Finance Department Honors Program

The purpose of this program is to challenge and showcase our best students. We are looking for intellectually curious and ambitious students who are willing and able to commit a good amount of time and passion to their studies.

Application Process
Finance majors may apply to the Finance Department Honors Program during their sophomore year by submitting a personal statement (limit of 2 pages) to Professor Steven Todd on or before April 5th. The personal statement should discuss why you are interested in the program, why the program is a good match for you, and what you hope to gain from the program.

All applicants who submit a personal statement will be invited to an interview with Finance faculty sometime in April. After all interviews have been conducted, admission decisions will be made.

Program Requirements
Honors students will be required to take a minimum of 2 “advanced” finance courses while in the program. The advanced finance courses include options (346), portfolio management (345), advanced corporate finance (342), and cases (357).

Honors students will also be required to enroll in applied portfolio management (currently 399) during their senior year. We encourage honors students to also consider taking the graduate courses in finance math and modeling (620, 621), interest rate risk (624), credit risk (626), and valuation (628).

Honors students will be required to participate in two of the following extracurricular activities:
- Pass the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) exam – level I
- Participate in the CFA global case competition
- Become a senior analyst for the Rambler Investment Fund (RIF) or serve on the RIF investment committee
- Write a thesis

Honors students must earn a grade of B or higher in all their Finance courses.

Program Benefits
- The honors program will help students develop professional skills valued in the financial industry.
• The honors program will help students find internships and jobs in the financial industry.

• Honors students will be offered opportunities to connect to mentors who work in the financial industry.

• Honors students will be invited to networking events including panel discussion, workshops, conferences, and an awards ceremony.

General Advice
Current freshman who plan on applying to the Honors Program should aim to complete the core finance class in the sophomore year and to enroll in Investments no later than the fall semester of junior year.