Olin’s PhD program in Finance emphasizes rigorous analytical training and prepares students to pursue careers in research and teaching at leading academic institutions across the globe. We foster a culture of collaboration between students and our research-active faculty, and our seminars and conferences attract cutting-edge researchers from around the world.”

—Armondo R. Gomes, Associate Professor of Finance

Olin’s PhD program in Finance emphasizes rigorous analytical training and prepares you to pursue a career in research and teaching at leading academic institutions across the globe. Our students have a strong quantitative background and typically have undergraduate training in economics, mathematics, engineering or other quantitative disciplines. Our research-active faculty members are easily accessible to you. Collaboration is encouraged early in the program, with joint research resulting in faculty-student coauthored papers published in top-tier journals. Much of the research is based on economic models to address problems such as the allocation of capital and risk and rewards in the economy. Empirical work widely uses the tools of econometrics—the application of statistics to economics.

The Wells Fargo Advisors Center for Finance and Accounting Research (WFA-CFAR) is dedicated to the dissemination of research in finance and accounting that brings to light cutting-edge thinking and helps solve the unique needs and challenges of business. The center brings an important focus to finance and accounting issues through the creative design of Olin courses, groundbreaking research papers and white papers, top-tier academic conferences and custom member projects. These corporate projects are teamed by PhD and other Olin students, working closely with Olin faculty. Students strive to solve current challenges and position the organization for the future.

Collaborative Research—Finance Faculty and PhD Students

Working Papers:

• Dybvig, P., Pezzo, L.*, Mean-Variance Portfolio Rebalancing with Transaction Costs.
• Gomes, A., Moreira, A., Sovich, D.*, Relative Valuation and Information Production.
• Gormley, T., Jha, M.*, Bonds Lie in the Portfolio of the Beholder: Do Bonds Affect Equity Monitoring?
• Kadan, O., Liu, F.*, Tang, X.*, A Forward-Looking Factor Model for Volatility: Estimation and Implications for Predicting Disasters
• Maurer, T., Pezzo, L.*, Lifetime Portfolio Choices with Optimal Inattention
• Maurer, T., Pezzo, L.*, Taylor, M., Importance of Transaction Costs for Asset Allocations in FX Markets.
• Thakor, A., Vuong, T.*, Dynamic Capital Buffers.

Published Papers:


*Indicates current or former student
Finance Faculty

CHAIR: Todd Gormley, Professor of Finance; Area Chair; Academic Director of GMF
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Research interests: corporate governance, mutual funds, empirical methods

Deniz Aydin, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, Stanford University
Research interests: banking and financial institutions, consumer behavior

Jason Roderick Donaldson, Associate Professor of Finance
PhD, London School of Economics
Research interests: corporate finance and financial intermediation

Philip H. Dybvig, Boatmen’s Bancshares Professor of Banking and Finance, Nobel Prize Recipient
PhD, Yale University
Research interests: banking, corporate finance, financial markets, asset pricing, fixed-income securities, industrial organization, portfolio management

Nicola Garleanu , Professor of Finance
PhD, Stanford University
Research interests: asset pricing, finance/investments, financial economics, option pricing

Armando R. Gomes, Associate Professor of Finance
PhD, Harvard University
Research interests: corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, economic theory

Brett Green, Associate Professor of Finance
PhD, Stanford University
Research interests: financial economics, information economics, corporate finance, contract theory, development economics, sports economics

Xing Huang, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, University of California–Berkeley
Research interests: behavioral finance, asset pricing, investor behavior, market efficiency, information acquisition, mutual funds, household finance

Ohad Kadan, Vice Dean for Education and Globalization and H. Frederick Hagemann Jr. Professor of Finance
PhD, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Research interests: corporate finance, asset pricing, market microstructure, economics of information, and game theory

Brittany Lewis, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, Northwestern University
Research interests: financial intermediation, household finance

Hong Liu, Fossett Distinguished Professor of Finance and Director of the Master of Science in Finance Program
PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Research interests: optimal consumption and investment with frictions, asset pricing, market microstructure

Asaf Manela, Associate Professor of Finance
PhD, University of Chicago
Research interests: asset pricing, financial intermediation, machine learning, text analysis, information economics

Maarten Meeuwis, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Research interests: asset pricing, household finance, and macroeconomics

Todd T. Milbourn, Vice Dean and Hubert C. and Dorothy R. Moog Professor of Finance
PhD, Indiana University
Research interests: corporate finance, managerial career concerns, management compensation, economics of asymmetric information

Andy Neuhierl, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, Northwestern University
Research interests: econometrics, monetary policy, asset pricing, finance/investments

Linda Schilling, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, Bonn Graduate School of Economics
Research interests: financial economics, macrofinance, microeconomic theory

Janis Skrastins, Assistant Professor of Finance
PhD, London Business School
Research interests: empirical corporate finance, banking, financial intermediation, organizational design, emerging markets

Timothy Solberg, Professor of Practice in Finance and Academic Director of the Corporate Finance and Investments Platform
MBA, University of Chicago
Research interests: economic development, health economics, international economics, banking and financial institutions, corporate governance

Mark P. Taylor, John M. Olin School of Business and Donald Danforth Jr. Distinguished Professor of Finance
DSc, University of Warwick
Research interests: economics and finance, higher education management, English literature

Anjan Thakor, Interim Dean, John E. Simon Professor of Finance, Director of Doctoral Programs and Director of Wells Fargo Advisors Center for Finance and Accounting Research
PhD, Northwestern University
Research interests: corporate finance, financial intermediation and economics of asymmetric information

Margarita Tsoutsoura, Associate Professor in Finance
PhD, Columbia University
Research Interests: labor and finance, corporate governance, political polarization in corporate America, corruption, and tax evasion

Guofu Zhou, Frederick Bierman and James E. Spears Professor of Finance
PhD, Duke University
Research interests: investment strategies, big data, machine learning, forecasting, technical analysis, asset allocation, anomalies, asymmetric information, asset pricing tests and econometric methods