




UNSW  
FINTECH  
SOCIETY

**INTRO TO**



**FINTECH 2024**



# WHY STUDY FINTECH?

Financial Technology is a rapidly growing field in the finance sector where technology is used to **create, enhance**, and sometimes even **disrupt financial services**.

**Bitcoin, peer-to-peer lending, robo-advice** and **quantitative trading** are a few of the many Financial Technologies that have been successfully implemented in today's business climate. UNSW's Financial Technology major encompasses these prevalent practices, providing the foundations of problem-solving required for a diverse set of roles and industries.

## THE FINTECH MAJOR

Launched in 2019 in response to high demand for Financial Technology expertise, the Financial Technology major provides students with a comprehensive understanding of **dynamic trends** and **technological advancements** to excel in the rapidly evolving field.

The Financial Technology major integrates foundational financial knowledge with modern technologies, enabling students to develop **critical thinking and problem-solving skills**. These competencies are crucial for addressing real-world challenges and advancing innovation in the Financial Technology sector.

Students have the option to pursue the Financial Technology major on its own or in conjunction with other study areas within the **Commerce, Economics,** and **Actuarial Studies** Bachelor degrees.



# CORE COURSES

The Financial Technology major introduces students to fundamental financial theory of capital markets and institutions, laying a **solid foundation** for understanding the dynamics of the professional Financial Technology industry. The course then **transitions** into examining the impact of **big data** and other technology on the industry, changing the way money is transferred, loaned and invested.

The courses for FinTech are COMM1190, FINS2618, FINS3645, FINS3646, FINS3647, and FINS3648, which form the core foundation.

<b>FINS2618</b> Capital Markets and Institutions	Provides students with an introduction to Australian financial markets and an evaluation of the institutions, instruments and participants involved in the industry. - Prerequisite course: COMM1180 or (COMM1140 and ECON1102)
<b>FINS3646</b> Toolkit for finance	Dubbed by the panellists as the ideal starting course to the fintech major despite it numerically coming after FINS3645, 3646 serves as an introduction to the computational tools and techniques that have spearheaded technological advances in the financial services industry. - Prerequisite course: FINS1612/FINS2618
<b>FINS3645</b> Financial Market Data Design and Analysis	Explore technology as a disruptive factor that is transforming the banking and finance industry - Prerequisite course: FINS3646
<b>FINS3647</b> Bitcoin and Decentralised Finance	Explore the future of finance by diving into cryptocurrencies, and blockchain technology, complete with hands-on activities like trading on a DEX and creating your own cryptocurrency. - Prerequisite course: FINS1612/FINS2618
<b>FINS3648</b> Banking, Finance and Technology	Triggers a disruptive and innovative thinking process to explore the implications of technological advances on the current and future state of the financial industry. - Prerequisite course: FINS3646

These courses cover a broad spectrum of financial theories, applications, and emerging technologies, ensuring students receive a well-rounded education.

# ELECTIVE COURSES

Along with the core courses, students must select **one of** the following finance courses: FINS2615, FINS2624, FINS3623 and FINS3630.

<b>FINS2615</b> Intermediate Business Finance	The introductory corporate finance course provides students with a holistic view of the principles of financial valuation and financial decision-making. The course extends students' practical knowledge and skills in valuing cash flows and managing working capital. - Prerequisite: (COMM1180) or (COMM1140 and ECON1102)
<b>FINS2624</b> Portfolio Management	Answers fundamental investment questions on how to decide where to invest, and how much risk to take on. - Prerequisite: (COMM1180 or DPBS1180) or (COMM1140 and ECON1102) or FINS1613
<b>FINS3623</b> Venture Capital	Examines venture capital and private equity investments, focusing on issues surrounding the funding of entrepreneurial firms. - Prerequisite: (COMM1180) or (COMM1140&ECON1102) or FINS1613
<b>FINS3630</b> Bank Financial Management	Students enhance their banking expertise to cultivate advanced risk management skills. These fundamental finance courses will allow students to better understand the fintech industry. - Prerequisite: FINS1612 OR FINS2618 OR COMM1180 OR FINS1613 OR (COMM1140 and ECON1102)

Students may select **one prescribed elective** to explore their interests in the industry.

The prescribed elective courses encompass a wide range of finance topics including capital markets FINS2622, international banking FINS3650, and risk management FINS3636. These elective courses are structured to provide students with an expansive understanding of the wider fintech industry, essential for success. For students seeking **practical experience**, students also have the option to complete **Work Integrated Learning** courses which provide invaluable opportunities to apply knowledge in real-world settings.

