

# Early Start to the Finance Option

*"Finance education at Sauder aims to contribute to building a more just, sustainable and prosperous world for all, by instilling in our students a deep sense of rigour, respect, and responsibility."*

**Jan Bena**

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Bank of Montreal Chair in International Finance  
Associate Professor and Chair, Finance Division

## What is Early Start?

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The Early Start to the Finance option is an opportunity for students to begin specializing in Finance in Year 2 and complete all of the requirements for the Finance option by the end of Year 3.

This option is intended for students who are ready to start exploring careers in the area of finance. In addition, the Early Start to the Finance option is for students with a focus on better preparing for finance recruitment opportunities beginning with internship applications early in their third year.

## Why apply to Early Start?

**1** You want to learn about financial markets and explore career opportunities in finance earlier in your commerce degree.

**2** You'll get early exposure to:

- Foundational finance courses as well as more advanced courses
- The different specialization areas within finance
- Support from the UBC Sauder community for Finance students (e.g. BCC programming & beyond)

**3** Preparation and opportunities to get finance internships as early as the end of your 2nd year.

## Early Start is the right fit for you if you...



Have strong quantitative and analytical skills.



Demonstrate a diverse and inclusive mindset and critical thinking.



Are an adaptable team player with strong relationship building and communication skills.



Have a keen work ethic & capacity to manage a challenging course load while maintaining a high GPA.

Remember, you can always follow the traditional Finance pathway if you need more time to decide or aren't admitted to Early Start.

# Why consider a career in Finance?

» You never stop learning and financial markets change all the time.

» Finance is both qualitative and quantitative.

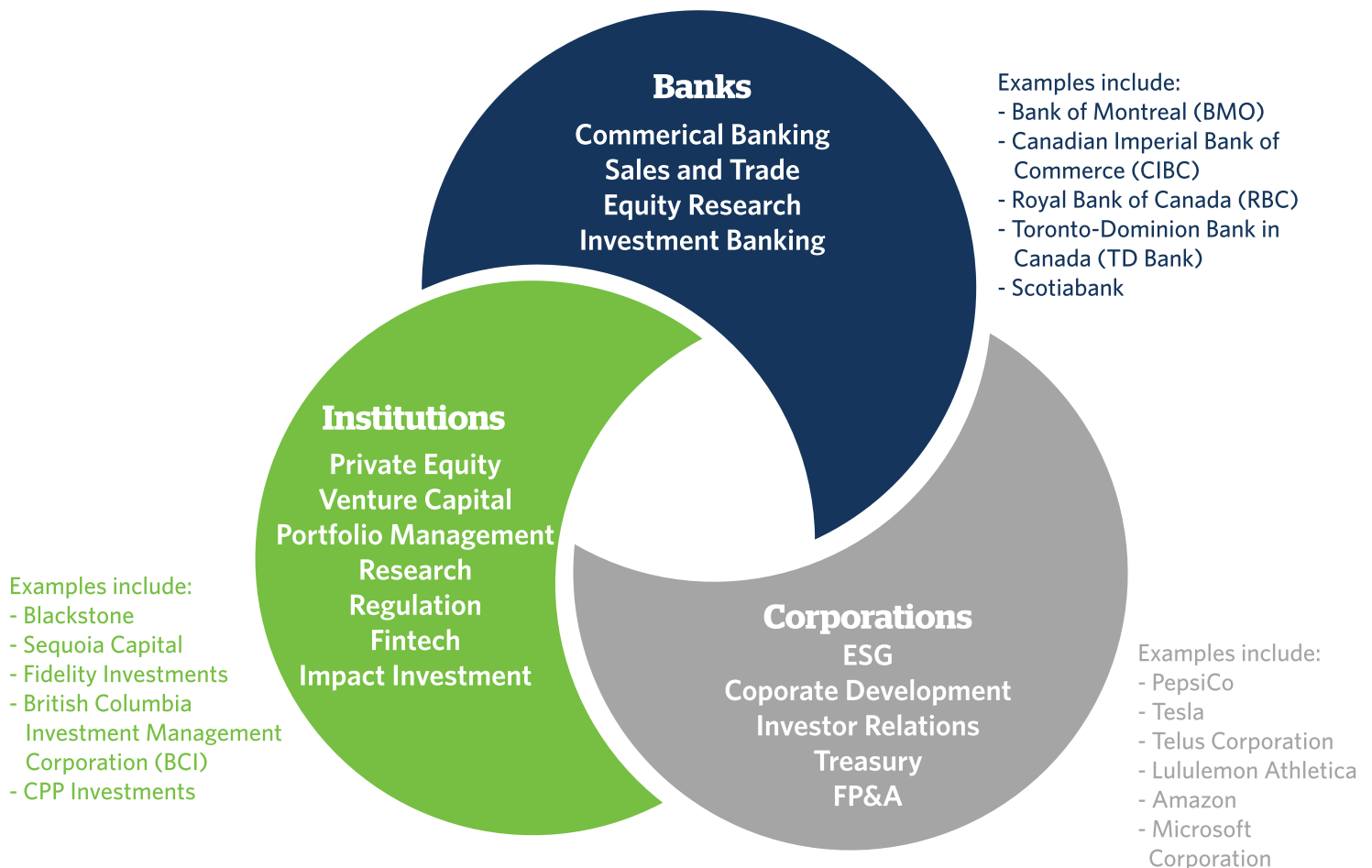
» Finance is both global and local.

» Finance focuses on the future.

» Ethics matter more than ever.

» Finance benefits from diversity in thinking.

## Finance Careers



# Fields in Financial Markets



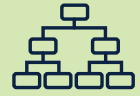
Banking,  
Sales and Trade



Equity and Debt  
Capital Markets



Impact & Socially  
Responsible Investing,  
Compliance and Risk



Asset & Investment  
Management



Corporate Finance,  
ESG



Private Equity,  
Venture Capital



FinTech,  
Crypto & DeFi



Trading,  
Exchanges, Brokers

## Employers are looking for you to stand out with...



Knowledge of theoretical foundations of finance.



Oral and written communication skills.



Analytical and technical skills.



Independent critical thinking and ability to confront new problems.



Identification and utilization of key sources of financial data and information.



Teamwork and relationship building skills.



Ability to analyze and interpret data.



Responsible and ethical behaviour.

## How do I apply to Early Start?

**1**

Register for COMM 298 in Winter Session Term 1. After registration, you will receive a link to the Canvas application form.

**2**

Complete an application form on Canvas, including an opinion essay (Part 1 of application).

**3**

Achieve required grades in COMM 190, 293, 295 and 298 in Term 1.

**4**

Complete Part 2 of application by end of Term 1 deadline.