

Example Pathways for
U.S. Students

Finance Master's Degree Program

11 Online Courses

An On-Campus Experience

These example pathways illustrate a few of the ways U.S. students can move through the program. Your journey is flexible — shaped by your goals, schedule, and course choices.

Explore the example [accelerated 2-year pathway](#) and [part-time 4-year pathway](#).

Complete a combination of **core and elective courses**, with over 20 electives available to help you tailor your studies. Specific course offerings may vary each academic year. The courses in the pathways are examples.

You may curate a focused path by selecting electives that also count toward a **stackable graduate certificate**. Learn more about [courses and degree requirements](#).



Harvard Extension School

HARVARD DIVISION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION



Accelerated Pathway

This pathway illustrates a **2-year timeline**, with 11 online courses and 2 on-campus weekend courses to fulfill the on-campus experience residency.

Completing the **admission courses** in the same term is intensive; consider the courseload and your schedule before deciding how quickly to begin.

Year 1

Fall

2 Courses

- **Finance** (Principles of Finance or Managerial Finance)
- **Statistics** (Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Economics and Finance)

MILESTONES:

- **Earning your way in.** Complete 2 of the 3 courses for admission.
- Connect with a **predegree and admissions advisor** for support.

Spring

2 Courses

- **Economics** (Microeconomic Theory or Managerial Economics) † *
- **Accounting** (Financial Accounting Principles or Managerial Accounting)

MILESTONE:

- † **Submit your application** while taking your third admission course (application period open March 15–April 15).

* *This course requires the test of critical reading and writing skills.*

Summer

2 Courses

- **Elective** (Example course: Principles of Real Estate)
- **Elective** (Example course: Hedge Funds: History, Strategies, and Practice)

MILESTONES:

- **Celebrate admission.** Decisions released in June.
- Connect with an **academic advisor** to plan your degree path.



Accelerated Pathway

Year 2

Fall

3 Courses

- **Corporate Finance**
- **Investment Theory** (Example course: Capital Markets and Investments)
- **Applied Active Learning Elective ‡** (Example course: Disrupting Economics: New Metrics for a Sustainable Future)

MILESTONES:

- **Convocation.** Join us on campus for a celebration with fellow degree candidates.

‡ **On-campus weekend.** Complete 2 credits toward the 4-credit on-campus requirement.

January

1 Course

- **Elective** (Example course: Private Equity)

Spring

3 Courses

- **Business Valuation** (Example course: Global Mergers and Acquisitions Design: Digital Business Model Innovation and Cross-Border Deals)
- **Financial Statement Analysis**
- **Applied Active Learning Elective ‡** (Example course: Economic Tools for Business Decision-Making)

MILESTONES:

‡ **On-campus weekend.** Complete a second 2-credit course to fulfill the on-campus requirement.

Graduation (May)

Join your peers on campus to celebrate at **Harvard University Commencement**.

Stay engaged through the Harvard Alumni Association and Harvard Extension School Alumni Association.



Part-Time Pathway

This pathway illustrates a **4-year timeline**, with 11 online courses and 2 on-campus weekend courses to fulfill the on-campus experience residency requirement.

Year 1

Spring

1 Course

- **Finance** (Principles of Finance or Managerial Finance)

Summer

1 Course

- **Economics** * (Microeconomic Theory or Managerial Economics)

* This course requires the test of critical reading and writing skills.

Fall

1 Course

- **Statistics** (Introduction to Quantitative Methods for Economics and Finance)

MILESTONE:

- **Submit your application** while taking your third admission course (application period open November 1–December 1).

MILESTONES:

- **Earning your way in.** Complete 2 of the 3 courses required for admission.
- Connect with a **predegree and admissions advisor** for support.



Part-Time Pathway

Year 2

Spring

2 Courses

- **Accounting** (Financial Accounting Principles or Managerial Accounting)
- **Elective** (Example course: Principles of Real Estate)

MILESTONES:

- **Celebrate admission.** Decisions released in February.

Summer

1 Course

- **Elective** (Example course: Hedge Funds: History, Strategies, and Practice)

Fall

2 Courses

- **Corporate Finance**
- **Applied Active Learning Elective** ‡ (Example course: Disrupting Economics: New Metrics for a Sustainable Future)

MILESTONES:

- **Convocation.** Join us on campus for a celebration with fellow degree candidates.
- ‡ **On-campus weekend.** Complete 2 credits toward the 4-credit on-campus requirement.



Part-Time Pathway

Year 3

Spring

1 Course

- **Investment Theory**
(Example course: Capital Markets and Investments)

Summer

1 Course

- **Elective** (Example course: Private Equity)

Fall

2 Courses

- **Financial Statement Analysis**
- **Applied Active Learning Elective** ‡ (Example course: Emerging Markets)

MILESTONES:

‡ **On-campus weekend.** Fulfill the 4-credit on-campus requirement.

Year 4

Spring (Final Term)

1 Course

- **Business Valuation** (Example course: Mergers, Acquisitions and Restructurings or Business Analysis and Valuation)

Graduation (May)

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