MASTER OF SCIENCE
in FinTech
The Main Players

- **Government entities**: regulators, central banks, sovereign wealth funds, and all the authorities that grant licenses and can actively influence the financial sector.

- **Traditional financial services firms**: which are getting involved both as investors, potential strategic acquirers, and as promoters of innovation. For instance, Citibank, the US bulge-bracket bank, is incredibly and increasingly involved in the sector. It has a range of initiatives such as an accelerator, outside acquisitions, and a venture capital investment team that invests the bank’s own funds (on its own balance sheet no less).

- **Tech companies**: that provide financial services alongside their core products. For instance, both Uber and Amazon have dedicated internal teams of engineers and experts making a strong push toward increasing their presence in the sector.

- **Technology providers for financial transactions**: such as Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, American Express, Visa, etc. are all technology companies that are part of the fintech ecosystem and need to keep up with all changes in the space and with new competitors that may challenge them.

- **Professional investors**: which can be categorized based on size (small or large fund), stage (seed, late venture, private equity, etc.), and finally for source of funds, such as pension funds, strategic investors, family offices, etc.

- **New, disruptive companies**: operating in several different sectors, which we will cover in one of the following sections. Most often, these companies got their start by “unbundling” one of the services provided by an incumbent player.
New FinTech Services

**Personal Finance:** Tools to manage bills and track personal and/or credit and bank accounts across financial institutions (e.g., open banking).

**Payments & Billing:** Payments process card developer and subscription billing software.

**Lending:** Marketplace lending, microlending and alternative underwriting platforms.

**InsurTech:** Companies selling insurance digitally providing data analytics and software for reinsurers.

**Money Transfers & Remittances:** International money transfer and tracking software.

**Blockchain:** Levering blockchain technologies for financial services, crypto-exchanges, and crypto-currencies.

**Capital Markets:** Sales and trading, analysis and infrastructure tools for financial institutions.

**Wealth Management:** Investment and wealth management platforms and analytics tools.

**Mortgage & Real Estate:** Mortgage lending, digitization and financial platforms.

**Regtech:** Audit, risk and regulator compliance software.
Revenue is Exploding
The Skills Gap: 1.5 Million Worldwide

Top Skills in FinTech

- Skill #1: Blockchain & Distributed Ledger Experts
- Skill #2: Programming Skills
- Skill #3: Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence & Deep Learning
- Skill #4: Cybersecurity Expertise
- Skill #5: Industry Knowledge—knowing what in finance to disrupt.
The UCF MS in FinTech
The MS in FinTech is a combination of Finance and Computer Science graduate-level courses. The curriculum ensures students develop computing skills, build awareness of financial markets, and apply their skills to simplify financial services.

### Courses & Schedule

**Fall – Semester 1**
- COP 5815: Full Stack Development for FinTech
- COP 5840: Computational Methods for FinTech I
- FIN 6404: Strategic Financial Management

**Spring – Semester 2**
- CAP 5619: Artificial Intelligence for FinTech
- COT 6481: Computational Methods in FinTech II
- FIN 6778: Foundations in FinTech

**Fall – Semester 3**
- CIS5730: Blockchains & Smart Contracts
- FIN 6779: FinTech in Decision Making
- FIN 6515: Analysis of Investment Opportunities
- FIN 6777: FinTech Entrepreneurship
Admission Requirements

MS in FinTech Evening *On-Campus* Program Requirements
Earned bachelor’s degree with a 3.0 GPA from an accredited institution in one of the following: accounting, finance, economics, information systems, information technology, computer science, engineering, mathematics, statistics or natural sciences

MS in FinTech *Online* Program Requirements
Earned bachelor’s degree with a 3.0 GPA from an accredited institution in one of the following: accounting, finance, economics, information systems, information technology, computer science, engineering, mathematics, statistics or natural sciences
Minimum of 3 years relevant work experience
Why Partner with UCF?

- **Florida is “All-In” on FinTech:** State governor has made a commitment to making Florida a top destination for FinTech companies.
- **A Diverse and Talented Student Body:** UCF has more than 70,000 students. Many of whom are first generation college students. We are a Hispanic Serving institution. And our students regularly win national competitions in entrepreneurship, cybersecurity and professional selling just to name a few.
- **The College of Engineering & Computer Science:** is ranked in the top 50 public graduate engineering programs in the nation.
- **The College of Business:** is ranked as having one of the top 100 evening MBA programs in the country. It has a long history of providing working professionals with quality programs.
- **A History of Collaboration:** the two colleges have several successful collaborations including entrepreneurship, data analytics and professional selling.
- **America’s Leading Partnership University:** UCF has made corporate and community partnerships a core value of the institution. The College of Business alone has more than 50 partners across its various programs.

We can provide you with the talent you need!
What We Need

- **Students** for both our face-to-face and on-line programs.
- **Advisory Board Members** to help guide the program and secure the resources it needs to be successful.
- **Internships** to provide our face-to-face students with relevant experience that will ensure they are career-ready.
- **Real World Projects** to enhance the classroom experience and improve student problem-solving skills.
- **Clinical Faculty** to teach in our on-line program and provide practitioner perspective in our face-to face courses through guest lecturing.
- **A FinTech Lab** where students could develop new financial service products and applications.
Students

Tuition & Fees for entire On-Campus Program
• In-State: $11,090
• Out of State: $35,822

Tuition & Fees for entire Online Program
• In-State: $9,820
• Out of State: $34,552

WE ARE AN INCREDIBLY GOOD BUY
Advisory Board Members

Become key partners in our FinTech program

You help us by:

- Providing Industry intelligence on the future of FinTech
- Helping ensure our students are career ready
- Providing financial assistance or internships for our on-campus students
- Supplying us with clinical faculty to teach in our program

We provide you with:

- First access to our students
- The opportunity to have them work as interns before offering them a job
- Opportunities to work with our faculty on topics of mutual interest
- Opportunities to students provide solutions to some of your key challenges

We are looking for nine founding board members to join Fairwinds Credit Union on our advisory board.
Internships

- We expect our initial on campus class to have forty to sixty students.
- We would like all of them to have an internship opportunity in the summer after their first two semesters in the program.
- It would be a 10-week paid internship that could be done remotely or on-site.
- Allow students to develop and refine their skills while working on a real FinTech problem.
We have a lot of experience crowd-sourcing company projects. The best projects have the following elements:

• They involve something of importance to the company.
• They provide the students with access to the data they need to solve the problem.
• They test the students’ technical as well as strategic skills.
• They involve interaction with people from the company.
• They can be completed by a team of students in ten weeks or less.
Clinical Faculty

We are looking for FinTech professionals to teach in our online version of the program. The ideal candidates:

- Have a graduate degree in the topic/area of the course.
- Have five years of industry-related experience.
- Have the time to devote about 60 hours over 15 weeks.
- The courses are asynchronized so that teaching times are flexible.
FinTech Lab

A state-of-the-art place for students, faculty and industry experts, a hub for financial education, research, product innovation and industry in Central Florida. The facility would include:

• Technology development spaces complete with the latest digital platforms, computer hardware, and data visualization capabilities.

• Meeting spaces for teams of students, faculty and practitioners.

• Market research spaces where new products could be tested and improved.
Still Not Sure?
Come Visit Us