



**Welcome to the
Master of Science UZH ETH in
Quantitative Finance!**
Prof. Dr. Erich Walter Farkas, Program Director





Introduction to the Program

- ✓ General
- ✓ Structure and Curriculum
- ✓ Core Courses
- ✓ Elective Courses
- ✓ Master's Thesis



Specialized Joint Degree of University of Zurich and ETH Zurich

- ✓ Pooling the high reputation and scientific resources of two **top faculties** from UZH and ETH
- ✓ Combination of economic theory and finance with mathematical methods (probability theory, statistics and econometrics, numerical analysis) for finance and insurance.
- ✓ Constant top positions in the Ranking of Risk.net Quant Finance Master's Guide
- ✓ Interaction with **financial services industry**:
 - ✓ Axpo Trading, UBS, Robeco, Zanders/Fintegral, LGT, Kaiju, Finreon, EFG, ...
- ✓ **International**: > 60% of the students from abroad
- ✓ Direction of studies:
 - ✓ academic paths starting with a PhD program
 - ✓ careers in quantitatively oriented areas of the financial services industry



Structure and Curriculum

2 Areas:

Finance (FIN)

Mathematical Methods in Finance (MF)

90 ECTS required:

Core courses: 36 ECTS Credits, at least 12 from each area

Elective courses: 24 ECTS Credits, at least 9 from each area

Master's thesis: 30 ECTS Credits

Restrictions:

6 failures allowed in total, but

- all modules and Master's thesis can only be repeated once!

At most 15 external credits

At most 2 seminars, more seminars only with petition

No surplus ECTS Credits

Language of instruction: English



Core Courses → 36 credits, at least 12 from each area

Finance (FIN)

- Economic Foundations for Finance (6 ECTS)
- Corporate Finance (3 ECTS)
- Asset Management (3 ECTS)
- Advanced Financial Economics (6 ECTS)
- Financial Engineering (6 ECTS)

Fall Semester = orange

Spring Semester = green

Mathematical Methods in Finance (MF)

- Mathematical Foundations for Finance (4 ECTS)
- Statistical Foundations for Finance (6 ECTS)
- Mathematics for New Tech in Finance (4 ECTS)
- Quantitative Risk Management (4 ECTS)
- Numerical Methods for Finance (6 ECTS)

➤ Some choice within the Core Courses!

→ they are technically speaking **Core-Elective** Courses



Elective Courses → 24 ECTS, at least 9 from each area

Finance (FIN)

Plenty of elective courses within the area
Finance at UZH and ETH

Mathematical Methods in Finance (MF)

Plenty of elective courses within the area
Mathematical Methods in Finance (MF)
at UZH and ETH

6 Focus Areas / Thematic Tracks

- **list of elective courses in the respective tracks**
- For students' orientation within the high number of elective courses
- only on our program website (not in the course catalogue)

- <https://www.msfinance.uzh.ch/en/portrait/curriculum/Courses.html>
- [Overview of Tracks](#) (detailed list on website)



Elective Courses – Thematic Tracks

- Important: for orientation within the high number of elective courses only!

Track/Pillar 1
Machine Learning, AI
and Data in Finance

Track/Pillar 2
Uncertainty and Risk
Management

Track/Pillar 3
Mathematical Topics in Finance

Track/Pillar 4
Banking and Corporate Finance

Track/Pillar 5
Insurance

Track/Pillar 6
Portfolio Management and
Asset Pricing



Master's Thesis → 30 ECTS

- Master's Thesis is «Core» and can only be repeated once!
- Period of Completion: 6 months
- **Master's Thesis and Graduation Information Event in Spring 2024!**
- Information on program website:
 - <https://www.msfinance.uzh.ch/en/masterthesis/thesisguidelines.html>
 - <https://www.msfinance.uzh.ch/en/masterthesis/adminsteps.html>



Just as side information regarding www.msfinance.ch

- ✓ **Change of Regulations in fall 2022**
 - ✓ For the whole Faculty of Business, Economics and Informatics of UZH
 - ✓ As well as for the Master of Science UZH ETH in Quantitative Finance!
- ✓ NEW Framework Ordinance (RVO22) and NEW Program Regulations (SO22) of the MSc QF UZH ETH
- ✓ **For Cohort Fall 2023 → only the NEW regulations are relevant!**
- ✓ On our program website www.msfinance.ch both the old and new regulations,
 - ✓ and transition year, as some students can still graduate according to the old regulations (last time in October 2023)
 - ✓ In November the old regulations, curriculum, transition rules will be taken out



Administrative Points

Susanne Erber,
Dean's Office, Faculty of Business, Economics and Informatics, UZH





Booking of Courses and Exams

- ✓ **If you want a module to be credited toward your degree, you need to book it!**
- ✓ Which modules do you have to take during your studies? → see [Regulations](#) and [Curriculum](#)
- ✓ Which modules will be offered this semester? > see **Course Catalogues** [UZH](#) and [ETH](#)
- ✓ UZH Courses have to be booked at UZH
- ✓ ETH Courses have to be booked at ETH



Two institutions – two ways of booking courses and exams! (1)

UZH courses	ETH courses
with your UZH Login	with your ETH Login
UZH Student Portal	ETH myStudies Booking Tool
UZH Module Booking Deadlines	ETH Course Unit Booking Deadline
With the booking of the module/course → you are automatically also registered for the exam!	With the booking of course units → you are only registered for the course, <u>not</u> for the exam <i>(except for semester performances during the semester)</i>



Two institutions – two ways of booking courses and exams! (2)

UZH courses → UZH Student Portal

Exam Session:

- In general at the end of each semester (or semester performance)
- The examination date is already published in the course catalogue for each course!

ETH courses → ETH myStudies Booking Tool

Exam Session:

→ Different types of exams:

- ✓ End-of-semester-examinations at the end of each semester
- ✓ Session examinations in the second half of the semester breaks
- ✓ and semester performances during the semester.

→ [Examination Scheduling ETH](#)

Winter examination session: calendar weeks 4 to 7

Summer examination session: calendar weeks 32 to 35

The exact examination date will be published during the semester.



Two institutions – two ways of booking courses and exams! (3)

UZH courses → <u>UZH Student Portal</u>	ETH courses → <u>ETH myStudies Booking Tool</u>
No separate registration of exams!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Actively register for end-of-semester exams✓ Actively register for session exams ✓ No separate registration for semester performances or continuous performance Assessments (C.P.A.)
	<p><u>Examination Information, Registration and Withdrawal Rules and Deadlines</u> → Very important to read!</p>



Booking Modules at UZH

Booking: Registration for the modules **and the examinations** (binding)

Deadlines: Booking and Cancellation of modules

starting 16 August 2023

ending 10 October 2023 at midnight

If you want a module to be credited toward your degree, you need to book it!

If you don't attend the exam of a booked module, it counts as a failed attempt!

If you do not want to do an exam, you have to deregister/drop the module **before** the end of the booking period at the latest! Be aware that this is **early in the semester!**



Booking Modules (so called Course Units) at ETH

Booking: Registration for the course unit

Deadlines for courses: Booking and cancelation of courses

starting 15 July 2023

ending 15 October 2023

Deadlines for exams: Registration period for session and end-of-semester examinations
in third and fourth week of each semester via myStudies

Deadline: 15 October 2023. A deregistration window-slot is offered later.

Important - Only ETH information is binding for ETH courses - read your ETH mails!!!

If you want a module to be credited toward your degree, you need to book the course and the exam

If you don't attend the booked exam, it counts as a failed attempt!



Booking of Courses & Exams

- ✓ Do not book too many courses!
- ✓ Make sure that you can prepare and take the exams and have no overlaps!
- ✓ Make sure that you know the different deadlines of UZH and ETH for registering and cancellations!
- ✓ Make sure you consult both your **ETH and UZH e-mail** addresses regularly!

- ✓ Information on Program website www.msfinance.ch
 - ✓ <https://www.msfinance.uzh.ch/en/coursesandexams.html>
 - ✓ Information on the 2 different **Booking Systems** and links:
<https://www.msfinance.uzh.ch/en/coursesandexams/Register-for-coursesandexams.html>
 - ✓ **Spring and Fall Semester Courses** (both UZH and ETH) and **Tentative Schedule**
<https://www.msfinance.uzh.ch/en/coursesandexams/fallsemester2023.html>



Study Progress & Graduation App

- Available in the UZH Student Portal
- At the end of each semester, also your ETH courses will be transferred there
- App allows you to see:
 - how your academic achievements will be credited toward your degree
 - which program requirements you have already fulfilled
 - which academic achievements are still missing in order to fulfil the remaining program requirements.
- As soon as you have completed all of the necessary academic achievements, you can submit your application to graduate



Administration

UZH = Leading House of the Master of Science UZH ETH in Quantitative Finance



UZH is responsible for the whole Administration



Different Offices - depending on the information needed

- **General Information on the program:**

www.msfinance.ch

Contact: Chantal Spale, chantal.spale@bf.uzh.ch

- **UZH: Enrollment, fees and UZH card:**

www.students.uzh.ch/en

Contact: Student Administration Office

- **Regulatory information:**

www.oec.uzh.ch

Contact: Dean's Office



Contacts at the Dean's Office

Contact **depends on your last name's first letter**.

- Students from **A to J**:
Bea Girardet, bea.girardet@oec.uzh.ch
- Students from **K to O**:
Donata Mikosch, donata.mikosch@oec.uzh.ch
- Students from **P to S**:
Richard Müller, richard.mueller@oec.uzh.ch
- Students from **T to Z**:
Susanne Erber, susanne.erber@oec.uzh.ch

⇒ Always include your student ID number

⇒ Choose a short and clear wording

Your contacts for:

- Regulatory questions
- Questions about petitions, your degree, master's theses, graduation etc.
- Confirmation for the Office for Economy and Labour (first read www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/student-life/studies-work)

Special topics

Credit Transfers

Contact: anrechnung@oec.uzh.ch



Petitions

- **In writing a letter to the examination delegate**
- Send your letter as a PDF to deansoffice@oec.uzh.ch
- <https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/petitions.html>
- Include:
 - Sender and date
 - Student ID number
 - Degree program (i.e., Master's program in Quantitative Finance)
 - Clear and concise justification
 - Any supporting documentation (doctor's note, birth certificate, etc.)
 - Signature

MSc in Quantitative Finance:
Examination Delegate
Prof. Dr. Walter Farkas
University of Zurich
Dean's Office, Faculty of Business,
Economics and Informatics
Rämistrasse 71
CH-8006 Zurich



Confirmation letters for work permit for students from third countries

- Provision of **Office for Economy and Labour**:
 - maximum 15 hours per week
 - duration of studies must not be affected
- **Confirmation** can be requested from the Dean's Office if:
 - completed an average of at least 20 ECTS credits per semester
 - plan to take the same workload also while working
- If conditions are **not fulfilled**, **no confirmation** can be handed out.
- Information: www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/student-life/studies-work



Network





Save the Date: Graduate Networking Event

- 4 October 2023, starting at 6:15 p.m., Restaurant UniTurm/Main building
- Get to know members of the Faculty and fellow students in a casual atmosphere with snacks and drinks
- Details: <https://www.oec.uzh.ch/de/studies/events/graduatenet.html>





Save the Date: MScQF - Welcome Apéro

- 20 September 2023, starting at 6:30 p.m., at Dozentenfoyer of ETH/ Main Building
- Meet professors from UZH and ETH, practitioners, actual students, alumni of the Zurich Quantitative Finance Alumni Club and many other people connected to this program
- You have all received an invitation mail and hopefully registered.
- Registration: until 16 September 2023

