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6 October 2021

### Job Opportunities Available for Finance Major

Is finance a good major? Many people would question their major or can decide between several majors. Most people decide on their majors based on the careers that are related to their major, rather than interest. They often doubt whether the major is useful or can be useful in the future. However, according to the former professor at Harvard University, Brian Misamore, finance is more beneficial than you might think. It is especially true in the business field where one would be better off if they have basic knowledge of the business's financial health to set up expectations or guidelines for future projects (Brian, Misamore). There are many careers associated with finance or needed financial skills in their jobs. Finance does not limit your careers too, instead choosing finance will help you become more professional in business. It can be broader than you imagine. The first career that comes to your mind when you think of finance may be a financial manager or accountant. However, that is not necessarily true, you can even become a lawyer studying finance by knowing how to deal with claims and compensation from clients (Fata, Emily). It is undoubted that finance majors are useful in many careers, studying finance can assist a student to be more successful in the future workplace. Even simply knowing some finance skills can bring one an advantage in business.

As first-year students in college, most students may not realize the importance of their major or how beneficial it is. They may question whether they really need this knowledge in the future or is it useful in real life. This is mostly due to the lack of understanding of majors. Looking at finance, many people would not understand exactly what it would do. Then by

simply looking at these major, relevant topics like business, math, economics, stocks, markets, will automatically pop up in mind. If one started to investigate finance, one would find that it is associated with every part and everyone in society. Trivial things we encounter every day can be something related to finance, it could be useful when you acquire skills in the finance field. At the least, students in finance have a bigger advantage in passing the test and exams in business (Fairchild). At first, one would think getting a higher score on exams may not be useful in real life, but the result proves that one has learned better in finance than others. The finance major can bring an additional 10.2 on the MBTF and 7.5 on the CBE (Fairchild). This is putting you in front of the starting line, which also gives a good impression to interviewers in your future job.

Careers and jobs are always big decisions in life; however, it does not mean that the major you choose is the career you must take on. The things you learn in the majors can always apply elsewhere, just like a finance major do not always have to become a finance manager or budget analyst. There are many related fields that welcome financial majors. Some unexpected careers that finance would have an advantage in are lawyers. Think about it, if a lawyer has financial skills, then they would be better at dealing with clients who have trouble with their funds or loans (Fata, Emily). Furthermore, average incomes for students going into finance careers are above 40,000 salaries per year, for lawyers, it can go up to 70,000 or more. Those numbers tell us that finance majors broaden one's career choice because every career involves some sort of financial skills. Being in finance can also put one at the head of a project. For example, careers related to constructions project, developing businesses, real estate, all require finance (Fata, Emily). Knowing how finance works will allow one to make fewer mistakes and take shortcuts to avoid loopholes or disadvantages in the long run. It also allows you to be aware of the money that flows into the projects and save any unnecessary funds, which also leads to a problem of experience. Experienced financial managers or people who are superior in finance all

have a significant amount of experience and they all have at least a bachelor's degree. As well-experienced finance managers, they have keen insights, 'professional perspectives, and focus on broader issues rather than the minor problems in daily routines (Hildreth, W. Bartley, et al). Stu. Students should commit deeply to their major so they can plan ahead, like going in for a master's degree in finance will allow more space for you in business.

With all being said, it is also important to have fun and enjoy this topic so that you can continue to strive because one would not last long in a career if one feels pain in doing it. Therefore, a little tip from a research study conducted by several professors in finance and psychology for students that are studying finance is to learn by combining both traditional ways of studying and actively engaging in class (McCullough). It would help students concentrate and learn more easily. When entering a business field or any other career, it is important to have a "learner mindset" to adapt to the work environment and leave a better impression on your manager, (Brooks, Katharine). Although you need to enjoy a career to be motivated, learning finance will help with your future job, the more skill you have the more opportunity will come.

The most common finance career that makes the most money would be a financial manager, who makes around \$110,000 per year. Finance-related careers are in the top 10% of earners. Kyle, a financial manager, posted a video on YouTube to inform undergraduates about the finance industry. In the video, he gives out the main types of careers that are specifically related to finance majors. According to Kyle who graduated with a finance degree, the four main categories for finance majors are "accounting, investment, corporate finance, and investment banking," which all can be broken down into smaller categories. As one can see in the video, there are plenty of options for finance students and each of those jobs is leading to a bright future. The business world is very flexible, graduating with a degree in finance will only help one and give one more flexibility as they already have learned this in school. Internships and

opportunities that are provided by the school are also good learning experiences. The reason finance and business-related majors are so well off in the real world is that they prepare you for the business world, teach you things like investment, and help you gain some experience in this field. Shane Hummus posted several videos analyzing finance and business-related topics. In his posts, he answered many questions regarding the salary, satisfaction, and demand of jobs for finance-related careers. One thing brought to attention is that even though finance careers are high paying, and it helps with experience, but they also have a "below average score of satisfaction in their jobs." This means that the people in their jobs are not doing it because they enjoy it but because it is giving a high salary. The financial industry is highly competitive, it would be stressful for one to work in this field if they cannot have satisfaction with their jobs. Words of advice from Richard Bolles, it is important for one to consider yourself and your willingness and enjoyment for a career before you head in, (Brooks, Katharine). Not only will you feel happier, but you will also have more motivation and energy to boost yourself up the ladder.

As all being mentioned, finance is a good major that allows the student to be more flexible in the business world. It will not limit your career paths but in fact, it will provide good knowledge and experience for students who want to explore other careers. It would be easier for students who have finance degrees to be hired and notice but the interviewer as the industry is growing at around 4-5% faster, according to Shane Hummus's research. Lastly, there are over millions of jobs available for finance but choosing the one that you enjoy is the most important trait to consider. However, it is also good to explore and enter other fields and earning some experience there will give a nice touch on your resume. As industries are growing, skills will be a crucial factor for careers.

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### Annotated Bibliography

Brooks, Katharine. "CHAPTER 8: JOB SEARCH of the FUTURE- ProQuest."

[www.proquest.com,2021, www.proquest.com/docview/2556888204/3B1AB74F92C44D6EPQ/25?accountid=4840](http://www.proquest.com/2021/www.proquest.com/docview/2556888204/3B1AB74F92C44D6EPQ/25?accountid=4840). Accessed 20 Sept. 2021.

Dr. Katharine is an expert in the field of careers. She is a board-certified counselor and coach, who also authored many other articles. In this chapter of the book, she explains many useful techniques one should be aware of when they are looking for a career or attempting to achieve a higher position in their field. She includes a lot of insight and perspective; it is most likely that the purpose of this article is to inform but use a persuasive tone so her audience can carefully consider her recommendations. At the beginning of her article, it was entirely her train of thought and how she started her research for careers. It was an appeal to pathos that allows the audience to share her question and get more involved in the topic. Dr. Katharine also uses pathos in many parts of the article as a warning or suggestion to students so they can be mindful of future problems. In the article, logos were present to back up the reasoning, she refers to a lot of studies conducted by equally credible and well know professors or experts and laying out their theories and data. Her article also includes a recent survey and report, raising the reliability of her writing. Overall, Dr. Katharine talks about the techniques you should

acquire for the workforce and the kinds of hard skills and soft skills, social presence, etc. It is also important to keep up with technology as it is influencing all careers and involving in our lives.

Fairchild, Chris, and William Hahn. "Accounting and Finance Majors Outperform Other Majors on the Major Field Test in Business and the Comprehensive Business Exam: An Analysis of Exam Performance Drivers." *Journal of Education for Business*, 10 Sept. 2019, pp. 1–6, 10.1080/08832323.2019.1653249. Accessed 16 Nov. 2019.

The author of this journal is credible and has written other works regarding students and education-related topics. Their journal is based on research and data they collected. They have included a lot of statistics and use them to present their findings. However, their research might contain a little issue of did not including enough accounting major students. Although, they did show the advantage of how to finance major students perform in the exams. The main purpose of the article is to inform the audience of their discovery of how finance majors have an advantage in the business exam over other majors, for example, business and management. The authors are all reliable experts and include a lot of logos in their writing. However, pathos is rarely seen until the conclusion where they explain their purpose and state that their research has limitations. It does not only raise their credibility but also eliminates some bias. It appeals to students that it does give good encouragement to students in finance and accounting. In addition, their research includes good sample size and in-depth analysis of the reasons why those majors have an advantage. They even include sex as a factor, where females have higher scores. It is an in-depth research paper filled with numbers and graphs.

Fata, Emily. "20 Careers You Can Pursue with a Finance Degree." [Www.careeraddict.com](http://www.careeraddict.com), 9 Nov. 2019, [www.careeraddict.com/finance-degree-careers#:~:text=Average %20 salary %3A%20%2464%2C120%20Without%20a%20doubt%2C%20becoming%20an](http://www.careeraddict.com/finance-degree-careers#:~:text=Average%20salary%3A%20%2464%2C120%20Without%20a%20doubt%2C%20becoming%20an). Accessed 22 Sept. 2021.

Like the title of the article suggested, this source is about 20 career options for finance degrees. The credibility of this source may not be as high as the rest of the sources and the author of this source is not an expert in this field be rather, she is more related to psychology, and she is a media influencer. Although her sources are not as credible, the author's purpose is most likely to inform students in finance or exploratory about some of the jobs they can be in and their salary. Logos in the article may not be perfectly accurate but the numbers in the salary portion of the text do look like it is around the average. As for pathos, the author included comments and a cheerful tone as she introduces each career. For example, "Seeking a career whereby you can boost a company's financial performance? Perhaps working as an auditor is the [right career for you!](#)" This really appeals to the audience because those like of expression would touch on the part where they are desiring for. As all being said, this source would go along with the last source about the six benefits, they have a similar effect on the audience when they are all being positive and persuasive about the jobs in the finance field. It would also support the source that has the three successful financial managers.

HILDRETH, W. BARTLEY, et al. "Implications of Successful Career Paths of Top Local Government Finance Managers." *Public Budgeting & Finance*, vol. 30, no. 4, Dec. 2010, pp. 82–97, 10.1111/j.1540-5850.2010.00970. x.

In this source, the study is conducted on financial managers that were successful. The authors of the study included a detailed search of the three financial managers and what kind of things you should expect to be a financial manager. The author of this research is very credible, they are professors at universities, and they have received recognition and awards. There are also references to different famous or credible sources in the text. The authors also used pathos in many parts of the experiences from the three financial managers about their achievements and how much effort or work they need to put in to become successful finance managers. Data and graphs on each participant are gathered and presented in the research. They included detailed numbers and analyzed reports of the data in their findings. Logos in this case is the data gathered from the participant and the findings from other researchers to back up their paper and make it more credible. Not only did the author include the experience and their findings but also good suggestions from the three contestants. They provided their perspective on how to be promoted and be more professional.

McCullough, Kerry, and Nicholas Munro. "Finance Students' Experiences of Lecture-Based Active Learning Tasks." *Innovations in Education and Teaching International*, vol. 55, no. 1, June 2016, pp. 65–73, 10.1080/14703297.2016.1189843. Accessed 21 Mar. 2021.

The author of this article is a lecturer in finance and psychology. In this source, they explore the preference of students in the traditional way and active learning style teaching. After their research, they concluded that a combination of teaching methods is best suited for students. Their research is based on students majoring in finance. It is a credible source with references to other journals and experts' findings to back up their research. Compared with the first research of how accounting and finance outperform others, this research is much more on qualitative data rather than numbers. Pathos in the



article would be the experience from students about their interests, motivations, etc. It does appeal to the reader in that they may share the same experience. The purpose of the article is also to persuade, it is much like the recommendations from the career source where they both give out excellent options for students either going to the career field or in school learning. The logos in the number, ratios from the student's response. Although they are all opinions based, they provide a general idea of the topic.

Misamore, Brian. "6 Professional Benefits of Understanding Finance | HBS Online." *Business Insights - Blog*, 8 Oct. 2019, [online.hbs.edu/blog/post/6-ways-understanding-finance-can-help-you-excel-professionally](https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/6-ways-understanding-finance-can-help-you-excel-professionally).

In this source, the author may not be as credible as the other four scholarly sources when their main purpose is to persuade students into taking their online courses. However, the author's perspective and his identity are worth the time to consider his word. The author is a reliable expert in the field of business and management. He introduces some new ways to consider a finance major. It is from an employer's perspective tackling questions that you might face when you enter the workforce, finance is involved with every step of a project. His words are very emotionally appealing to the audience because he put you in those scenarios and makes you feel that taking finance can solve those problems. Often time in the article, the author puts the audience in this position by asking questions and putting up examples. The logos in the article are mostly at the end where the author lists some of the ways one can raise their financial literacy level. It is detailed and has steps to guide you. In addition, the author is very considerate and posted a definition of the terms that you might encounter. However, this source is an effective way to introduce the finance major and can be used to encourage other sources, but it will not fit in with the scholarly sources.

