

MSc Financial Economics

A passport to the world of financial markets

Maastricht University, School of Business
and Economics

Ground Rules

- Please mute yourself while others are talking to avoid echo's.
- Please switch on your camera. We want to make this as “normal” as possible while seeing each other.
- Please silence the alerts on your PC: Outlook, Mail or What's app notifications will otherwise be heard by everyone.
- If you have a question while we talk, feel free to put it in the chat.



Stefan Straetmans
*Associate Professor of
Finance*

Today's Agenda

1

Programme
Structure

2

Specialisations

3

Student Profile

4

What does the
future hold?

Programme structure

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

Our Program

Period	Asset pricing	
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	

Period	Financial Analysis	
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	

Period	No specialisation	
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



Quantitative Techniques for Financial Economics

- Econometric techniques for modeling financial time series
- Introduction to principles of machine learning into finance and economics; principles of R
- Empirical applications



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

- 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



Specialisations

Asset Pricing

Institutional Investors

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

Empirical Analysis of Financial Markets

- Predictability of financial returns with special focus on advances in machine learning 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 , interest rate and operational risk
- Changes in financial regulation after the financial crisis

Financial Analysis

- Empirical Analysis of Financial Markets

- Accounting for Financial Markets

A person with long blonde hair, wearing a white shirt, is sitting at a wooden desk in a bright, modern office. They are using a silver laptop, with their hands on the keyboard and trackpad. A white pen and a stack of papers are also on the desk. The background is a blurred office interior with large windows.

Master's Thesis


- 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)



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



**Do you have any questions?
(E-mail programme leader:
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