

WHAT CAN I DO WITH AN FINANCE DEGREE?

SRU's Finance program develops the professional knowledge and analytical skills needed for careers in financial decision-making. Graduates are prepared for opportunities with banks, investment and brokerage firms, consulting firms, insurance companies, real estate agencies, government agencies, and other public and private organizations.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) consistently ranks Finance among the most sought-after bachelor's degrees. In NACE's 2025 Salary Survey, **Finance ranked first among bachelor's degree majors in employer demand**, with 67% of employers indicating plans to hire finance graduates. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that the employment of Personal Financial Advisors (median salary: \$102,100) will grow by 10%, while that of Financial Analysts (median salary: \$101,900) will grow by 6% by 2034.

FINANCE AT SRU

The Finance program will introduce students to varied facets of corporate finance, international finance, investments, financial institutions, and financial planning. The Finance program is designed to equip students with analytical and theoretical tools that have real-world applications in fields including statistics, economics, and mathematics.

WHY CHOOSE SRU FINANCE?

- 1. Small class sizes:** Small class sizes with faculty members that are available to answer your questions and guide you to success.
- 2. Experienced faculty:** You will be taught by full-time faculty members—not graduate assistants—who bring real-life examples, research, and/or industry experience to enhance your learning.
- 3. Support and guidance:** Every undergraduate is assigned an academic adviser within the major to guide them through the programs and decisions about educational and career goals.
- 4. Business school accreditation:** All degree programs within the School of Business are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), a designation obtained by only 6% of business schools globally. Accreditation means that our business programs meet or exceed the industry standards developed by experts in higher education.
- 5. Real-life applications:** Students will have the opportunity to gain hands-on investment experience by managing real-money accounts and using Bloomberg Terminals in the Finance Lab to analyze financial markets and investment strategies. Upper-level courses provide students with real-life applications and data analysis tools to make informed financial decisions for their personal and professional lives. Students also have the opportunity to manage a real-money investment fund and join annual field trips to NY and D.C.



MAJOR

- **Finance (BSBA)**

MINORS

- Accounting
- Business Analytics
- Economics
- Finance
- Information Systems

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Finance (BSBA) 4+1 Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA) with Finance Concentration

SlipperyRock
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INTERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU Finance students have completed internships at various companies including:

- BNY Mellon (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Northwestern Mutual (Akron, OH)
- Westinghouse (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Hershey Entertainment and Resorts (Hershey, PA)
- Commercial Bank & Trust (West Newton, PA)
- Berkshire Hathaway (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Diamond Credit Union (Wyomissing, PA)
- Erie Insurance Group (Erie, PA)
- Farmers Insurance (Zelienople, PA)
- KeyBank (Pittsburgh, PA)
- First National Bank (Sarver, PA)
- PNC Bank (Pittsburgh, PA)

CAREER OUTCOMES

Graduates of the SRU Finance program have successfully secured careers in a variety of areas including:

- Financial analyst – Northwestern Mutual (Cranberry, PA)
- Data analyst – Rue 21 (Cranberry, PA)
- Corporate banking analyst – PNC Bank (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Auditor – Department of Defense (Cleveland, OH)
- Financial consultant – Equitable Advisors (Erie, P)
- Financial systems analyst – Gartner, Inc. (Fort Myers, FL)
- Operations analyst – BNY Mellon (Pittsburgh, PA)

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Alpha Kappa Psi: Oldest and largest fraternity in the world
- Beta Gamma Sigma: International Business Honor Society
- Finance and Economics Club
- Rock Solid Investment Club



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Brian MacMurdo – SRU class of 2023
Financial Systems Analyst, Gartner, Inc.

"Slippery Rock's finance program prepared me for my career by making me fluent in the language of finance. Throughout my day to day, the thing I recognize most is the specific financial/accounting terms and I can effectively participate in all conversations."

Ashley Burhenn – SRU class of 2022
Financial Consultant, Equitable Advisors, LLC

"The finance program helped me gain knowledge about the principles and characteristics of investing and communication skills from working in a team and presenting projects in the classroom."

Jett Craig Smith – SRU class of 2019
Senior Margin Analyst, BNY Mellon

"The SRU finance program gives students the knowledge they need, both from a technical and terminology standpoint, to excel in financial roles. Numerous courses focused on the use of Excel in this field which translated into the workforce significantly."

ACADEMIC CONTACT:
Eisenberg Classroom Building
Thuy Bui, chairperson
thuy.bui@sru.edu
724.738.2576

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.sru.edu/majors

ADMISSIONS OFFICE:
North Hall Welcome Center
asktherock@sru.edu
724.738.2015