Penn State Smeal College of Business

Risk Management: Real Estate Option

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Career Overview

Individuals with real estate expertise succeed not only in the real estate industry, but also in production, finance, or financial services and in government agencies that demand quantitative and qualitative skills necessary to assess and analyze all aspects of risk associated with real estate investments.

Employment Prospects

With top-ranked faculty, the Real Estate option prepares students for success in an ever-changing environment. The program offers a wide range of professional opportunities in corporate real estate, investment and counseling, commercial real estate brokerage, appraisal, risk management, mortgage lending and banking, development, and governmental services.

The Institute for Real Estate Studies and the Penn State Real Estate Advisory Board provide students access to leading firms and executives for mentoring and internship opportunities. In addition, the student-run Penn State Real Estate Association provides outstanding leadership opportunities and networking events.

Option Overview

The Real Estate option features an innovative curriculum that allows students to tailor their coursework towards areas of greatest interest. Courses cover topics in real estate finance, law, investment valuation, appraisal processes, urban and regional economics, property development, and project management. In addition, students have the ability to select courses outside the college of business in areas such as landscape architecture, hotel administration, construction management and engineering, and urban economics.

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Preparing to Enroll in the Major

Smeal students select their majors at the start of the spring semester of their sophomore year. To qualify for Real Estate, you must complete all necessary entrance-to-major requirements, have at least a 3.20 GPA at the end of the fall semester of your sophomore year, and maintain that GPA through the spring of your sophomore year.

Real Estate Option Requirements

Take all of the following prescribed courses (15 credits).
A grade of "C" or higher is required in all courses.

- **R M 301 (3)**
  Risk and Decisions
- **R M 330W (3)**
  Real Estate Risk Analysis
- **R M 450 (3)**
  Contemporary Issues in Real Estate Markets
- **R M (FIN) 460 (3)**
  Real Estate Financial Analysis
- **R M (FIN) 470 (3)**
  Real Estate and Capital Markets

Additional Courses

Select three credits from the following (3 credits). A grade of "C" or higher is required.

- **FIN 406 (3)**
  Security Analysis and Portfolio Management
- **R M 420 (3)**
  Property and Casualty Insurance
- **R M (B LAW) 424 (3)**
  Real Estate Law
- **R M (B LAW) 425 (3)**
  Business and Environmental Regulation
- **R M/I B 480 (3)**
  International Real Estate Markets

Select a Two-Piece Sequence (6 credits) from one of the areas below or complete a designated University minor.

- **Accounting**
- **Actuarial Science**
- **Business Sustainability**
- **Corporate Benefits**
- **Economics**
- **Entrepreneurship**
- **Finance**
- **Hospitality Management**
- **Information Systems Management**
- **International Business**
- **Landscape Architecture**
- **Management**
- **Marketing**
- **Risk Management**
- **Supply Chain and Information Systems**

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