About Penn State and the School of Graduate Professional Studies

- Penn State University is a multi-campus system
- Main Campus in Central Pennsylvania
- Our campus is located near Philadelphia
- Professional Master’s Degrees
- 1300 Graduate Students/Semester
- More than 7,000 Alumni
Student Body

• Hold degrees in a variety of academic disciplines
• Work in investment management companies such as:
  – The Vanguard Group and SEI
• And in Non-financial companies such as:
  – Lockheed Martin, Merck
Penn State Great Valley
Management Division

- We provide world-class, graduate education for experienced as well as aspiring leaders, managers, and professionals from a variety of industries and organizations.
- We also strive to advance the understanding and practice of management in a dynamic global economy.
- Our program format is accommodating to students’ careers and consistent with the excellence and academic leadership associated with Penn State.
- We place equal emphasis upon high quality teaching and research while providing appropriate service to our students, alumni, and the business community.
- The Division is dedicated to bridging the gap between theory and practice in graduate management education.
Market-Driven Programs

• Programs are designed and delivered to meet industry needs
• Relevant courses that blend theory with practice
• Focus on learning and new knowledge that can be put to use immediately
Why a Master of Finance

• Professionals in finance are facing great challenges
  – Emerging technologies, global marketplace, growing variety and complexity of financial instruments
• Important to comprehend advanced financial theory and new practices in the field
• The Master of Finance is designed to help you meet those challenges
Target Audience

• Advanced and specialized education for individuals with career interests in finance, such as:

• Individuals seeking professional certifications in finance, such as CFA®
Features

• Concentrated, intensive study in finance
• Cohort-based, weekend program
• 30 credits (10 courses), completed in 15 months, including a summer and winter break
• Small class size of only 25 – 30 students
• Taught by full-time faculty with extensive industry expertise
• AACSB Accredited
Program Delivery

• Completed in 15 months
• Students are admitted in January, and complete the program by May the next year
• Classes are recorded and made available on a secure Web site for students
• Master of Finance program is housed at Penn State Great Valley
Advantages

• Recognition
  – Penn State is recognized worldwide

• Facilities and Services
  – State-of-the-art graduate campus with student support services

• Network
  – PSU Alumni Association
Required Courses

– Quantitative Methods in Finance
– Financial Accounting
– Analysis of Financial Markets
– Advanced Corporate Finance and Financial Modeling
– Financial Derivatives and Risk Management
– Multinational Managerial Finance
Elective Courses (Choose 2)

– Portfolio Theory and Policy
– Fixed Income Securities
– Capital Budgeting and Real Options
– Managerial Accounting
Special Topics Courses (choose 1)

• Select topics such as:
  – Mergers and Acquisitions
  – Behavioral Finance
  – Financial Fraud Analysis
  – Transfer Pricing
  – Corporate Governance
  – Sarbanes-Oxley and Financial Reporting
Capstone Course

- Research in Security Valuation
  - Ensures a culminating experience that requires students to demonstrate evidence of analytical ability and synthesis of the knowledge acquired in the program
Program Delivery

- Five 10-week terms, two courses per term
- Weekend class meetings (full-time equivalent)
  - 4 Friday Evenings (5:00 – 9:00 p.m.)
  - 8 Saturdays (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)
- Two weekends off each 10-week period
- Meals are provided during class time
## 2010-11 Academic Calendar

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Your Application Checklist

• Online Application
  – Including application data, resume, personal statement, and application fee.

• Recommendation Forms
  – Should be provided by two people whom you think are able to represent a specific evaluation of you professionally.

• Official GMAT or GRE Scores
  – To expedite the review, unofficial scores may be submitted (official scores are still required).

• Official Transcripts
  – Two official transcripts must be submitted from every educational institution attended. International students must also submit official copies of the Graduation Certificate, Degree Certificate, and Diploma. If the records are not in English, please include attested translations.
Your Application Checklist

• Visa Application
  – If you do not hold a green card, a visa application is required. For more information, go to [http://www.international.psu.edu/visa/](http://www.international.psu.edu/visa/)

• TOEFL
  – Official test results with a minimum score of 550 on the paper test, 213 on the computer test, or 80 on the general ibt, and 20 on the speaking portion of the ibt. Official IELTS results will be accepted as well. A minimum composite score of 6.5 is required. TOEFL or IELTS is not required of students who have a baccalaureate or master’s degree from an institution in an English speaking country or a degree from an accredited American four-year institution.

• If you are admitted to a graduate program at Penn State, the [International Students and Scholars Office](http://www.international.psu.edu) (ISS) will process the necessary visa documents. The information required by the International Students and Scholars Office should be sent with your application materials.
Application Review

• Once an application is complete, it will be reviewed by the faculty committee.
• If the applicant is competitive, he or she will be invited to the next step, which is a personal interview.
• Interview can be over the phone, web conferencing, or in person.
Pre-Program Competency Expectations

• Applicants should have completed in a satisfactory manner a minimum of course work in designated areas:
  – Financial Management/Corporate Finance
  – Introductory Business Statistics
  – Microeconomics
Your Application

- Applications are being accepted now for admission to the January 2010 cohort

- Application deadline for international students who wish to begin in January 2010 is August 31, 2009
Tuition and Fees

• Cost includes
  – Tuition
  – Books and Instructional Materials
  – IT and other fees
  – Meals
• It is expected that international students will be self-funded
Important Contacts

• JoAnn Kelly – Graduate Enrollment Coordinator
  – 610-648-3248 or jek2@psu.edu

• Simon Pak, Ph.D., – Associate Professor of Finance, Professor-in-Charge, Master of Finance
  – 610-648-3246 or simonpak@simonpak.com

• Kathy Mingioni, Associate Director of Admissions,
  – 610-725-5291 or kgm2@psu.edu

• Pat Misselwitz – Admissions Officer
  – 610-648-3242 or pum1@psu.edu