



Finance



Access to talent and innovation is critical for financial leaders navigating today's dynamic markets.

The University of Luxembourg is a trusted partner in this mission.

By aligning tailored study programmes with cutting-edge research in Fintech/Data Science, Sustainable Finance, Asset Management, Financial Institutions, Financial Innovation, and RegTech, we actively support Luxembourg's financial centre and long-term economic future.





Luxembourg - a financial centre with global reach

Luxembourg as a financial centre offers a diverse range of services connecting investors and markets worldwide. With its multilingual talent and vibrant ecosystem of financial institutions and R&D centres, it provides the perfect launchpad for cross-border financial products and constant innovation.

Solid, stable and international

Global reach: Third most international financial centre in the world



Banking power: More than 115 banks from 25 countries with approximately €1 trillion in assets

Fund Hub: 2nd largest fund centre globally, with over €7.5 trillion in AuM in Luxembourg-domiciled Mutual Funds and AIFs



Insurance: Leading cross-border insurance hub in the EU with over 68 insurance and 195 reinsurance companies

Green Finance: First leading green financial centre in the Eurozone



Talent magnet: First in the world for talent attraction (INSEAD 2023)

AAA rated by Moody's, S&P Global, Fitch, and DBRS Morningstar



Innovation network: Strong collaboration with the country's research and innovation actors



A gateway to the EU for FinTechs

Luxembourg is home to major e-payment and e-commerce companies such as PayPal, Amazon Pay, and Rakuten who have chosen Luxembourg as their headquarters. The Luxembourg House of Financial Technology (LHoFT) connects the financial industry with over 280 FinTech start-ups operating out of the country.

The University of Luxembourg - a strategic partner for the country

The University of Luxembourg was founded in 2003. With over 1,000 doctoral candidates among 7,500 students as well as 300 professors, Uni.lu is a research university focused on tomorrow's major societal challenges.

Our strategic priorities are digital transformation, medicine and health, and sustainable and societal development, with finance as a cross-cutting topic across all three areas.

Our University distinguishes itself with its international and multilingual character, an interdisciplinary approach and its openness to partnerships. We offer Bachelor's and Master's degrees in economics, management, finance, law, mathematics, data science and cybersecurity developed together with the financial sector and preparing students for both the local and the international job market.

Our student numbers

630

Bachelor students in
Economics and Management,

580

Master students
in **Economics, Finance
and Financial Law,**

120 PhD

in **Economics, Finance,
and Fintech**

Nearly 1400

students in continuing
education



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We educate responsible and forward-thinking financial experts with international competences, conduct applied and basic research in finance, and influence business practice.

In this way, we contribute to the sustainable development of the Luxembourg financial sector.

Prof. Jens Kreisel, Rector

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Times Higher Education ranks the University of Luxembourg **20th** in the Young University Ranking 2024 and **among the top 250 universities in the world.**





Training an international workforce


Talent is the key to success. Employers in the financial sector are constantly looking for highly qualified graduates who can take on roles in fields such as compliance, risk management, or the digital transition. We train them.


Our Finance programmes for a global, digital and sustainable future


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Degrees responding to the country's needs: Master programmes co-developed with major Luxembourgish players in finance and economics, such as the Luxembourg Bankers' Association (ABBL), accredited by FIBAA (Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation).
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Interdisciplinary & tech-savvy: Curricula bridging finance with AI, digitalisation, and IT, preparing students for global careers.
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International by design: 60% international students and a mandatory semester abroad for all Bachelor students.
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Taught by experts: Courses led by renowned academics and industry professionals.
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Future-ready specialisations: Tracks in sustainable finance, digital transformation, and private assets.
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Career & innovation support: Internships, dedicated career centre, start-up incubator, and support for student entrepreneurs.
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Fully English-taught: All Master programmes in Finance and Economics are taught entirely in English.

Our degree programmes on offer

Bachelor degrees

- Bachelor en sciences économiques*
- Bachelor in Business Administration*
- Bachelor en comptabilité et fiscalité*
- Bachelor en Droit

* Programmes taught in French and English



All Master programmes in Finance, Economics and Management are entirely taught in English

Master degrees

- Master in Finance and Economics (1st year)
- Master in Finance and Economics – Banking (2nd year)
- Master in Finance and Economics – Digital Transformation in Finance (2nd year)
- Master in Finance and Economics – Financial Economics (2nd year)
- Master in Finance and Economics – Investment Management (2nd year)
- Master in Finance and Economics – Risk Management (2nd year)
- Master in Finance and Economics – Sustainable Finance (2nd year)
- NEW: Master in Finance and Economics – Private Assets (2nd year)
- Master in Quantitative Economics and Finance
- Master in Wealth Management
- Master in Accounting and Audit
- Master in Entrepreneurship and Innovation

- Master en Droit bancaire et financier européen *
- Master en Droit des fonds d'investissement*
- Master in European Economic and Financial Criminal Law
- Master in European and International Tax Law
- Master in European Business Law
- Master in European Union Law and Litigation

* Programmes taught in French

Continuing education degrees

- Certificate in Law and Regulation of Inclusive Finance
- Certificate in Sustainable Finance
- Formation complémentaire des candidats experts-comptables
- Formation complémentaire des réviseurs d'entreprises



Gilles Roth, Minister of Finance during a meeting with students studying finance and related fields at the University of Luxembourg's Kirchberg campus, September 2024.



Here's what our graduates say

The University of Luxembourg alumni community has grown to more than 19,000 graduates. About 70% of them stay in Luxembourg after securing jobs in the finance or other sectors, or in public administration. Here's what graduates in finance value about their education.



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Coming from a background in real estate, I was eager to transition into the finance industry. The programme's comprehensive curriculum, centered around learning and developing financial and economic models, played a pivotal role in equipping me with the necessary tools and knowledge.

Annie (Heng) Yao, a 2022 Master in Quantitative Economics and Finance graduate, today Associate Vice President Investment Risk Management at Nuveen – a TIAA Company.



“

What I most appreciated was the opportunity to get to know people from various backgrounds and origins. While the Master programme mainly caters to the financial centre of Luxembourg, its courses very much apply to the global financial system, which allows students to have an international career.

Jean-Paul Daragjati, a 2024 graduate of the Master in Wealth Management, now Private Banker at Edmond de Rothschild.



Source:
uni.lu employability study, based on uni.lu Bachelor, Master and PhD graduates from 2014-2015 to 2023-2024 found on LinkedIn



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My PhD experience at uni.lu was incredibly rewarding. I had access to top-tier courses, attended major international seminars, and worked closely with leading academics and professionals in finance, which significantly enriched my research. I chose to stay and work in Luxembourg because the country offers the ideal environment for ambitious graduates: a dynamic financial sector, a culture of excellence, and a truly international atmosphere. It's a natural extension of the intellectually rigorous environment I experienced during my PhD.

Simon P. Petitjean, PhD in Finance at Uni.lu 2019-2023, now Technical Leader at KPMG Luxembourg.



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The comprehensive curriculum, combined with hands-on projects and real-world case studies, especially with the collaboration of external partners from companies, provided a solid foundation in both theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

Denise Herrmann, Master in Finance and Economics in 2021, now Intercompany Controlling Specialist at Ferrero.

Doctoral Talent Driving Financial Innovation



Around

120

doctoral candidates in economics or finance are currently pursuing their thesis at our Doctoral School in Economics, Finance and Management. They thrive within a high-calibre research environment which meets the standards of the best universities in Europe and North America.

In collaboration with private partners and public institutions, doctoral researchers work in an interdisciplinary, collaborative setting. They engage with external experts, access industry data, and develop transferable skills such as scientific writing and presentation and communication

Around

50%

of our PhD graduates start their careers in Luxembourg, contributing to national research and innovation - 39% of them in the private sector.

A trusted relationship between industry and University

Our partnerships with industry or the public sector play an important role in preparing for the future. These collaborations create long-term trust and bring real benefits to our partners - primarily through research results, access to highly qualified talent and increased visibility.



Our areas of expertise

- FinTech
- Asset management and asset pricing
- Financial Innovation
- Corporate finance and banking
- Econometrics and machine learning techniques
- Sustainable Finance

Financial research at the University of Luxembourg



Some of our public and private research partners in finance and economics



Research will play a key role in shaping the digital transformation of the financial sector



New technologies are revolutionising how financial services work - like artificial intelligence making processes smarter, or blockchain creating more secure transactions. We respond to these changes through **FutureFinTech**, our National Centre of Excellence in Research and Innovation.

- A unique interdisciplinary initiative supporting Luxembourg's financial industry in the technology-driven transformation
- Bringing together experts from technology, law, and finance
- Backed by the Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR) and the Ministry of Finance
- Fundamental research and industry adoption
- Working closely with the financial industry to identify critical challenges, then transferring those research questions to our scientists.



The three strategic pillars of FutureFinTech



Artificial intelligence, compliance and risk: Our researchers are investigating how AI can automate compliance checks – and whether the AI used is compliant itself.



Compliant crypto-asset services: Our experts are building tools to enhance transparency in digital asset markets and shape progressive EU regulations.



The digital private asset stack: Our teams are designing solutions that enable complex assets like real estate or private equity to be traded more easily.

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We are creating a unique environment where we can look deeply at the challenges currently facing the financial sector and conduct fundamental research that can ultimately lead to groundbreaking new solutions.

Prof. Gilbert Fridgen PayPal-FNR PEARL Chair in Digital Financial Services and FutureFinTech Coordinator

The FutureFinTech leadership team



Prof. Gilbert Fridgen



Prof. Dirk Zetzsche



Dr. Sallam Abualhaija



Prof. Michael Halling

Banking data: protected yet connected

Banks today face a delicate balancing act—needing to share critical information like interbank lending rates while safeguarding proprietary financial details from competitors.

In collaboration with **Spuerkeess**, our researchers developed a decentralised, privacy-preserving approach to Euribor calculations. Using sophisticated tools like multi-party computation, financial institutions can contribute encrypted data to collective calculations, while zero-knowledge proofs allow them to verify their submissions' accuracy without exposing actual figures.

The result? A collaborative platform where banks can confidently produce essential financial metrics together while maintaining the confidentiality that competitive markets demand.





What's next for AI in finance?

The applications of AI are expanding fast and our research is helping to shape that growth responsibly and intelligently.



Risk Management: AI is shifting from static models to dynamic systems that adapt to changing risks in real time.



Regulatory Compliance: AI can automate how firms monitor and report on evolving regulations, saving time, reducing cost, and improving accuracy.



Customer Experience: Natural language tools enable banks to offer personalised financial advice through digital assistants and chatbots.



Fraud Detection: AI can analyse massive amounts of data to detect fraud patterns that human analysts might miss entirely.

Banking on AI: Luxembourg's financial future takes shape

As AI increasingly powers everything from risk management to regulatory compliance, banks need sophisticated systems to monitor these technologies in a rapidly evolving landscape. At the end of 2024, BGL BNP Paribas launched an R&D project with the University's **Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust (SnT)** to develop an AI "metamodel" tool, with support from Luxinnovation. This project acquired more than 3 million euros of funding from the Luxembourg Ministry of Economy.



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Béatrice Belorgey, Chair of the Executive Committee of BGL BNP Paribas

The development and deployment of artificial intelligence addresses a technological challenge that still has not been fully explored yet, but which is nevertheless key in boosting the industrial development of AI and the way it is used in our bank.

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A FinTech assistant powered by AI

Our researchers have joined forces with BGL BNP Paribas to build an innovative FinTech assistant that

- automatically answers client queries by analysing complex documents
- supports four languages, including Luxembourgish
- uses open-source technologies that operate offline
- ensures data security and privacy compliance
- keeps human agents in the loop, while streamlining routine client support through reliable, explainable AI-powered responses



Sustainable finance is here to stay

Home to the world's first platform dedicated exclusively to sustainable finance, the Luxembourg Green Exchange, Luxembourg is a leader in this area. In 2020, the University launched an endowed Chair and Research Programme in Sustainable Finance to drive teaching and research in this rapidly developing field. The Chair is funded jointly by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Environment, Climate and Biodiversity.

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Sustainable finance is here to stay. It brings a more holistic view to financial decision making. It is crucial to maintain the focus on economic goals while also considering environmental and social factors. It helps manage risks like climate hazards and meets client demand for responsible investing. By embracing it seriously and avoiding greenwashing, banks and financial players can find new ways to differentiate themselves.

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Prof. Michael Halling, holder of the Chair in sustainable finance at the University's Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance

Access the full interview via this QR code or through the link on our website.



Current key questions of research

How can we create high-quality measures of firms' exposures to climate risks?

Here, our researchers are trying to develop machine learning techniques that extract such information from news or earnings call transcripts.

How do investors' interests in sustainability - like avoiding investments in firms using fossil fuel - interact with traditional income-oriented preferences?

And how do these interactions affect investors' trading behavior and asset price dynamics in financial markets?



Educating tomorrow's green finance professionals

The Chair in Sustainable Finance offers

- a **certificate in Sustainable Finance for professionals** and
- a **specialised track in the second year of the Master in Finance and Economics**.

Designed with input from academics and industry experts, it covers Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) risk modelling, due diligence, and Corporate Social Responsibility analysis. Most graduates now work at financial institutions in Luxembourg.



Evolving with the industry – the private asset example

As industry evolves, so does the need for talent and research. The University works hand-in-hand with private and public partners to identify in-demand skills and competencies to develop new teaching programmes or update existing ones.

Our new Chair in Private Assets, an endowed chair co-financed by the Ministry of Finance, the Association of the Luxembourg

Fund Industry (ALFI), and our University, is part of this strategy. It will **equip students with expertise in fund structuring, risk management, and regulatory compliance**, and promote research in line with Luxembourg's financial sector goals.

Our new Master track in Private assets

Starting in fall 2025, the Chair will offer a second-year Master of Finance and Economics track, specialising in Private assets.

- co-designed with practitioners from Luxembourg's private asset ecosystem
- taught by academics and senior professionals
- offering both state-of-the-art theoretical insights and practical expertise

Computer science meets law for better Regtech

Banks and financial firms use AI-driven RegTech (regulatory technology) to streamline compliance by blending finance, law, and tech. At the University of Luxembourg, interdisciplinary teams study how RegTech technologies can create opportunities for financial market players, while ensuring the protection of fundamental rights, such as data privacy, in these new digital environments. To help automate the burdensome yet crucial KYC/AML compliance process, our IT and legal researchers have recently developed **two tools**:

1. A first tool seeks to help financial institutions ascertain companies' beneficial owners as well as the close associates of politically exposed persons.
2. A second tool combs through vast amounts of data to help financial institutions identify suspicious transactions and flag customers.

By working together across disciplines, our researchers are developing innovative and robust RegTech tools tailored to the market while also making sure that technology is aligned to the current legal framework.





How to find us

University of Luxembourg

Belval Campus
Maison du Savoir
2, place de l'Université
L-4365 Esch-sur-Alzette
www.uni.lu



Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance

Weicker Building
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L-2721 Luxembourg
Patrick Weydert, Partnership
Development Officer,
patrick.weydert@uni.lu



Faculty of Science, Technology and Medicine

Belval Campus
Maison du Savoir
2 place de l'Université
L-4365 Esch-sur-Alzette
<https://www.uni.lu/fstm-en/>



SnT - Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust

JFK Building
29, Avenue John F. Kennedy
L-1855 Luxembourg
www.uni.lu/snt



FutureFinTech National Centre of Excellence in Research and Innovation

www.uni.lu/research-en/ncer/fintech/
Prof. Dr. Gilbert Fridgen, Coordinator,
gilbert.fridgen@uni.lu

Chair in Sustainable Finance

www.uni.lu/fdef-en/chairs/sustainable-finance/
Prof. Dr. Michael Halling, Chairholder,
michael.halling@uni.lu

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www.uni.lu

T+ 352 / 46 66 44 61 62

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Shape
the future
with us

