



1. Are there any GPA requirements to major in QF?

There is no GPA requirement to join QF major. If a student is not strong in mathematics before taking QF courses, it is possible to learn through the courses provided that the student works hard to keep up the progress.

2. Do I need prior computing knowledge?

No prior computing knowledge is required. QF course will teach you the relevant knowledge, starting from basics in Python. In QF, programming involves writing codes giving the computer instructions on what to calculate and how to perform the computations.

3. What are the differences between quantitative finance and regular/traditional finance?

QF major trains students the quantitative skills which are widely used in finance industry nowadays. These quantitative skills can be applied to solve finance and economic problems. The contents in these two majors may have small overlaps, but the same subjects (finance problems) are taught differently with QF putting more attention on training the quantitative skills set. There is a large number of courses to choose from in both majors to avoid any overlap.

4. What are some majors that would complement well with quantitative finance?

Every student is unique. What combination of majors to take in SMU depends on personal interests. Your interest, your background, and your plan for your future career will guide you to decide what are the best options for you.

5. What is the demand (vs supply) for QF graduates like in the market?

In the fast-paced world of finance, technological advances and regulatory requirements drive the banking industry to the point where mathematical and statistical modelling had already become a necessity. The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) targeted Quantitative Finance (QF) as a field to develop a pipeline of specialist leaders in finance industry. SMU started QF major in 2006 according to the rising demand of quantitative skills.

6. Would a quant finance role typically require a masters / phd as well?

Originally, "Quan" refers to a small group of experts who develop models. These roles are usually taken by mathematic or physics PhD holders. In recent years, finance industry becomes more technical. Almost all areas of finance require quantitative skills. Doing QF major at UG level will help you to build up solid foundation and be able to apply your quantitative skills to solve finance problems and be ready to go for further study if you wish.



7. What is the difference between a quantitative analyst / trader / strategist / researcher / developer? is there a difference between those?

There are many types of financial instruments and assets that a financial institution needs to deal with. Different roles will need to handle different problems. You can use the JDs of these roles to find out the specific requirements for each role.

8. In the case where the programming software learnt becomes outdated after graduation, will the coding knowledge be irrelevant?

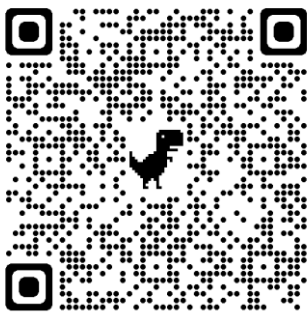
All programming languages share one common property, the logic for solving a problem remains the same in every software.

9. To fulfil QF electives, would you recommend taking FNCE electives or QF electives? Which ones would be more useful in QF field?

If your goal is to build more quantitative skills, QF electives will serve the purpose well.

10. What is the Fast Track BBM-MQF Programme?

You can find all details including requirements, courses, and contacts etc. for this new program at <https://business.smu.edu.sg/disciplines/quantitative-finance/Integrated%20BBM%20in%20QF%20and%20MQF>



For further assistance, you are welcome to contact

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