



University of Piraeus
Department of Banking and Financial Management



New English Spoken Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Markets



A Message from the Head of the Graduate Program

Welcome to the **New English Spoken Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Markets** of the Department of Banking and Financial Management at the University of Piraeus. At present, you are likely to be inquiring into a number of graduate schools, searching for the one that holds out the greatest opportunities for your personal and academic growth. In our Department, the life of the mind is built on - and enriched by - the very act of reciprocity implied in mentorship. You will discover that our Department's faculty members are approachable, caring and rigorous in their expectations, both of their students and themselves. Our professors are distinguished scholars who publish extensively in all areas of Economics, Finance, Banking, Econometrics and Accounting each year.

The **Master in Banking and Financial Markets** provides its students with the analytical and communicative skills necessary for effective decision making through the application of financial theory and financial intermediation. With ever-increasing financial globalization and competition for employment in the financial and banking sector, it is crucial that professional prepare for the increasingly complex world of Banking and Finance by building a solid foundation. Our new Masters program offers a challenging advanced degree that prepares its participants to become the leaders of this rewarding and dynamic field. While being collegial, our programs are also rigorous. In the lab or in the seminar classroom, you are encouraged to contribute your fullest to the discipline you have made your own. Our students make professional presentations in the class meetings, panels and conferences. Similarly, a limited number of the students at the end of the first semester will receive external funding awards based on their academic merit. Such achievements contribute to the exceptional placements of our alumni, which in turn give them the opportunity to invest in another generation of students and to lead in a variety of professional roles.

Our Department's tradition informs education that is student-centered, emphasizing the individual and the development of the whole person. Our graduates leave the Department with professional skills and confidence, ready to put knowledge into action, improve the human condition, and add to our knowledge bases.

I hope that the glimpse of intellectual life at the University of Piraeus offered in this letter will convince you that our **New English Spoken Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Markets** will be a special place for you.

Dr. Nicholas Apergis

The **Department of Banking and Financial Management** of the University of Piraeus in Greece was established in 1990 with the aim of bridging the gap between the university and the financial world. It is an ambitious department with a focus on quality teaching and research in the areas of banking, finance, economics and econometrics. The department emphasizes both theory and practice with faculty members who bring substantial practical experience to the classroom.

The Department of Banking and Financial Management emphasizes research quality, as evidenced by the publications of its faculty in professional journals such as the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Finance*, the *Review of Financial Studies*, the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, the *Journal of Business*, the *Journal of Monetary Economics*, the *Journal of Money, Credit & Banking*, the *Review of Economics & Statistics*, *Econometric Theory*, the *Journal of Time Series Analysis*, the *Econometric Journal*, the *Journal of Banking & Finance*, the *Journal of Futures Markets*, *Journal of International Money & Finance* and many other top quality journals. Some faculty members hold key positions in the Greek banking sector as well.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entry requirements are:

- An undergraduate degree of good academic standards
- TOEFL test (minimum 88-Internet based)
- IELTS test (minimum 6.5)
- GMAT test (minimum 550)

Scores should be sent directly to the department. Classification code for TOEFL is 4142 and for GMAT is Z5C-QH-32.

TUITION FEES

Annual tuition fees amount to 6,000 Euros. Overseas students as well as Greek students in areas away from Piraeus will also have to pay accommodation fees on their own. The cost for housing and meals is estimated to be about €6,000 for the full academic year.

THESIS GENERATION

As part of the graduate program, students are expected to produce a thesis, which would utilize the material covered in the courses. The thesis can be either theoretical or applied and should have an approximate length of 11,000 to 22,000 words.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The new Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Markets, conducted in the English language, addresses pressing topics in modern economies and it is designed to satisfy the needs of professionals at all levels. Whether individuals work in a banking institution or any other financial firm or run their own business, this program will provide the knowledge and skills to keep them current with the latest developments in Finance. The effectiveness of this program rests on its successful combination of the academic and professional abilities of its instructors and the ample interaction of students and instructors. The program offers a Master's in Finance degree that covers best practices in various financial disciplines (described below) and adds a valuable credential to your resume.

This English version of the graduate program in Finance suits those who are:

- Graduates with professional experience in the financial sector
- Managers or accountants in the public or the private sector of the economy
- Graduates contemplating a career in the banking and financial services industry
- Finance professionals (like corporate treasurers, accountants) who deal with the financial services industry

The program also includes the initiation of collaborations with Departments of Finance at foreign universities, rendering the capacity of instructors to offer the program's courses abroad.

DURATION

The program design allows ONLY the enrolment of full-time students. They complete the course requirements in two consecutive semesters (one academic year). All students enrolled in this Master's Program must successfully complete the four (4) core courses in the first semester and the four (4) elective courses in the second semester. Finally, they start write their thesis in the second semester (which continues during the summer time), when a common set of financial and computational courses are offered. In each course, students will have the experience solving case-study problems and make presentations. Elective courses would be offered when at least ten (10) students sign up. The minimum annual number of students for the Program to start is twenty five (25).



COURSES

1st SEMESTER: CORE COURSES (3 hours per week-total 30 hours)

- Quantitative Methods in Finance
- Financial Markets, Institutions and Instruments
- Financial Theory
- Governments, Financial Markets and the Macroeconomy

2nd SEMESTER: ELECTIVE COURSES (3 hours per week-total 30 hours)
PLUS THESIS

Four courses must be selected of which no more than two courses can be selected per topic area:

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

- Economic Analysis of Financial Intermediation & Regulation
- Advanced Topics in Macroeconomics
- Financial Decisions for Better Competitive Strategies

BANKING

- Bank Strategy and Performance
- Special Topics in banking: Investment Banking, Private Banking
- Household Financing

ECONOMETRICS & QUANTITATIVE FINANCE

- Financial Econometrics
- Financial Modeling
- Methods of Computational Mathematics

FINANCE

- Behavioral Finance
- Financial Engineering
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Governance
- The Legal Environment of Financial Markets
- Portfolio Management
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Special Topics in Finance: Real Estate Financing & Investments, SME Financing
- Security Analysis & Investments
- Theory of Asset Pricing

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

- International Business/Financial Management
- Global Banking
- International Financial Markets

ACCOUNTING

- Auditing
- Cost Accounting
- Financial Accounting
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Introduction to IFRS

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