ACADEMIC CATALOG
2026-2027



MIDWAY
UNIVERSITY

Midway University

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Course

FIN 430 - Financial Markets and Institutions

The course provides an overview of financial markets and Financial Institutions (FIs). It will describe and evaluate the special functions of Financial Institutions and how they benefit today's economy. Emphasis will be put on a deep dive into the operations of commercial banks, their important role in the monetary system and monetary policy, and the evolving regulations that guide their activities. Further study will include a review of additional Financial Institutions including investment banks, investment companies, lending institutions, pension funds, insurance companies, the shadow banking system of repurchase agreements and Eurodollars, and fintech firms. The course will also present an overview of various securities markets, their participants, and the instruments traded in each. Topics of study will include stock markets, bond markets, money markets, mortgage markets, foreign exchange markets, and derivative securities markets. Attention will be given to developing skills for navigating a successful career path within the financial services industry.

Upon completion, students will be able to:

- Illustrate the function and role of various financial institutions and how they interact with financial markets to the benefit of industry and the economy.
- Synthesize the construct and decision making-power of the Federal Reserve and fiscal policy bodies with the levels of efficiency in the US financial system under periods of stress.
- Analyze the financial statements and operations of a commercial bank and evaluate a given bank’s stability under various scenarios of deposit and/or asset growth or contraction.
- Compare and contrast the role of investment banks and investment companies, lending institutions, pension funds, insurance companies, fintech firms, and the shadow banking system.
- Explain the characteristics and functions of financial and securities markets including stock markets, bond markets, money markets, and others.
- Create the beginnings of a professional/career network within the financial services industry.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 0.0
Lab hours: 0.0

Prerequisites:

- FIN 321 - Managerial Finance
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Last updated: 02/18/2026

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