

PRESENTATION BANKING, FINANCE & INVESTMENTS (BFI)

Dr. Robert Suban (*PhD Accounting &
Finance (Alliance Manchester
Business School) & ACCA*)

Head of Department

Banking, Finance & Investments

University of Malta

October 2024

The most important question in choosing a major

Will I be able to choose an area where **AI** will not make my job **redundant/obsolete** in 5/10/20 years time....

While some forms of AI are already being used, I think that various aspects of finance will still require a **human touch**....

The second most important question in choosing a major

Do I like Finance, Banking,
Investments, Trading, Crypto....

DO I LIKE FINANCE?

- Watch some of these films and see if you like the topic? (see link to trailers at end of the presentation)
- The Wolf of Wall Street
- Wall Street 1 and Wall Street 2
- Boiler Room
- The Big Short
- Inside Job
- Margin Call
- Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room
- Billions (series)
- ... and some others as well

Why study Banking, Finance and Investments ?

A door to a **well paid**, highly **varied**
and rewarding **career**

WHY BFI?

Still the major/area with the **most job openings + highest paid jobs**

No matter what happens in the future.... Financial services will still be **regulated and relevant** and there will be the **need for specialised people** to handle those jobs

BFI as a secondary major?

Finance makes the **world go round....**

Understanding the basics of it is **understanding
how the world works**

+

**it does not hurt to understand how interest
rates/investments work to make wise personal
financial decisions**

**The third most important
question in choosing a major**

Does it pay well ?

Table 9. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity in the main occupation						
Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
	January-March 2024					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	23,152	1,870	8,605	1,646	31,757	1,810
Construction	12,119	1,702	:	:	14,216	1,727
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	39,164	1,703	25,729	1,422	64,893	1,591
Information and communication	8,959	2,574	2,841 ^a	2,077 ^a	11,800	2,455
Financial and insurance activities	8,777	2,878	8,370	2,561	17,147	2,723
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,309	2,110	14,189	1,851	27,498	1,976
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	30,095	2,009	44,312	1,907	74,407	1,948
Other services	11,605	2,449	8,733	1,900	20,338	2,213
Total	148,961	2,010	115,026	1,823	263,987	1,928
January-March 2023 (Revised)						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,859	1,854	7,845	1,546	30,704	1,775
Construction	11,015	1,521	:	:	12,561	1,591
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	34,807	1,571	22,510	1,321	57,317	1,473
Information and communication	8,191	2,307	3,261 ^a	2,113 ^a	11,452	2,251
Financial and insurance activities	8,837	2,933	8,518	2,417	17,355	2,680
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,659	2,057	13,636	1,776	27,295	1,916
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	29,218	1,960	41,258	1,855	70,476	1,898
Other services	10,068	2,367	10,433	1,806	20,501	2,082
Total	139,448	1,932	109,542	1,761	248,990	1,857

BFI students

B.Com in 3 years Full Time

**+ 1.5 years = Masters In Banking, Finance
and Investments**

**Full Time (but only 2 afternoons per week of
lectures)**

Students with Masters degree (once you get the Masters in Banking, Finance and Investments

Table 11. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and occupational group

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
	January-March 2024					
Armed Forces	-	-	-	-	-	-
Managers	18,396	3,262	10,377	2,902	28,773	3,132
Professionals	25,250	2,762	31,846	2,356	57,096	2,535
Technicians and associate professionals	21,361	2,091	12,679	1,835	34,040	1,996
Clerical support workers	12,659	1,612	17,430	1,539	30,089	1,570
Service and sales workers	20,976	1,474	28,835	1,298	49,811	1,371
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Craft and related trades workers	20,519	1,630	-	-	22,079	1,616
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	12,331	1,349	2,500 ^a	1,420 ^a	14,831	1,361
Elementary occupations	14,865	1,274	9,687	1,146	24,552	1,223
Total	148,961	2,010	115,026	1,823	263,987	1,928
	January-March 2023 (Revised)					
Armed Forces	2,474 ^a	1,926 ^a	-	-	2,474 ^a	1,926 ^a
Managers	18,710	3,085	10,466	2,851	29,176	3,001
Professionals	25,365	2,627	28,816	2,348	54,181	2,478
Technicians and associate professionals	19,118	1,902	13,156	1,802	32,274	1,861
Clerical support workers	13,428	1,446	16,726	1,411	30,154	1,427
Service and sales workers	16,881	1,369	27,840	1,179	44,721	1,250
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Craft and related trades workers	17,988	1,552	-	-	19,383	1,532
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	10,292	1,412	2,660 ^a	1,512 ^a	12,952	1,432
Elementary occupations	14,458	1,236	8,483	1,118	22,941	1,193
Total	139,448	1,932	109,542	1,761	248,990	1,857

What do we learn ?

- Only refer to B.Com Banking, Finance & Investments
- Foundations of Finance
- Corporate Finance
- Investments
- Regulation
- Banking
- International Banking
- Financial Time series
- Trading
- Portfolio Management
- Risk management,
- Cryptocurrencies, Etc.

Which skills do you need ?

- No particular specific skills required except **basic Mathematics**
- A stronger background in **mathematics** is usually considered an asset in the industry but not essential
- Strong background in **English** oral and written
- Need to be **curious** and have an interest in following business news, and more particularly what and how things are done in real corporate life, etc.
- **Willing to learn** how to use **specific software and databases**
- **Willingness to keep yourself updated** with new developments even after you finish your course (this is now very important as most industries (not just finance) are fast changing)

Which careers can you follow ?

- According to the Labour Force Survey, the financial services sector is where **wages are the highest (see slides 8 and 10)**
- This sector is **still expanding** and has a lot of **further growth potential**
- Can work not only with banks but also:
- With investment companies
- Hedge funds
- Mutual funds
- One of the Big Four (EY, Deloitte, KPMG & PWC) + other auditing firms
- Regulators/Government agencies (see next slide)
- Possibility of working abroad as well

Today most **new (additional) jobs**
are **regulatory/compliance**
related

With **government agencies** MFSA, FIAU,
Central Bank, MLRO, etc.....

And similar posts within **regulated firms**
(**banks, funds, insurance companies, brokers,**
etc.)

Which careers can you follow ?

- **Most specialised professions in the banking and finance** area are regulated and can only be performed by people with certain qualifications/experience
- If you want to perform certain professions, the only way is to get BFI degree and for certain professions a Masters in BFI is a minimum.
- <http://www.mfsa.com.mt/pages/viewcontent.aspx?id=356>
- Link to section of MFSA website giving full details

SCAN ME



Today you need to specialise!

A Masters is the new
undergraduate

Solution: We offer the Masters in
Banking, Finance and Investments... just
after your undergraduate in B.Com with
BFI major

New MA Banking, Finance & Investments

Started October 2023

2 taught semesters + one semester
dissertation (total 1 year+)

Course Fee: 500 euros per semester
(TBC)

Programme (Masters BFI)

- Officially Full-Time programme **but possibility of working PT**
- 6 study-units per semester
- Teaching spread over 2 days (typically afternoons)
- 2-4pm, 4-6pm, 6-8pm
- Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Semester 1 Oct-Jan
- Semester 2 Feb-Jun
- Semester 3 Dissertation (not on campus) Jul-Nov

**Admission: B.Com with major in
Banking, Finance & Investments**

Link to Finance Films trailers

Wall Street 1



Wall Street 2



Link to Finance Films trailers

Wolf of Wall Street



Boiler Room (Financial Scams)



Link to Finance Films trailers

Big Short (Financial Crisis)



Margin Call (Financial Crisis)



Link to Finance Films trailers

Billions (Hedge Funds)



Bad Bank (Deutsche Bank?)



Link to Finance Films trailers

Enron The Smartest Guys in the Room



Rogue Trader (Barings Bank)



Link to Finance Films trailers

The Wizard of Lies (Bernard Madoff)



Equity (Women in Finance)

