

# MSc Financial Economics

*A passport to the world of financial markets*

Maastricht University, School of  
Business and Economics





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# Today's Agenda

1

Our  
programme

2

Specialisations

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Student Profile

4

What does the  
future hold?

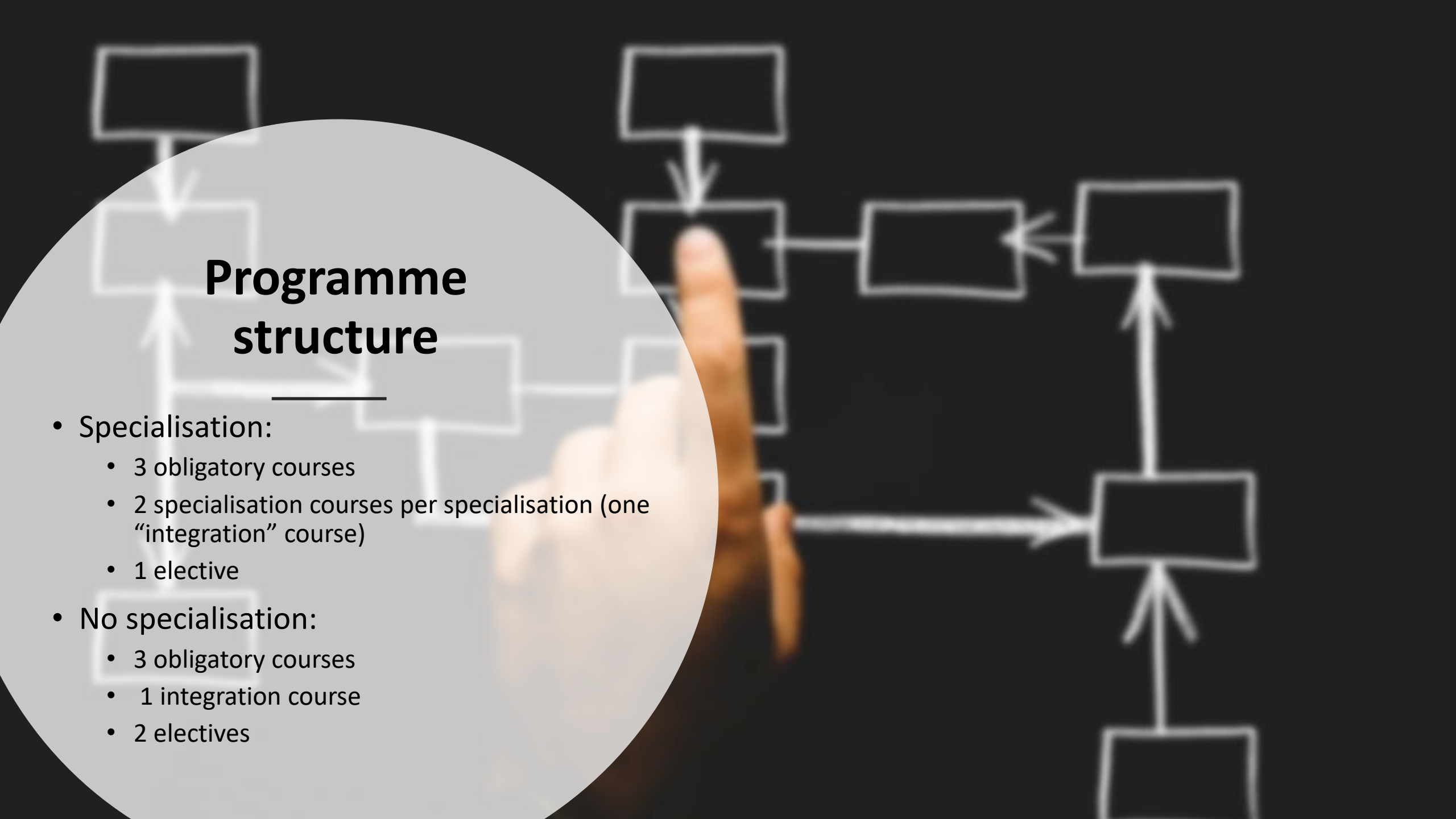


A close-up photograph of a row of books on a shelf. The books have various colored spines (red, purple, black, yellow, brown, grey, white) and some show signs of age. In the upper right corner, there is a blue hexagonal callout box with a white border containing the text "Our Program".

Our  
Program



# Programme structure

A hand is pointing at a blurred flowchart diagram in the background. The diagram consists of several rectangular boxes connected by arrows, indicating a sequence or flow of steps. The hand is positioned in the center-left of the image, with the index finger pointing towards the middle of the diagram.

- Specialisation:
  - 3 obligatory courses
  - 2 specialisation courses per specialisation (one “integration” course)
  - 1 elective
- No specialisation:
  - 3 obligatory courses
  - 1 integration course
  - 2 electives

<i>Period</i>	<i>No specialisation</i>	
1	ECB and Monetary Policy	Quantitative Techniques for Financial Economics
2	Global Banking*/Elective	Elective
3	Skills training: writing a master's thesis	
4	Fixed Income Management	Writing the Master's Thesis
5	Emp. Analysis of Financial Markets*/Elective	
6	Completing the master's thesis	

\* At least one of the two indicated courses

<i>Period</i>	<i>Asset pricing</i>	
1	ECB and Monetary Policy	Quantitative Techniques for Financial Economics
2	Institutional Investors	Elective
3	Skills training: writing a master's thesis	
4	Fixed Income Management	Writing the Master's Thesis
5	Empirical Analysis of Financial Markets	
6	Completing the master's thesis	

*Period*

*Banking*

1	ECB and Monetary Policy	Quantitative Techniques for Financial Economics
2	Global Banking	Elective
3	Skills training: writing a master's thesis	
4	Fixed Income Management	Writing the Master's Thesis
5	Risk Management	
6	Completing the master's thesis	



<i>Period</i>	<i>Financial Analysis</i>	
1	ECB and Monetary Policy	Quantitative Techniques for Financial Economics
2	Accounting for Financial Markets	Elective
3	Skills training: writing a master's thesis	
4	Fixed Income Management	Writing the Master's Thesis
5	Empirical Analysis of Financial Markets	
6	Completing the master's thesis	

# Quantitative Techniques for Financial Economics

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- Econometric techniques for modeling financial time series with empirical applications
- Pricing, construction of (derivative) securities and their use by market practitioners (hedging, speculation)

A hand holding a crumpled Euro banknote, likely a 10 Euro note, against a dark background. The text and list are overlaid on the image.

# ECB and Monetary Policy

- What is money and why do we need it? Is money “neutral”?
- “Transmission” channels between monetary /real sphere of the economy and how effective is monetary policy?
- Position, policies of the ECB (including a visit to the ECB)
- Monetary policy has been THE crucial factor in stabilizing the financial system!





# Fixed Income Management

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- Basics of bond “arithmetics” (duration, convexity, term structure, forward rates etc)
- Fixed income portfolio management
- Fixed income derivatives, mortgage backed securities, their role in the European sovereign debt crisis



# Master Thesis

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- Skills training
- In-depth study of financial economics problem
- Team up with staff member (supervisor)
- Cover 2 of 3 main orientations (monetary economics, finance, quantitative techniques)





Specialisations



# Asset Pricing

## Institutional Investors

- Pension funds, mutual funds, hedge funds
- Asset liability management, strategic asset allocation, shareholder activism and responsible investing

## Empirical Analysis of Financial Markets

- Predictability of financial returns with special focus on advances in artificial intelligence and big data.
- Do these enable investors to uncover and exploit new data patterns and thus profitable trading strategies?



# Banking

## Global Banking

- Why do banks exist?
- Systemic risk
- Fintech and digitalisation
- Shadow banking as a new threat for financial stability

## Risk Management

- How to manage risk in financial institutions
- Market, credit and operational risk
- Changes in financial regulation after the financial crisis



# Financial Analysis

A hand holding a magnifying glass over a document, symbolizing financial analysis. The magnifying glass is positioned over the text, highlighting the importance of the information.

**Empirical Analysis of  
Financial Markets**

**Accounting for Financial  
Markets**



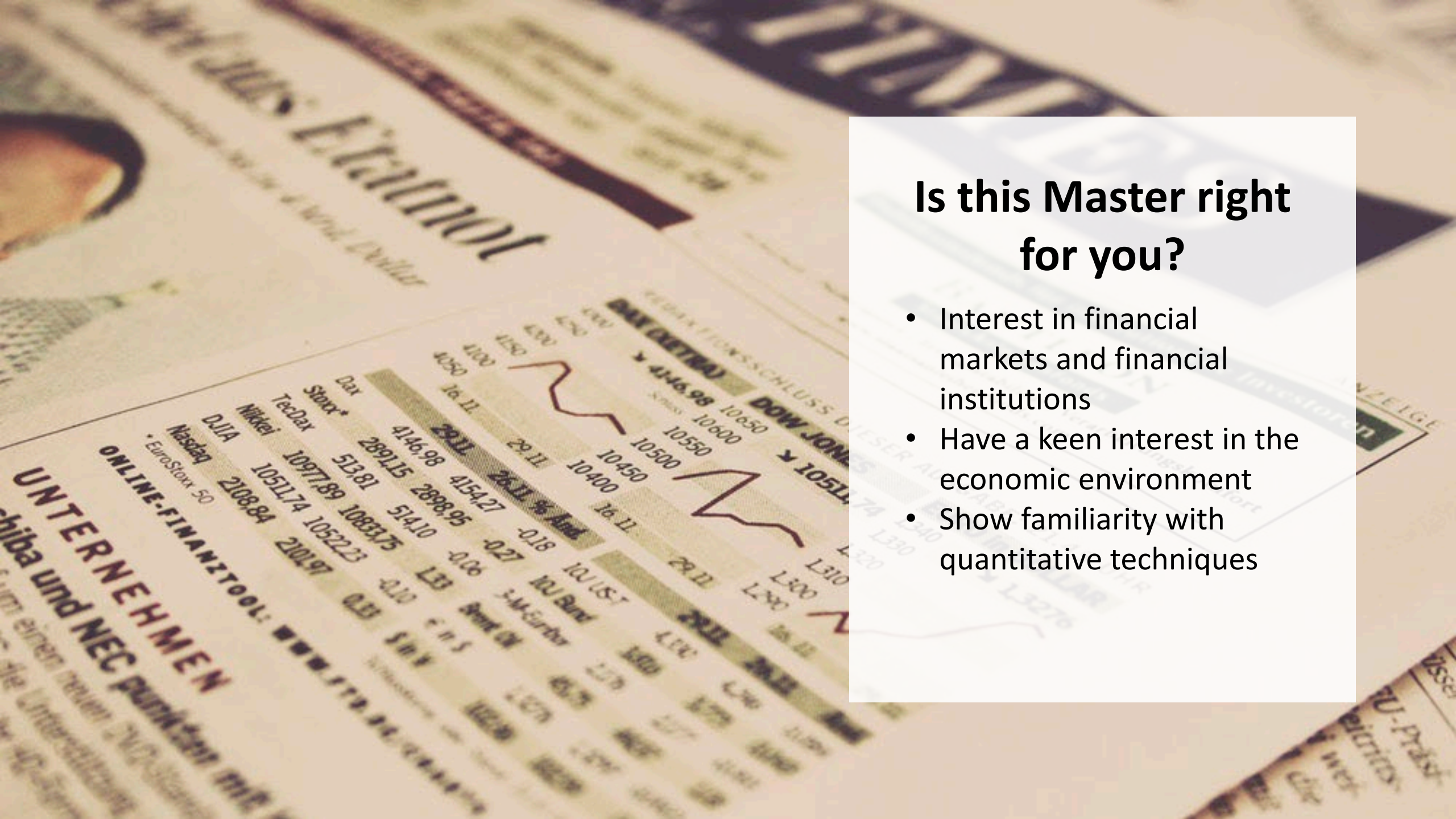


Student  
Profile




# Is this Master right for you?

- Interest in financial markets and financial institutions
- Have a keen interest in the economic environment
- Show familiarity with quantitative techniques







What does  
the future  
hold?



# Alumni Careers



## No Specialisation

Graduates employed in 19 countries

Consultant  
Financial Advisor  
Statistical Analyst  
CEO



## Asset Pricing

Graduates employed in 6 countries

Credit Risk Manager  
Economist  
Financial Analyst  
Consultant



## Banking

Graduates employed in 11 countries

Analyst Mergers & Acquisitions  
Economist  
Investment Analyst  
Consultant



## Financial Analysis

Graduates employed in 13 countries

Economist  
Investment Analyst  
Consultant  
Financial Analyst



*Questions?*

Visit us at the information market in  
the Mensa

