 456	Agricultural and Food Policies	
ACE 240	Personal Financial Planning	3
ACE 344	FinTech in Personal Finance and Financial Planning	3
ACE 345	Small Business Finance	3
ACE 346	Tax Policy and Finan Planning	3
ACE 349	Risk Management and Financial Planning Across the Life Cycle	3
ACE 360	Spreadsheet Models and Applications	2
ACE 440	Finan Plan for Professionals	3 or 4
ACE 441	FINRA Professional Exam Review	3

ACE 444	Financial Services & Investing Planning	3 or 4
ACE 445	Intermediate Financial and Estate Planning	4
ACE 449	Retirement & Benefit Planning	3 or 4
Financial Planning Elective - Select one of the following:		2 or 3
ACE 241	Advanced Personal Finance	
ACE 242	Women, Money, and Power	
ACE 243	Money and Happiness	
Code	Title	Hours
Total Hours		120

Sample Sequence

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Financial Planning

This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a third level of a language other than English. For more information, see the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

First Year

First Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 100 - Introduction to Applied Microeconomics or ECON 102 - Microeconomic Principles	3
ACE 123 - Introduction to ACE or ACES 200 - ACES Transfer Orientation	2
Composition I or Communication Option	3
Language Other Than English (3rd level)	4
General Education course	3
Semester Hours	15

Second Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 161 - Computer Concepts & Applications or CS 105 - Intro Computing: Non-Tech	3
ECON 103 - Macroeconomic Principles	3
Calculus Option	4
Communication Option or Composition I	4
Semester Hours	14

Second Year

First Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACCY 201 - Accounting and Accountancy I	3
ACE 240 - Personal Financial Planning	3
ACE 262 - Applied Statistical Methods and Data Analytics I	3
ACE 341 - Careers and Professionalism	1
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	2
Semester Hours	15

Second Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 300 - Intermediate Applied Microeconomics	3
ACE 344 - FinTech in Personal Finance and Financial Planning	3
ACE 360 - Spreadsheet Models and Applications	2
Financial Planning Elective	2
Free Elective course	4
Semester Hours	14

Third Year

First Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 345 - Small Business Finance	3
ACE 346 - Tax Policy and Financial Planning	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	4
Semester Hours	16

Second Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 349 - Risk Management and Financial Planning Across the Life Cycle	3
ACE 449 - Retirement & Benefit Planning	3
ACE International Course or Study Abroad Experience Option	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Semester Hours	15

Fourth Year

First Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 444 - Financial Services & Investing Planning	3

ACE 445 - Intermediate Financial and Estate Planning	4
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
Semester Hours	16

Second Semester

Requirements	Hours
ACE 440 - Finan Plan for Professionals	3
ACE 441 - FINRA Professional Exam Review	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
Semester Hours	15

Total Hours

Total hours for all requirements: 120

Learning Outcomes

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Financial Planning

1. Acquire broad and applied knowledge of general personal finance, retirement, estate, taxation, insurance, portfolio management and investments.
2. Understand a client's personal and financial circumstances through analyzing quantitative and qualitative information about an individual, family or small business.
3. Identify, select and prioritize financial goals by analyzing a client's current course of action and potential alternative courses of action. Participate in helping consumers, families, and small businesses identify goals in a world of financial scarcity and choice making.
4. Create, present, and implement qualitative and analytical recommendations through verbal, written and online formats.
5. Develop a meaningful understanding of licensing, collaboration, certifications, ethical standards, and compensation.

Contact Information

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Financial Planning

Agricultural Consumer Economics

Agricultural Consumer Economics website (<https://ace.illinois.edu/>)
 326 Mumford Hall
 1301 W. Gregory Drive
 Urbana, IL 61801
 217-333-1810
ace-aces@illinois.edu

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

College website (<https://aces.illinois.edu/>)

Office of Academic Programs

128 Mumford Hall
 1301 West Gregory Drive
 Urbana, IL 61801
 217-333-3380
aces-academics@illinois.edu

Advising

ACE Advising website (<https://ace.illinois.edu/about/contact-us/#paragraph-346>)
 217-333-1810
ace-aces@illinois.edu

Admissions

ACES Undergraduate Admissions (<https://aces.illinois.edu/admissions/>)
 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Undergrad Admissions (<https://www.admissions.illinois.edu/>)
 217-333-3380
visitACES@illinois.edu