DESCRIPTION
Finance is the future-oriented business function of administering and managing money in order to best position a company to be competitive with others. In recent years, the field has transitioned and grown into managing the national trend toward corporate mergers and acquisitions. The outcome of this merger and acquisition trend, along with government deregulation, was the development of huge financial organizations that offer a wide variety of services such as banking, brokerage, real estate, insurance, and investment banking. Subsequently, within the finance field, jobs are grouped in various areas including corporate and public finance, banking, insurance, personal financial planning, investment banking, and money management.

WHAT JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?
- Actuary
- Broker Floor Representative
- Business Service Specialist
- Controller
- Credit Analyst
- Financial Examiner
- General Manager
- Loan Counselor
- Property Manager
- Sales Manager
- Treasurer (Corporate)
- Bank Manager
- Budget Analyst
- Buyer
- County Auditor
- Financial Manager
- Financial Planner
- Operations Manager
- Loan Officer
- Real Estate Appraiser
- Securities Broker
- Branch Manager
- Business Professor
- Chief Financial Officer
- City Auditor
- Financial Analyst
- Foreign Exchange Trader
- Government Budget Analyst
- Property Assessor
- Retail Buyer
- Tax Assessor

WHO EMPLOYS STUDENTS WITH THIS MAJOR?
Local Government | State Government | Federal Government | Businesses | Banks | Credit Card Companies | Real Estate | Corporations | Loan Companies | Brokerage Firms |

INTERNSHIP INFORMATION
At Western Carolina University there are numerous internship opportunities for students. In some cases internships are established through a faculty member in the student's major. Oftentimes students find part-time jobs in an area related to their field of study. When this happens, students should discuss with their academic advisor the possibility of receiving college credit. Generally, three hours of general elective credit can be earned for a minimum of 200 hours of experience.

Interested in the classes you’ll be taking? Check your eight semester program here: http://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/Finance-Eight-Semester_Plan-2012.pdf
WHAT SKILLS ARE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM?

KNOWLEDGE
- Knowledgeable of ethical principles and the application of those principles.
- Able to identify needed actions or presented problems, find and use appropriate information to address the action or problem, identify alternative solutions, and make decisions.
- Knowledgeable of core business concepts including accounting, business law, economics, finance, information technology, management, marketing and quantitative analysis.
- Knowledgeable of the financial services industry and of investment strategies for individuals and institutions.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES
- Financial Services Association: http://financialservicesassociation.com/
- Financial Planning Association: http://www.plannersearch.org/Pages/Home.aspx

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
- MSN Money contains up to date information on stocks, companies, markets, real estate, and technology investing: http://www.msn.com/en-us/money

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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