

Finance Major - Bachelor of Science (BS)

The **Finance Program** at UW-La Crosse provides an excellent mix of theoretical and practical knowledge. Students are exposed to a variety of teaching methods ranging from lectures and group discussions to problem-solving case analysis and independent studies. The program provides a foundation in the primary financial areas: corporate finance, investments, and financial institutions. Students then have the flexibility to explore the basic areas in greater detail or to branch out in other financial areas such as international finance, real estate, financial planning or insurance. The department also offers a finance major with a risk, insurance and financial planning emphasis for those particularly interested in that area.

The Spellman Fund, a student-managed investment portfolio, involves investing real money in selected stocks and bonds recommended by students.

Major requirements

(College of Business Administration)

College of Business Administration (CBA) core requirements

All students enrolled in any program within the college are required to complete the following:

- College of Business (CBA) core courses (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/businessadministrationcba/#CBACore>)
- CBA upper division prerequisite requirement - Most professional, upper division courses (300/400 level) in the CBA require students to have the following to register into the course:
 - A grade of "C" or better in ACC 221, ACC 222, BLAW 205, ECO 110, ECO 120, ENG 110, MTH 160/MTH 175/MTH 207, and STAT 145/STAT 245;
 - 54 credits or higher earned (or in progress).

Curriculum

21 credits

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
FIN 370	Corporation Finance	3
FIN 380	Principles of Investment	3
FIN 390	Financial Markets and Institutions	3
FIN 475 or FIN 485	Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management Problems and Cases in Finance	3
Group I		
Select one of the following:		3
FIN 360 or FIN 363	Principles of Insurance and Risk Management ¹ Insurance Planning	
FIN 361	Life Insurance	
FIN 400	Finance Forum	
FIN 407	Advanced Financial Planning	
FIN 408	Retirement Planning	

FIN 409	Estate Planning
FIN 410	Management of Financial Institutions
FIN 437	Financial Modeling
FIN 440	Multinational Financial Management
FIN 456	Real Estate Principles
FIN 460	Case Studies in Financial Planning
FIN 475 or FIN 485	Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management ² Problems and Cases in Finance
Group II	
Select two of the following:	
FIN 450	College of Business Administration Internship ³
FIN 499	Independent Study
ACC 303	Tax Planning
ACC 311	Intermediate Accounting I
ACC 325	Cost Accounting
ACC 330	Individual Income Taxation
ECO 301	Money and Banking
ECO 305	Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis
ECO 307	Introduction to Econometrics
ECO 308	Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis
ECO 310	Managerial Economics
ECO 333	Behavioral Economics
ECO 340	Introduction to International Economics
ECO 380	International Financial Economics
MGT 495	Management Science
OR Any course listed in Group I	
Total Credits	

21

¹ Requires completion of ACC 221. Students may earn credit in either FIN 360 or FIN 363, but not both.

² FIN 475 or FIN 485 may apply to Group I if not used in the core.

³ A maximum of three internship credits from FIN 450 may be applied toward the finance major.

CBA core courses including FIN 323 and FIN 355 cannot apply to the major.

Degree requirements

All students must complete the general education, college core, major/minor, and university degree requirements in order to qualify for a degree. The easiest way to track all of these requirements is to refer to the Advisement Report (AR) found in the Student Information System (WINGS) Student Center. All enrolled students have access to the AR.

- General education (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/generaleducation/>)
- College core (p. 1)
- Baccalaureate degree requirements (p. 2)

College of Business Administration core requirements

All students enrolled in any program within the college must complete the 16 business core courses listed below and all requirements for the major (see department listings). MGT 449 must be taken in the semester of graduation.

Code	Title	Credits
ACC 221	Accounting Principles I ¹	3
ACC 222	Accounting Principles II ¹	3
BLAW 205	The Legal and Ethical Environment of Business ¹	3
ECO 110	Microeconomics and Public Policy ¹	3
ECO 120	Global Macroeconomics ¹	3
ECO 230	Data Analysis for Business Applications	3
ENG 110	College Writing II ¹	3
FIN 355	Principles of Financial Management	3
IS 220	Information Systems for Business Management	3
MGT/MKT 301	Business Communication	3
MGT 308	Organizational Behavior	3
MGT 393	Production and Operations Management	3
MKT 309	Principles of Marketing	3
MTH 160	Mathematics for Business ¹	4
or MTH 175	Applied Calculus	
or MTH 207	Calculus I	
STAT 145	Elementary Statistics (or equivalent) ¹	4
or STAT 245	Probability and Statistics	
Capstone - taken in the semester of graduation		
MGT 449	CBA Capstone: Applied Business Strategy	3
Total Credits		50

¹ A grade of "C" or better required.

Upper division prerequisite requirement

Most professional, upper division courses (300/400 level) in the CBA require students to have the following to register into the course:

1. A grade of "C" or better in ACC 221, ACC 222, BLAW 205, ECO 110, ECO 120, ENG 110, MTH 160/MTH 175 /MTH 207, and STAT 145/STAT 245;
2. 54 credits or higher earned (or in progress).

Baccalaureate degree requirements

Candidates for the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science degrees must accomplish the following:

1. Fulfill the general education requirements.
2. Complete at least one ethnic studies (diversity) course.
3. Complete the courses prescribed by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for the degree desired in the respective school or college.
4. Earn a minimum of 120 semester credits with at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA.^{1,2}
5. At least 40 credits must be earned in 300/400 level courses. Transfer courses earned or transferred at the 300/400 level apply to this requirement.
6. Complete major and minor requirements with at least a 2.00 GPA^{1, 2} in each major and minor (and concentration or emphasis, if selected).
7. A minimum of 30 semester credits in residence at UWL is required for graduation. (See undergraduate resident requirement (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/academicpolicies/graduation/#undergraduate-residence-requirement>)).
8. Submit an application for graduation via the "Submit Intent to Graduate" link in the WINGS Student Center as soon as the student

has registered for his or her final semester or summer term in residence. December and winter intercession graduates should apply by May 1. May and summer graduates should apply by December 1.

¹ Grade point average requirements for some programs will be considerably higher than 2.00. Re-entering students may be required to earn credits in excess of the 120 needed for graduation in any curriculum in order to replace credits earned in courses in which the content has changed substantially in recent years. Each case will be judged on its own merit.

² The grade point average recorded at the time the degree is awarded will not be affected by future enrollment.

No degree will be awarded unless all requirements are fulfilled and recorded within 30 days after the official ending date of each term.

Sample degree plan

Below is a sample degree plan that can be used as a guide to identify courses required to fulfill the major and other requirements needed for degree completion. A student's actual degree plan may differ depending on the course of study selected (second major, minor, etc.). Also, this sample plan assumes readiness for each course and/or major plan, and some courses may not be offered every term. Review the course descriptions or the class timetable (<http://www.uwlax.edu/records/registration/>) for course offering information.

The sample degree plans represented in this catalog are intended for first-year students entering UWL in the fall term. Students should use the Advisement Report (AR) in WINGS (<https://wings.uwlax.edu>) and work closely with their faculty advisor(s) and college dean's office to ensure declaration and completion of all requirements in a timely manner.

General Education Program

The general education curriculum (Gen Ed) is the common educational experience for all undergraduates at UWL. Sample degree plans include Gen Ed placeholders to ensure completion of the general education requirements. Courses may be rearranged to fit the needs or recommendations of the student's program of study. Gen Ed courses may be taken during winter term (January between the semesters) and summer to reduce the course load during regular terms (fall and spring). Students should consult with their advisor and/or the college academic services director in their college/school for assistance with course and schedule planning. Refer to the general education requirements (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/generaleducation/>) for more specific details.

At least 40 credits of the 120 credits required must be earned at the 300/400-level.

Note: New students and transfer students with less than 12 credits earned are required to take FYS 100 First-Year Seminar (3 cr.) during one of their first two semesters at UWL.

This sample degree plan does not establish a contractual agreement. It identifies the minimum requirements a student must successfully complete, to qualify for a degree, in a format intended to assist the student in planning their academic career. Actual degree plans may differ.

Year 1

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ECO 110 or 120 (Gen Ed 1009 Social and Behavioral Studies) ¹	3 ECO 110 or 120 ¹	3

ENG 110 (Gen Ed 1002 Written Literacy) ¹	3 CST 110 (Gen Ed 1003 Spoken Literacy)	3
MTH 160, 175, or 207 (Depending on math placement exam results) ¹	4 STAT 145 (Gen Ed 1004 Quantitative Reasoning) ¹	4
Gen Ed 1007 Arts and Aesthetics	2 FYS 100 (Gen Ed 1001 First-Year Seminar)	3
Gen Ed 1011 Past That Define Us	3 Gen Ed 1005 Ethnic Diversity	3
15		16

Year 2

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ACC 221 ¹	3 ACC 222 ¹	3
Gen Ed 1006 Mind and Body	3 BLAW 205 ¹	3
Gen Ed 1012 Planet That Sustains Us	3 MGT 301 or MKT 301	3
Gen Ed 1013 Cultures of Our World	3 Gen Ed 1008 Experiential Science	4
University Elective	3	
15		13

Year 3

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FIN 355	3 MGT 393	3
ECO 230	3 MKT 309	3
IS 220	3 MGT 308	3
Gen Ed 1010 Stories We Tell	3 Gen Ed 1007 Arts and Aesthetics	2
University Elective	4 University Elective	4
16		15

Year 4

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FIN 370	3 FIN 390	3
FIN 380	3 FIN 475 or 485	3
Finance Elective (Group I)	3 MGT 449	3
Finance Elective (Group I or II)	3 Finance Elective (Group I or II)	3
University Elective	3 University Elective (300/400-level)	3
15		15

Total Credits: 120¹ A grade of "C" or better is required for the CBA core requirements.