

**From:** [Kowalsky, Lisa](#)  
**To:** [Reed, Katie](#)  
**Cc:** [Miriti, Maria](#); [Croxtton, Keely](#)  
**Subject:** Forwarding Informational Item: Fisher SMB  
**Date:** Friday, March 7, 2025 3:03:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [Changes to SMF - letter of support.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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Dear Katie,

Please find attached an informational item for updates to the Specialized Master of Business in Fisher College of Business. It has been reviewed by Maria and is supported for elevation to CAA.

Please let me know if any questions or concerns arise.

Best,  
Lisa



**Lisa Clouser (Kowalsky)**

**The Ohio State University**  
Graduate School  
247E University Hall  
230 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210  
614-292-2267 Office  
[gradsch.osu.edu](http://gradsch.osu.edu)

Pronouns: she/her/hers



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
FISHER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

**Associate Dean's Office**  
200 D Fisher Hall  
2100 Neil Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43210-1144  
614-292-6610 Phone  
fisher.osu.edu

March 7, 2025

Randy Smith  
Vice Provost for Academic Programs  
The Ohio State University

Dear Randy:

The Fisher College of Business seeks approval for a minor modification to its Specialized Masters in Finance. Our Committee for Specialized Masters Programs voted in favor of the change in early-March. I want to add my support for this change as well.

As noted in our memo, and in the attached appendix, the change involves moving two required courses (each 1.5 credit hours) from the first semester of the program to the third semester. This will better balance the workload across the three semesters of the program and allow students to take an elective in their first semester if they wish. This will not impact the time-to-completion as it remains a three-semester program. Also since students currently enrolled in the program will graduate this summer, we can roll this change out to incoming students without any transition issues.

Thank you in advance for helping Fisher College continuously improve our programs as we see the opportunities.

Sincerely,

**Keely L. Croxton, PhD**

Associate Dean of Academic Programs  
Prof. of Logistics  
Fisher College of Business  
[croxton.4@osu.edu](mailto:croxton.4@osu.edu)

To: Office of Academic Affairs  
From: Bernadette A. Minton, Chair, Department of Finance, Fisher College of Business  
Re: Change in scheduling of two required courses for the SMB-Finance program  
Date: February 27, 2025

The redesigned SMB-Finance program approved by OAA is scheduled to begin autumn semester 2025. In preparation for the new three-semester program, I convened a committee to work on the transition and implementation of the program. The committee is chaired by the SMB-Finance Director, Clinical Associate Professor George Pinteris and also includes Clinical Associate Professor Jay Wellman, Professor Karen Wruck and Senior Lecturer Chad Zipfel. One important focus of the committee was the preparation of students for summer internships at the end of the spring semester.

After working on the scheduling of the courses and discussing the needs of the students to secure summer internships, the committee recommended that curriculum should allow students to focus on their preparation for summer internships in the first two semesters, enable them to carry a more balanced coursework throughout their studies, and gain exposure to more electives. To this end, the committee recommended that two core courses move from autumn 1 to autumn 2 in the SMB-Finance curriculum. Specifically, it was recommended that two 1.5 credit-hour courses, FIN 6221 (Economics for Financial Analysts) and MHR 7263 (Leadership for SMB-Finance students), move from autumn 2025 to autumn 2026. In addition, there will be some change in the timing of finance electives available to SMB-Finance students and other MBA students. Overall, these changes do not result in any change in the program total credit hours or costs.

## Appendix:

### SMF Three-semester curriculum - current

Pre-Term	Fall		Spring	Summer	Fall
	<a href="#">Term I</a>	<a href="#">Term II</a>		Internship	
Orientation	<i>Data Analysis for Financial Management I</i>	<i>Financial Modeling (Python/Data)</i>	<i>Finance Capstone Project</i>		Elective
Pre-SMF Workshop	<i>Financial Analysis &amp; Valuation</i>	<i>Corporate Financial Reporting</i>	Elective		Elective
Career Management Workshop	<i>Investment Theory and Practice</i>	<i>Derivatives Markets</i>	Elective		Elective
	<i>Financial Software Applications</i>	<i>Professional Development Workshop</i>	Elective		Elective
	<i>Leadership</i>	<i>Economics for Financial Analysts</i>	Elective		Elective

### SMF Three-semester curriculum-proposed

Pre-Term	Fall		Spring	Summer	Fall
	<a href="#">Term I</a>	<a href="#">Term II</a>		Internship	
Orientation	<i>Data Analysis for Financial Management I</i>	<i>Financial Modeling (Python/Data)</i>	<i>Finance Capstone Project</i>		<i>Economics for Financial Analysts</i>
Pre-SMF Workshop	<i>Financial Analysis &amp; Valuation</i>	<i>Corporate Financial Reporting</i>	Elective		<i>Leadership</i>
Career Management Workshop	<i>Investment Theory and Practice</i>	<i>Derivatives Markets</i>	Elective		Elective
	<i>Financial Software Applications</i>	<i>Professional Development Workshop</i>	Elective		Elective
			Elective		Elective