CFAR Practicum

The creative application of advanced analytical tools.

Cutting-edge business strategy. State-of-the-art analytical tools. Intellectual property rights. Access to future talent. Washington University’s student consulting teams—the next generation of finance and accounting experts—are ready to apply advanced analytics and actionable insights to your business challenges. Conducted through Olin Business School’s Wells Fargo Advisors Center for Finance and Accounting Research, Practicum projects are customized, hands-on, student led and faculty guided.

5 to 10 students per team

14-week projects

2 project time frames

fall and spring

Areas of expertise

fintech, accounting, corporate finance, quantitative finance, and wealth and asset management issues

3 STEM-designated programs

Master of Science in Finance—Quantitative
Master of Science in Finance—Wealth and Asset Management
Master of Science in Business Analytics—FinTech Analytics

Intellectual property belongs to your organization

$12,000 standard consulting fee

Recent Clients

Advisory Research Investment Management
CoverCress
Detalus
Edward Jones
Neocova
NuPeak Therapeutics
Opera Theatre of Saint Louis
RGA International Corporation
St. Louis Symphony Orchestra
St. Louis Trust Company

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Confront challenge, create change.

Our students are informed by numbers, driven by principle. We challenge them to look beyond the bottom line and carefully consider what will make the biggest impact and do the most good.

Your Practicum project will combine the analytical perspective of talented students in our Master of Science in Finance program with the expertise of our world-renowned finance faculty. Students will closely study your situation and employ a variety of analytical tools to offer solutions to your business challenge.

WFA-CFAR finance consulting projects bring together some of America’s most distinguished finance research faculty and gifted graduate students to collaborate with business partners to solve complex problems facing organizations.”

ANJAN THAKOR, DIRECTOR OF DOCTORAL PROGRAMS & CFAR, JOHN E. SIMON PROFESSOR OF FINANCE, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

How it works

Step 1: Scope problems
A client liaison faculty member will manage scoping your project, maintaining a high level of client service and ensuring your student team communicates effectively and meets all project deadlines.

Step 2: Collect data
You will share appropriate data with your faculty-supervised team of students who sign a nondisclosure agreement to protect your confidentiality. They will then apply theory-based models to your business problems.

Step 3: Analyze information/data
Your student team will study the data, analyze the situation and draw conclusions to formulate recommendations to combat your business challenge.

Step 4: Report results
Students will share their insights and recommendations with you through video conference calls. You will own the intellectual property resulting from your Practicum project.