

Finance

Finance is concerned with more than computational skills. Finance is central to the way in which management, shareholders and society at large perceive, understand and seek to change and control the nature of organisations, as well as to an understanding of how the market allocates finances to firms.

Departmental Facts

The Department of Finance is widely regarded as being at the forefront of international teaching in their respective field. The Department is renowned for pioneering new approaches to the study of the modern practice of financial management in organisations. The Department's aim is to give students an understanding of finance that will be useful throughout their career. This means that, unlike professional courses, the Department doesn't teach finance techniques with the aim of immediate application, but to enable students to critically evaluate their usefulness in different contexts. LSE's staff includes internationally acknowledged leaders in academic research and the financial markets.

The LSE's Department of Finance has grown in recent years to become one of the largest and most highly regarded finance groups in the UK and Europe. It is closely associated with LSE's Financial Markets Group which regularly hosts a wide variety of seminars, conferences and public addresses by leading academics and practitioners. In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), seventy per cent of the research activity in Business and Management Studies - the Unit under which the Department was assessed - was ranked as 'world-leading' or 'internationally

excellent' in terms of originality, significance and rigour. Furthermore, the Department was ranked first in the UK in the subject tables of the Independent newspaper Complete University Guide 2010.

Careers

Studying within the Department of Finance, students will have the opportunity to develop specific subject knowledge alongside a set of highly valuable and transferable employability skills, including:

- a first-rate understanding of business procedure and the nature and functionality of organisations and the commercial world;
- the ability to understand, manipulate and interpret complex numerical and statistical data;
- the ability to critically analyse information and assess all aspects of a situation as well as evaluating possible solutions;
- being able to present complex data verbally and in writing.

The top employment sectors for finance leavers are: financial services firms; accounting and assurance firms; consultancies; manufacturing and service firms, as well as non-profit organisations and the government.

Finance courses available to General Course students include:

FM212 Principles of Finance

FM320 Quantitative Finance

FM300 Corporate Finance, Investments and Financial Markets