School of Finance

Master of Science in Finance

a MSF qualification that can change your career prospects for the better

Why RUC

Located in Beijing, the capital of China, Renmin University of China (RUC) is a key comprehensive and research-orientated university. RUC is among the most elite and prestigious universities in China, and is especially renowned for humanities and social sciences.

RUC, according to China’s Ministry of Education, is “A Standard of the Humanities and Social Sciences in China’s Higher Education Sector.” China’s Ministry of Education’s appraisal in 2009 ranked six of RUC’s programs number one: Applied Economics, Theoretical Economics, Law, Political Science, Journalism & Communication and Marxism Studies. Programs ranked second were Philosophy and Library, Information and Archive Management, while Business Administration ranked third.

Founded in 1937, RUC is now comprised of 22 different schools of discipline, 14 inter-disciplinary centers, 16 transitional centers for post-doctoral fellows, and also a School of Continuing Education, a School of Education and Training, the Shenzhen Research Institute, and International College (Suzhou Research Institute). As of October 2009, RUC has a faculty of 1759 which includes 504 professors and 606 associate professors. At 2009, RUC reached an enrollment of 22,856 full-time students, including 10,852 undergraduate students, 9,834 postgraduate students, 1,578 international students and 592 other students.

About SFRUC

The School of Finance (SFRUC) has two national key disciplines (Finance and Public Finance) and one national key research center (China Financial Policy Research Center). The research center is the only national level research center in the areas of Finance and Public Finance in China. As China’s leading institution of Higher Education in Finance and Public Finance, SFRUC has made important contributions to curriculum construction, talent cultivation, and academic research in Finance and Public Finance.

SFRUC has six majors for undergraduates (Finance, Public Finance, Taxation, Insurance, Financial Engineering, and Credit Management), six majors for Master’s degrees, five majors for PhD’s degrees, and one Post-Doctoral research center.
To cultivate more internationally recognizable talents, which are in short supply after China’s access to the WTO, SFRUC has established an innovative program for talented students, the undergraduate Pilot Class in Finance and Mathematics with bilingual teachers. This new program is part of the Quality Project in Higher Education – “Second Major with Distinctive Features”, funded by the Ministry of Education of China, and is based on the successful experience of the Pilot Class in Finance with Bachelor (4-year) plus Master (2-year) degrees in SFRUC. Each year, twenty-five top-notch students with excellent potential are selected to study in the Pilot Class.

To cater to the growing demand for highly capable talented managers who are well equipped with cutting-edge knowledge of Public Economics, Corporate Finance, and Taxation, SFRUC has established another Pilot Class program, the Pilot Class in Public Finance and Taxation. Each year, twenty top-notch students with excellent potential are selected to study in this Pilot Class with bilingual teaching.

About MSF Program

The Master of Science in Finance (MSF) International Program was established in September 2010 and is running well and highly reviewed. The program depends on the academic advantages and training experience of the School of Finance, offering overseas students – who are interested in understanding China’s financial conditions and problems but have not yet had a good basis of Chinese language – an opportunity to comprehensively understand Chinese culture, economy and finance. The program completely covers China’s financial industry including banking, securities and insurance.

Mode of Study
- Full-time (2 years)

Degree Requirements
- The students must complete all coursework (minimum 31 credits) as specified;
- Complete the thesis and pass the oral thesis defense at the second semester of the second academic year (usually in May or June).
- Degree will be conferred in late June or July.

Objectives of MSF Program
- Comprehensive understanding of Chinese culture;
- Comprehensive understanding of institutional basis, the policy system, institutions and organizations systems, business model and the direction of development with respect to Chinese economy and finance;
- Communication and connections within China’s financial industry;
- Research skill in Chinese economy and finance;
- Practical ability to engage in services relative to China’s financial industry.
Characteristics of the MSF Program

- Courses of the program will be lectured in English by professors with overseas study and teaching experience, government officials and industry experts.
- The language of instruction and administration in the MSF program is English.
- Each student will be assigned an academic supervisor, who is responsible for helping the student in pursuit of his/her area of particular interest.
- The program strengthens student’s practical skills and pays attention to the cultivation of professional ethics.

Training Directions of the MSF Program

- Financial Theory and Policy
- Banking Management
- Security Investment
- International Finance

Courses

The MSF program requires four semesters of full-time study (fall and spring) at SFRUC. To gain the degree diploma and graduation certificate, students should complete at least 31 total credits including 22 required courses credits, 8 elective courses credits and 1 credit for a professional internship. There’s no credit for the master thesis, but students have to pass the oral thesis defense.

Required Courses
Financial Mathematics (2 c)
Financial Econometrics (2 c)
Modern Chinese Economy (2 c)
Venture Investment (2 c)
Chinese Capital Market and Investment (3 c)
Corporate Finance and Corporate Governance in China (3 c)
Monetary Theory and Monetary Policy in China (3 c)

Public Courses
Chinese Culture (2 c)
Basic Level of Chinese (3 c)
Elective Courses
- Investment Environment and Chinese Taxation System (2 c)
- Fiscal Theory and China Fiscal Policy (2 c)
- Risk Management of Chinese Financial Institutions (2 c)
- International Finance and RMB Exchange Rate (2 c)
- China’s Financial Law (2 c)

Elective courses can also be chosen in postgraduate courses offered by full English programs of other schools of RUC.

Social Practice (1 credit)
Students should make a one-month academic inspection or investigation in financial institutions in China, and then finish investigation reports.

Master Thesis (Non-credit but Compulsory)
After finishing the training scheme, students should finish the master thesis under their adviser’s direction. The patterns of the thesis can be theoretical research, investigation report, case analysis and project, etc. For the 2012 fall MSF program, we plan to set up 5 professional courses and 1 elective Chinese course. We encourage students to finish most of their courses in the first academic year and the teaching activities are organized in this way. We offer flexibility to students in the second year. This means students can choose internships relevant to their own career plans. Students are also allowed to return to his/her home country to conduct thesis writing under the supervision of his/her advisor.

Extracurricular Activities
We strive to offer students the best possible experience through various approaches. For example, we currently offer:

Field Trips
Rich and varied field trips can promote understanding of the state and characteristics of the Chinese firms, industries and economy. It will also benefit students who wish to work in China after graduation. At present we offer students opportunities to visit:
- Commercial banks, securities companies and other financial institutions;
- Industrial corporations;
- Financial regulatory agencies
Guest Speaker Program & Seminar
The MSF Guest Speaker Programs expose students to ideas from other academic institutions. Students will also have a unique opportunity to listen to and learn from the latest information from the famous professionals in the industry.
Moreover, we currently hold a seminar (or tea party) once a month to exchange ideas, gather program suggestions, promote mutual understanding, and advance further cooperation.

Other Activities
We also devise many interesting activities to enrich the students’ lives in China.
- We host an Oral English Competition for undergraduate classes the TAs teach every year.
- On weekends and holidays, we often organize teachers and students to visit resorts in Beijing, such as the Great Wall, Forbidden City, Summer Palace, etc, to appreciate the charms of Chinese culture.

Entry Requirements
- Graduated from a recognized university and obtained a Bachelor’s degree, or:
  - is about to obtain the Bachelor’s degree in the current academic year before August 31.
- Preferably major in Economics, Business and Mathematics, etc.
- Satisfactory English proficiency.

Admissions
Applications are accepted only for the fall term. The application will be open on March 1st and closed on June 30th. Applicants don’t need to pay the application fee, as the fee waiver is provided by the School of Finance.
Applicants should send the following materials to the School of Finance of RUC no later than June 30th, including:
- Two copies of the Bachelor’s degree certificate.
- Completed application form in hard copy with photo and signature.
  Electronic version will be accepted for expediency in processing, but must be followed by a hard Copy (Downloading application form: http://www.sfruc.edu.cn/MFDP/admissions.html)
- Personal statement, including study and working experience, academic research achievement, study and research plan, etc;
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions. Applicants from non-native English countries are required to submit a copy of their transcript(s) along with a certified English translation.
● Two letters of recommendation from persons in a position to judge the applicant’s suitability for graduate study in finance.
● Four personal recent certificate photos;
● Copies of published academic papers, rewards and other research achievements;
● Proof of English language ability (TOFEL, IELTS or other international certificated English tests). Applicants who gain Bachelor’s degrees from English speaking countries don’t need to provide this certificate;
● Scholarship form (optional). Applicants who want to be considered for a scholarship must submit the Scholarship Application Form with their application materials. (Downloading application form: http://www.sfruc.edu.cn/MFDP/admissions.html)

All supporting documentation must be mailed directly to the following address:

Ms. Guo Ying
MSF Admission Administrator
Master of Science in Finance International Program
School of Finance, Renmin University of China,
No. 59, Zhongguancun St., Haidian Dist., Beijing 100872 P. R. China
Tel: +86 10-8250 9260    Fax:+86 10-8250 9261
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Materials examination: the School of Finance will examine the application materials submitted by applicants.
Interview: applicants who pass the material examination process organized by the School of Finance.
Admission: determine the admission by interview performance and application materials of the applicants.
Enrollment: after getting the admission qualification, applicants should register at International Students Office of Renmin University of China in set time, conduct enrollment procedure and pay tuition.

Expenses and Housing

Tuition
The current tuition rate is 60,000 RMB (around US $9100) per academic year. This does not cover costs of room and board, books and course materials, medical care services, field trip related expenses and other personal expenses.

Scholarships
Numerous merit-based financial support programs are available, and MSF students frequently apply for and are often awarded these scholarships and fellowships to offset educational costs associated with tuition and living expenses. A list of such programs is provided here:

MSF students are encouraged to apply for National Scholarship and RUC Scholarships.
We provide TA opportunities to at most 12 students every year on a competitive basis. The selected students are required to conduct 1-year (2-semester) oral English teaching for sophomores, with 3 hours per week. One-year tuition (60,000 RMB) is waived entirely for TA.
When enrollment reaches 30, the School of Finance will set up fellowships for students (up to 10% of total enrollment, and must also participate in the TA program). And all the students who obtain neither TA opportunities nor fellowships can win HP Scholarship (20% of tuition fee).

Housing

On campus dormitory is available at RUC, with the price ranging from $300 to $390 per month, depending on amenities and payment arrangements. Students who are interested are suggested to apply before May 30.

What the students say

"MSF at RUC has provided me with the knowledge and cultural wherewithal to excel in global business."

—— Sean Mackinnon, class of 2012

"Through MSF at RUC I have been able to study under world-class professors in an environment that fosters personal and academic growth."

—— Jeffrey Breece, class of 2012

"RUC and its MSF program adequately prepared me for my future endeavors."

—— Alexander Champagne, class of 2012

"MSF at RUC helped me to combine my background with my Chinese professors and classmates' perspectives to more clearly and comprehensively understand the Chinese financial system."

—— Nicholas Holtkamp, class of 2013

All enquiries are welcome.
Please contact:
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