



## BUSFIN 1250

# Careers in Finance Exploration

## AUTUMN 2025

**Instructor:** Steve Salopek, MBA

**Lecture:** Fri 11:10 a.m-12:30 p.m.

SB 319

**Office:** Fisher Hall 310

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**Email:** salopek.5@osu.edu

**Office Hours:**

### Course Description:

#### **You Decided to Major in Finance... Now What?**

There are a broad range of opportunities, in a broad range of industries available to you with a Finance degree. This course is designed to explore these opportunities, in an in-depth manner. There will be some lectures at the beginning of the course but the majority of the class time will be presentations from, and interaction with, current INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS. The goal of this course is to give you a “real world” perspective on various jobs available to those with a Finance degree.

We will have speakers from a broad range of industries including Wall Street (both Buy side and Sell Side), Corporate Finance, Wealth Management, Venture Capital, Consulting, International Finance, Risk Management and Real Estate. Each speaker will give you an in-depth look into their positions but will also discuss their employer, how they got to where they are today, their career paths, day to day experiences, education, additional schooling, certifications required and other topics you might find helpful.

### **Prerequisites:**

Must be admitted to the FCOB Finance Specialization



**Grading:**

The course will be graded S/U. There will be several assignments but there will be no quizzes or exams. The grade will be calculated as follows:

Attendance	40%
In-class Participation	20%
Pre and Post class career assessment	20%
Speaker Questions	15%
Book Summary and Discussion	10%

**Text and Materials (Required):**

The Wall Street Journal

***The Comfort Crisis: Embrace Discomfort to Reclaim Your Wild, Happy, Healthy Self*** Available on Amazon (E-book =\$9.99, Hardcopy \$18.99)

**Class Format:**

This class meets once per week. Lectures will be live and you must attend IN-PERSON. THERE WILL NOT BE A VIRTUAL OPTION OFFRED. At the request of most of our speakers there will be no class recordings.

**Attendance:**

Class attendance is REQUIRED and will be a major part of determining your grade. If you are unable to attend a particular class, please notify me of your absence *prior* to that class. Failure to notify me of absences, or missing more than one (1) sessions during the course will result in an unsatisfactory grade. Note, I take attendance every class.

**Participation:**

Participation in discussions during lectures and presentations from Industry Professionals will be a significant benefit to you as well as others in the class, and will be taken into account in determining your grade. A significant benefit of this class is the opportunity for you to interact with successful executives in the area of Finance so ACTIVE participation from EVERYONE in the class is STRONGLY encouraged

**Assignments:<sup>1</sup>**

*Career Intentions Assessments:*



Assignments for this course will consist of a BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER career intentions assessment and an END OF THE SEMESTER career intentions assessment. We will discuss the format and content on the first day of class and I expect them to be no more than 1 to 2 pages.

***Speaker Questions:***

In order to facilitate the discussion with our class speakers, you will be required to submit 3 relevant questions prior to each class. Questions are due by the Thursday BEFORE each Friday class and should be submitted to me in the e-mail box for this class. You will get credit for submitted questions, but I will randomly select questions from the submissions to be asked in class. I will make sure that everyone has a chance to speak up over the course of the semester, but not everyone will necessarily be called on to ask a question in every class.

***Book Summary and Discussion***

You are required to read ***The Comfort Crisis: Embrace Discomfort to Reclaim Your Wild, Happy, Healthy Self***. You will need to write a short summary of the salient points of the book and participate in a discussion in class. Further details will be provided.

The tentative schedule for this course is listed below. Since we will have MANY industry professionals as speakers during the class, the schedule is likely to be somewhat fluid, based on their availability. As the course progresses, I am also very open to suggestions for speakers that may be of benefit to the classes interests; subject of course to availability.

**The following schedule is tentative and subject to change based on SPEAKER availability.**

Date	Topic	Assignment	Speaker
8/29	Introduction and Course Overview		Salopek
9/05	Industry Speaker	Career Assess Due	
9/12	Industry Speaker		
9/26	Industry Speaker		



10/03	Industry Speaker		
10/10	Industry Speaker		
10/17	<b>Fall Break- NO CLASS</b>		
10/24	Industry Speaker		
10/31	Book Discussion		
11/07	Industry Speaker		
11/14	Industry Speaker		
11/21	Industry Speaker		
11/28	Thanksgiving- No CLASS		
12/05	Course Wrap-up and Discussion of Career Assessments	Career Assess Due	Salopek

**Other Policies:**

**Academic Integrity:**

All students enrolled in this course are responsible for abiding by the guidelines outlined in the University's Code of Student Conduct. According to University Rule 3335-31-02, **all suspected cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.**



**Appeals:**

Grading errors should be corrected. Appeals must be in writing, within 1 week after the graded work is returned—not the date you first look at it. The appeal should include a description of the question(s) that need to be re-examined as well as an explanation of why the original grade was incorrect. In general, the entire document will be checked for grading errors, and correcting these could either raise or lower the overall score.

**Disenrollment:**

Fisher College University Rule 3335-8-33 provides that a student may be disenrolled after the third instructional day of the quarter, the first Friday of the quarter, or the student's second class session of the course, whichever occurs first, if the student fails to attend the scheduled course without giving prior notification to the instructor.

**Students with Disabilities:**

The Office of Disability Services verifies students with specific disabilities and develops strategies to meet the needs of those students. Students requiring accommodations based on identified disabilities should contact me at the beginning of the semester to discuss his or her individual needs. All students with a specific disability are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services to explore the potential accommodations available to them.

**Waitlisted students:**

Students who are waitlisted and seek to enroll must attend class through the first class session of the second week of the quarter. After that date, students who have not been added will not be enrolled and may not continue to attend the class. Waitlisted students should contact either the Fisher Undergraduate Program Office or the Department of Finance office if they have any questions regarding the waitlist process.

**Electronic Devices:**

The absence of unnecessary distractions and interruptions is essential for a positive and effective learning environment. Thus, students may not use any electronic device in class, unless explicitly permitted by the instructor. All electronic devices must be turned off and put away prior to the start of class.

**Intellectual Diversity**

Ohio State is committed to fostering a culture of open inquiry and intellectual diversity within the classroom. This course will cover a range of information and may include discussions or debates about controversial issues, beliefs, or policies. Any such discussions and debates are intended to support understanding of the approved curriculum and relevant course objectives rather than promote any specific point of view. Students will be assessed on principles applicable to the field of study and the content covered in the course. Preparing students for citizenship includes helping them develop critical



thinking skills that will allow them to reach their own conclusions regarding complex or controversial matters.

### Religious Accommodations

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement **and** the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#).

Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#)

### Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a welcoming community. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Office (CRCO):

Online reporting form: <http://civilrights.osu.edu/>



Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605

[civilrights@osu.edu](mailto:civilrights@osu.edu)

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Civil Rights Compliance Office to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

- All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately.
- The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.