SMU MASTERS
SMU MASTER OF IT IN BUSINESS (FINANCIAL SERVICES)
MITB – Transforming Business
Message from the Dean

A wide range of job roles, as well as a growing number of job opportunities, await those who stand out as Technology & Operations leaders in the Financial Services sector.

The SMU Master of IT in Business (Financial Services) [MITB (FS)] is a professional Master’s degree programme which prepares its graduates for senior management positions in Technology & Operations. Jointly designed and delivered by the SMU faculty and industry experts from Financial Services institutions and technology providers, our curriculum is not only relevant, it is viewed by global industry leaders as the global benchmark programme in Financial Services Technology & Operations. Our MITB community is very well connected to all segments of the banking industry and to a wide range of potential employers.

If you are already in the industry, the MITB (FS) programme enhances your professional development opportunities by preparing you for a wider range of responsibilities and more complex leadership roles. If you are transitioning into the Financial Services sector, the MITB (FS) programme is the best way to acquire in-depth operational and technological knowledge, hands-on project experience, and direct access to the firms and senior executives who are hiring.

Come and explore the MITB (FS) programme at SMU. We will change the way you learn, the way you work, and your career possibilities.

Best regards,

Steven Miller
Vice Provost (Research) &
Dean, School of Information Systems
Professor of Information Systems (Practice)
Message from the Director

The evolving global financial landscape, shaped by the continuous advancement of technology and ever-increasing Internet speed, has changed and will continue to change the profile of jobs in finance globally. These are global trends we need to respond to or more importantly, take advantage of.

The Singapore Management University has created the Master of IT in Business (Financial Services) programme for the benefit of the global finance community.

The programme is designed specifically for those who have an interest in financial services technology and operations. Our students are ambitious. They are not satisfied with the status quo. Our programme is academically rigorous and highly intensive. It will enhance every student’s ability and competence to manage technology and operations issues and lead with purpose and confidence.

The programme features blended learning which combines online and in-class instructions, experiential learning through hands-on lab exercises and attachments of up to six months with our industry partners. The programme also places significant importance on applications and case analysis developed from actual business cases. Through these aspects of the programme, our graduates acquire in-depth knowledge that provides a strong foundation for career placement and a long-term career trajectory that leads to high-level career success. Most critically, our programme produces highly engaged professionals in financial services technology and operations who are critical thinkers and are civic-minded.

I strongly encourage you to join our programme, and embark on a journey that can impact the finance industry. You will find it a rewarding and enriching experience.

Best regards,

Enoch CH’NG
Associate Professor of Information Systems (Education),
Director, SIS Programmes in Financial Services (Technology, Operations, Processes and Service Innovations)
Why MITB (Financial Services)?

Technology & Operations is instrumental to the success of all banks and businesses
Technology & Operations is now regarded as the key to continued competitiveness and long-term growth as companies in the Financial Services industry face continuous pressure for massive transformation, sparked by the regional and financial crisis.

A solid foundation for Technology & Operations excellence in the finance industry
The SMU Master of IT in Business (Financial Services) [MITB (FS)] programme is the definitive postgraduate degree that grooms executives to staff and lead Technology & Operations groups in the Financial Services industry. Courses are designed with relevance and applicability as the top priority, and are constantly reviewed to stay up-to-date with the latest trends and technologies.

Broad-based exposure with in-depth knowledge
The MITB (FS) programme gives students comprehensive and in-depth knowledge of business methods and management concepts required to assume senior levels of responsibility in Technology & Operations projects across all banking segments – corporate, investment, private and retail. The MITB (FS) graduate will also be provided with opportunities to interact intimately with SMU partners in the industry.

Developing the next generation of leaders
The MITB (FS) programme provides the right platform for professional students aspiring to be the industry's leaders – capable of merging the power of technology with an organisation's operational capabilities.

Testimonials from our students

“Having worked in IT infrastructure technology for 3½ years, this internship was a logical extension of my previous work experience and current learning at SMU. The rigorous cycles of learning in the classroom, applying what we have learnt in our internships, as well as the numerous projects, assignments and presentations that we do in class, take us out of our comfort zone and prepare us to face the dynamic world of financial services.”

Ankit Raj Mohapatra
Project Manager, Global Consumer Group – Citibank
MITB (FS), Class of 2013

“This programme, while focused on the Financial Services industry, is also designed specifically for people with an IT background – people like me. This is exactly what the industry needs.”

Cao Min
Assistant Vice President of a leading foreign bank in Singapore
MITB (FS), Class of 2011

“This course is the perfect platform to hone my skills for leadership roles in the Financial Services industry. Along with exposure to details in business processes and operations behind the industry, MITB (FS) at SMU provides an unparalleled, interactive learning experience through valuable industry interaction, world-class instructors and excellent facilities.”

Nakul Kurup
Management Associate, OCBC Bank
MITB (FS), Class of 2013
Winner of 2011 MITB Scholarship

“I joined MITB (FS) with an IT background and very little knowledge about how banking systems work. In the MITB classes, we learned about the core banking systems and the banking methodologies. These concepts gave me the confidence to do well at work. The professors in my MITB classes gave examples from real work scenarios that I thought were very insightful.”

Shantanu Mitra
Senior Staff, Technology & Operations – DBS Bank
MITB (FS), Class of 2013

“Having worked in IT infrastructure technology for 3½ years, this internship was a logical extension of my previous work experience and current learning at SMU. The rigorous cycles of learning in the classroom, applying what we have learnt in our internships, as well as the numerous projects, assignments and presentations that we do in class, take us out of our comfort zone and prepare us to face the dynamic world of financial services.”

Ankit Raj Mohapatra
Project Manager, Global Consumer Group – Citibank
MITB (FS), Class of 2013
The Curriculum

CURRENT COURSE LISTING FOR MITB (FS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Banking Technology &amp; Operations</th>
<th>C. Information Technology Management</th>
<th>D. General Management for Technology &amp; Operations</th>
<th>E. Internship/Capstone Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.1 Banking Products &amp; Processes</td>
<td>C.1 Innovation Management</td>
<td>D.1A Financial Accounting</td>
<td>E.1 Internship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.2 Retail Banking Technology &amp; Operations</td>
<td>C.2 Spreadsheet Modelling for Technology &amp; Operations Decisions</td>
<td>D.1C Management Accounting for Technology &amp; Operations Managers</td>
<td>– Internship job description definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.3 Corporate Banking Technology &amp; Operations</td>
<td>C.3 IT Project &amp; Vendor Management</td>
<td>D.2 Strategy &amp; Organisation</td>
<td>– Resume writing, internship application &amp; interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.5 Trading Technology &amp; Operations</td>
<td></td>
<td>D.4 HRM for Technology &amp; Operations Managers</td>
<td>E.2 Capstone Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.6 Payment Technology &amp; Operations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Project definition, development &amp; critique workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.7 Assets Management Technology &amp; Operations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Industry expert seminars &amp; company site visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.8 Lifecycle Implementation of Banking Products</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Project Delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.9 FS Operational Risk I: Foundation &amp; Framework</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.10 FS Operational Risk II: Technology &amp; Systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Half module

Note: Students must read
- A minimum of five Course Units (CUs) under Series A courses, including the compulsory A.1
- A minimum of four CUs under Series C and D courses, including the compulsory C.2, D.1A and D.1C
- (If students are exempted from Series C or D courses, they can replace the exempted course with a course from any series)
- Internship/Capstone Project (worth two CUs)
- Remaining two CUs can be completed from any series

MASTER DEGREE PROGRAMME COMPLETION

Students have to complete and pass a total of 13 Course Units (CUs) in order to graduate with the MITB (FS) degree. One CU is equivalent to a full-term course with 12 course sessions. Each course session entails three hours of in-class time plus additional out-of-class time. Some courses are one full course unit (36 hours of in-class time over 12 course sessions). Some courses are one half-course unit (18 hours of in-class time, spread over six or seven sessions).

CORE COURSES IN BANKING TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS (SERIES A)

In the Series A courses, students will be exposed to the technology, operations, processes and services in different parts of banking. As part of the experiential learning process, hands-on laboratory sessions will be conducted using industry applications including Apama, Flexcube, Tradewind and SAS.

OPTION FOR MITB DUAL TRACK (SERIES A, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND SERIES B, ANALYTICS)

The MITB programme has two tracks: Financial Services (FS) and Analytics (AT). The Financial Services student can opt to do a dual track and complete their 2nd track specialisation in Analytics. Please enquire further with the MITB office for details.

IT MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT FOR TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS PROFESSIONALS (SERIES C AND SERIES D)

A basket of courses on IT Project Management and General Management are provided. Students will be trained in comprehensive and in-depth knowledge of business methods and management concepts required for assuming senior corporate positions.

INTERNSHIP/CAPSTONE PROJECT (SERIES E)

The capstone project or internship component in the programme enables students to apply and integrate the knowledge they have accumulated by working with the sponsoring company. For the capstone project, a well-defined project scope with clear deliverables will be established, so that students can create new solutions to solve business problems. Some capstone projects will require the students to work on-site with the sponsoring company. For the internship, students will work at the sponsoring company during the day to understand the business domain and contribute using the knowledge they acquired in the programme.
COURSE DELIVERY
The MITB programme runs its academic year on three regular terms. Each of these 15-week terms is then further divided into two seven-week mini-terms with a one-week break. Most class sessions are three hours long, and are conducted in a highly interactive manner. Lectures are combined with discussions, hands-on lab sessions, problem-solving practice classes, and group work. The faculty is often assisted by full-time instructors and student teaching assistants. In addition, students also meet with industry experts who share their experiences and perspectives through regular seminars. Classes are on weekday evenings at 7pm and Saturday mornings or afternoons, for both part-time and full-time students.

CHOOSE BETWEEN FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STUDY
- Full-time: One year to a maximum of two years and eight months
- Part-time: Two years to a maximum of four years

FACULTY
Our 20 faculty members in the MITB programme are world class, and accomplished in both industry and academia. Endowed with a wealth of experience in research, teaching, and consultancy, faculty members hold PhDs from various universities including top-ranking ones such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, Imperial College London, and Carnegie Mellon University. Several faculty members are recipients of international scholarly and teaching awards and have a wide range of research and teaching interests.

COURSE STRUCTURE EXAMPLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Series Key:</th>
<th>A. Banking Technology &amp; Operations</th>
<th>C. IT Management</th>
<th>D. General Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A.1 Banking Products &amp; Processes (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.3 Corporate Banking Technology &amp; Operations (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.2 Retail Banking Technology &amp; Operations (1.0 CU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A.2 Retail Banking Technology &amp; Operations (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.8 Lifecycle Implementation of Banking Products (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.10 FS Operational Risk II: Technology &amp; Systems (1.0 CU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A.9 FS Operational Risk I: Foundation &amp; Framework (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.1 Banking Products &amp; Processes (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>D.1A Financial Accounting (0.5 CU)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 (Aug – Nov)</th>
<th>Term 2 (Jan – Apr)</th>
<th>Term 3 (Apr – Jul)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1A</td>
<td>Term 1B</td>
<td>Term 2A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2A</td>
<td>Term 2B</td>
<td>Term 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3A</td>
<td>Term 3B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Internship/Capstone Project (2.0 CUs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Series Key:</th>
<th>A. Banking Technology &amp; Operations</th>
<th>C. IT Management</th>
<th>D. General Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A.1 Banking Products &amp; Processes (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.3 Corporate Banking Technology &amp; Operations (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.2 Retail Banking Technology &amp; Operations (1.0 CU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A.2 Retail Banking Technology &amp; Operations (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.8 Lifecycle Implementation of Banking Products (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.10 FS Operational Risk II: Technology &amp; Systems (1.0 CU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A.9 FS Operational Risk I: Foundation &amp; Framework (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>A.1 Banking Products &amp; Processes (1.0 CU)</td>
<td>D.1A Financial Accounting (0.5 CU)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 (Aug – Nov)</th>
<th>Term 2 (Jan – Apr)</th>
<th>Term 3 (Apr – Jul)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1A</td>
<td>Term 1B</td>
<td>Term 2A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2A</td>
<td>Term 2B</td>
<td>Term 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3A</td>
<td>Term 3B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Internship/Capstone Project (2.0 CUs)

Note: The following is an example of a typical course schedule. Actual schedule may differ.
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A good bachelor’s degree preferably in Computer Science, Information Systems, Information Technology (IT), Engineering, or Science
- A valid GMAT score (SMU’s GMAT code: FBD-Z4-61)
- Preferably two or more years of IT and/or operations related work experience in Banking, or other segments of the financial services industry
- TOEFL/IELTS is required for applicants who have not received a degree from a programme taught in English

SCHOLARSHIPS/FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Amongst the wide range of scholarships and awards available to the School of Information Systems students, we have scholarships and awards which cater to different tracks of the MITB programme. For more information and eligibility, please visit www.smu.edu.sg/mitb.

INTAKE

The programme has two intakes each year – January and August. Applications are open from 1 January to 31 May for the August intake and 1 June to 31 October for the January intake.

PROGRAMME FEES

The current fee structure for the programme is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Type</th>
<th>Fee Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>S$100*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore Citizens &amp; Permanent Residents – S$400*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreigners – S$500*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Fee</td>
<td>S$45,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(Non-refundable) Amount payable upon acceptance to the programme. The registration fee includes matriculation, examination fees, orientation activities, library & computer account. The Singapore Management University reserves the right to alter tuition and other fees as it deems appropriate.

FAQ

My first degree is not related to IT or Business. Can I still apply for the MITB programme?

Yes, applicants with a keen interest may apply to the programme. Generally, we take into consideration the candidate’s work experience, aptitude and previous academic prowess when doing our assessment.

What is the minimum GMAT score I need to attain? Will you accept GRE in place of the GMAT?

We do not specify a score range because our assessment is holistic, with the GMAT being just one consideration out of many others. We do accept valid GRE scores in place of the GMAT, but based on a case-by-case basis.

Can I apply for the programme before taking GMAT?

If the rest of your application is complete, you can submit your application, even if you have not taken the GMAT. We will process your application without your GMAT score and schedule an interview. A conditional offer may be extended to successful applicants. Once the MITB office receives the official score report, a confirmed offer will be extended.