Master of Science (MSc) Quantitative Finance
“WU’s Master in Quantitative Finance offers an optimal program design that combines well-founded academic qualifications in computing, statistics, and mathematics with a specialization related to the challenges faced by the modern financial industry. By learning how to develop and apply quantitative methods and models and gaining knowledge in the fields of credit and market risk management, graduates become well-equipped for any potential future financial crises.”

(Hannes Mösenbacher, Head of Risk Control, Raiffeisen Bank International AG)
DEAR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS,
Our internationally oriented program is designed to provide you with an excellent academic and practical education, as well as with a promising outlook for a future career in today’s challenging and dynamic financial markets. Throughout the program, a well-balanced curriculum builds strong quantitative skills coupled with a solid knowledge base of the underlying theory of finance. Students acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to use mathematical models to comprehend complex financial problems and learn how to apply these models in the field of economic sciences.

In addition to the program’s interdisciplinary and internationally renowned faculty, the Vienna Graduate School of Finance (VGSF, www.vgsf.ac.at), an internationally oriented PhD program aiming to prepare its graduates for the international academic job market, is involved in the program as a cooperation partner.

As a student in our program, you can specialize by choosing between an Industry Track and a Science Track in the second year of your studies. In both tracks you will benefit from working closely together with our outstanding faculty and from their strong networks and links to the finance industry.

To succeed in this challenging program, we expect participants to have had extensive training at the undergraduate level in the fields of linear algebra (e.g. eigenvectors and eigenvalues), analysis (including multivariable calculus and simple ODEs), and probability (e.g. conditional expectation). We are looking forward to welcoming you to our program!

Kurt Hornik (left side) and Rainer Jankowitz (right side)
Program Directors Quantitative Finance
# MSc Quantitative Finance

## AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Duration</strong></th>
<th>4 semesters, full-time degree program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td>120 ECTS credits (incl. 20 ECTS credits for the master thesis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language of instruction</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree awarded to graduates</strong></td>
<td>Master of Science (WU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Start</strong></td>
<td>Every winter semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capacity</strong></td>
<td>Up to 60 students per academic year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application</strong></td>
<td>Rolling admissions start in September 2016 (more information on page 10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:qfin@wu.ac.at">qfin@wu.ac.at</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Content and Structure

A well-balanced curriculum ensures that students acquire not only theoretical but also practical knowledge and skills, and that the learning outcomes set for the overall program and the individual courses are achieved.

**FIRST YEAR**
The first year consists of a well-structured course program concentrating on the basics common to all specializations in quantitative finance. The courses cover mathematics, probability, statistics, and computing, and prepare students for subsequent courses on stochastic calculus and financial econometrics. Introductory courses in finance, microeconomics and related subjects like optimization and game theory complete this phase of the program. The successful completion of the courses “Mathematics 1” and “Financial Markets and Instruments” is a prerequisite for admission to all courses and examinations in the subsequent semesters.

“The imagination in a mathematician who creates makes no less difference than in a poet who invents”
(Jean Le Rond D’Alembert)

**SECOND YEAR**
In the second year of their studies, students choose between a Science Track and an Industry Track.

**SCIENCE TRACK**
This specialization focuses on preparing students for an academic career. Besides advanced courses in all major fields of finance and numerous electives, special emphasis is placed on academic literature research and scientific writing. Attendance of a weekly research seminar held by the Vienna Graduate School of Finance (VGSF) also gives students the opportunity to participate in the Department’s productive research atmosphere.

**INDUSTRY TRACK**
This specialization focuses on students seeking a career as quants in the finance industry. Besides courses in the major applications, the program concentrates on combining financial models with computational skills. In the Industry Lab, students have the opportunity to apply their skills and knowledge in a real-world environment, making use of WU’s numerous corporate partnerships.
## PROGRAM STRUCTURE SCIENCE TRACK

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<tr>
<td>5 ECTS</td>
<td>4 ECTS</td>
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<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>5 ECTS</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics 2</th>
<th>Optimization</th>
<th>Statistics 2</th>
<th>Continuous Time Finance 1</th>
<th>Microeconomics</th>
<th>Econometrics</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common courses</th>
<th>Required courses</th>
<th>Electives</th>
<th>Master Thesis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>› Asset Pricing</td>
<td>› Paper Reading and Writing</td>
<td>At least seven electives are offered each year, students select a total of three. The number and the contents of the electives vary regularly depending on current developments in theory and practice. The actual electives available are announced on <a href="http://short.wu.ac.at/wyrm">short.wu.ac.at/wyrm</a></td>
<td>20 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>› Corporate Finance</td>
<td>› Research Seminar 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>› Financial Econometrics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>› Game Theory</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>› Master Thesis Seminar</td>
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| Total 20 ECTS | Total 12 ECTS | Total 12 ECTS (4 ECTS each) | 20 ECTS |

*continued on the next page*
### PROGRAM STRUCTURE INDUSTRY TRACK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>› Asset Pricing</td>
<td>› Industry Lab</td>
<td>At least seven electives are offered each year, students select a total of four.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>The actual electives available are announced on short.wu.ac.at/wynn</td>
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<td>4 ECTS</td>
<td>5 ECTS</td>
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</table>

| Total          | Total         | Total         |                           |              |
| 20 ECTS        | 8 ECTS        | 16 ECTS       |                           | 20 ECTS       |
Program Faculty

An interdisciplinary faculty of internationally renowned researchers from the fields of statistics, mathematics, finance, and economics ensures that the curriculum is both comprehensive and well-balanced.

FACULTY

Ulrich Berger, Game Theory
Stefan Bogner, Corporate Finance
Engelbert Dockner, Principles of Finance
Alexander Eisl, Industry Labs
Zehra Eksi-Altay, Term-structure Models, Industry Labs
Rüdiger Frey, Mathematics 1, Continuous Time Finance 1 & 2, Dynamic Credit Risk Modeling
Sylvia Frühwirth-Schnatter, Econometrics
Michael Hauser, Financial Econometrics
Ronald Hochreiter, Industry Labs
Rainer Jankowitsch, Program Director; Financial Markets and Instruments, Research Seminar, Master Thesis Seminar, Paper Reading and Writing
Gregor Kastner, Advanced Topics in Financial Econometrics
Alexander Mürmann, Microeconomics
Christian Ochs, Industry Labs
Stefan Pichler, Industry Labs, Master Thesis Seminar
Klaus Pötzelberger, Probability, Mathematics 2
Michael Raab, Bridging Course
Otto Randl, Portfolio Management
Birgit Rudloff, Optimization, Quantitative Risk Management, Paper Reading and Writing
Leopold Sögner, Asset Pricing
Michaela Szölgyenyi, Financial Engineering
Laura Vana, Industry Labs
Tanja Veza, Credit Risk Modeling
Andrea Wagner, Bridging Course
Josef Zechner, Portfolio Management

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
Georg Mikula, Program Manager
Qualification Profile and Career Prospects

The program has been designed to provide students with the advantageous combination of well-founded academic qualifications and a specialization in the field of modern finance.

In addition to comprehensive qualifications in the field of financial sciences, graduates have enhanced their social skills and competences by working in a multicultural setting and a stimulating learning environment. They also have advanced specialized skills in quantitative capital market-related models and methods, as well as in computational methods. After completing the program, graduates will be able to

› understand and analyze complex financial problems using mathematical and statistical models;
› apply mathematical and statistical methods and computational procedures for financial decision-making;
› handle financial market data and information systems in theory and practice
› work well in teams and participate actively in problem-solving processes

› write and present academic papers (graduates of the Science Track)
› develop and apply computational processes for solving finance-related problems (graduates of the Industry Track)

Thus, graduates are qualified to be experts in the increasingly complex world of finance, e.g. in

› asset management
› credit and market risk management
› treasury and trading
› financial engineering
› research and technical analysis
› corporate finance

Graduates are also qualified to further deepen and broaden their specialized knowledge in a relevant PhD program.
Program Application Criteria

“What I valued most in this program was the unique combination of an outstanding education in both mathematics and finance, led by an excellent faculty of experts in each topic. The program not only taught me the skills I needed, but it also brought me into close contact with the financial industry and potential employers, which helped me to find my dream job.”

(Christian Sagmeister, alumni of the program, Operational Risk Modeller)

The following requirements apply to the Master in Quantitative Finance:

ONLINE APPLICATION
The admission process starts with an online application. Applicants’ aptitude for the Master in Quantitative Finance is judged based on the following criteria:

› A bachelor degree or equivalent first degree in a subject relevant to the program. (The program must be worth at least 180 ECTS credits). Examinations must have been completed successfully in one of the following subjects:
  › Business administration, and/or economics, and/or finance, worth a minimum of 60 ECTS credits
  › Mathematics, and/or statistics, and/or computing worth a minimum of 45 ECTS credits

Furthermore, applicants have to indicate the following competences:

› Skills and knowledge in business administration/economics/finance
› Skills and knowledge in mathematics/statistics
› Achievement potential
› The GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) or GRE (Graduate Record Examination) is highly recommended
› Applications can be supported by academic letters of reference
› Adding a letter of motivation to your application is highly recommended as well

Generally, applicants with a strong academic background in finance are expected to prove sufficient skills in statistics and mathematics. Applicants with a (bachelor) degree in engineering or quantitative studies, however, should prove their interest and adequate knowledge in finance.

For further and more detailed information on the application requirements and admission process, please visit the program’s website at wu.ac.at/qfin
Application and Admissions at WU

Selection procedures apply for all English-taught MSc programs. WU employs a rolling admissions policy with three priority deadlines.

APPLICATION
The rolling admissions policy allows students to apply from the beginning of September until spring. Submitted applications are batched and processed according to so-called priority deadlines. This means that the processing of applications submitted after a particular priority deadline will be delayed until after the next deadline. The first step in the application process is an online application. To keep quality standards high, all of WU’s English-taught MSc programs are open to only a limited number of students. For this reason, all applicants are subject to a comprehensive selection process.

PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH
Applicants must provide proof that they have a sufficient command of the English language (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS 7.0, CAE Certificate in Advanced English, English as a mother tongue, or a bachelor’s degree with English as language of instruction).

ADMISSIONS
Students selected for admission must come to WU’s Admissions Office in person to enroll. Detailed information on the admission requirements and the application procedures for the English master’s programs is available online: wu.ac.at/en/programs/application-and-admission/international/requirements/master/mengl
ACADEMIC CALENDAR
At WU, the academic year is divided into two semesters. The winter semester starts in October and ends in February. It is followed by the summer semester, which runs until the end of June. Summer vacation is in July, August, and September. All English-taught master programs start in the winter semester. Detailed information on enrollment deadlines and WU’s academic calendar can be found on the WU website under wu.ac.at/en/students/my-degree-program/administrative-information/dates-and-deadlines

TUITION FEES
No tuition fees apply for EU citizens during the standard duration of their program (plus two extra semesters). All those exceeding the standard duration, however, are required to pay a tuition fee of approximately €360 per semester. Non-EU students are required to pay €726. Under certain circumstances, the same regulations that apply to EU citizens can apply to non-EU students as well.

To find out more, please see wu.ac.at/en/students/my-degree-program/administrative-information/tuition-fees-students-union-oeh-dues

SCHOLARSHIPS
WU does not offer any traditional scholarships. However, if certain conditions apply, WU does have two financial aid programs that provide need-based and merit-based scholarship grants. For further information, please contact WU’s Study Regulations Office (wu.ac.at/en/students/study-service-center) or visit the Austrian Database for Scholarships and Research Grants (OeAD) website at grants.at/home/EN

ORGANIZING YOUR STUDIES AT WU
› Getting started
WU offers comprehensive information for international students on its website.
› Housing
International students coming to Vienna can choose from various housing options.
› Bridging courses
Students who want to refresh their skills before courses start are welcome to attend bridging courses.
› Online services
A wide selection of online services is available to students on WU’s website wu.ac.at and WU’s eLearning platform Learn@WU.
› The Austrian Students’ Union at WU
The Austrian Students’ Union (ÖH) represents the interests of all WU students and offers them a wide spectrum of services.
› Student jobs at WU
WU students have many opportunities to actively participate in student and campus life. They may, for instance, choose to become course tutors, join one of our academic units as student staff members, or get involved with the Students’ Union.
› Centrally located
WU is easily accessible by public transport, and only a few minutes away from the city center.
### WU Key Data

#### 2015/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total students (fall 2015)</th>
<th>International students (fall 2015)</th>
<th>Incoming exchange students</th>
<th>Outgoing exchange students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23,313 (47% women) 4,416 (51% women)</td>
<td>~1,000 per year</td>
<td>~1,000 per year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Faculty and Staff³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total faculty²</td>
<td>1,152 (55% women)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative staff</td>
<td>507 (69% women)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>491 (43% women)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Campus Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total floor space</th>
<th>Volumes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premises Campus WU</td>
<td>100,000 m²</td>
<td>633,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises Library</td>
<td>7,200 m²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### International

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Courses in English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner universities</td>
<td>~240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses in English</td>
<td>~150/semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graduate Programs

#### German-taught master’s programs
- Business Education
- Business Law (LL.M.)
- Economics
- Export and Internationalization Management
- Finance and Accounting
- Management
- Socioeconomics
- Taxation and Accounting

#### German-taught doctoral/PhD programs
- Doctoral Program in Business Law (Dr. iur.)
- Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences³
- PhD in Economics and Social Sciences³

#### English-taught master’s programs
- Information Systems
- International Management/CEMS
- Marketing
- Quantitative Finance
- Socio-Ecological Economics and Policy
- Strategy, Innovation, and Management Control
- Supply Chain Management

#### English-taught doctoral/PhD programs
- PhD in International Business Taxation
- PhD in Finance

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¹ 2015 in full-time equivalents
² not including personnel funded by third parties
³ English track available
English-taught
Master’s Programs

GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Relevant bachelor’s degree; proof of sufficient proficiency in English; proof of achievement potential (valid GMAT results). More information: wu.ac.at/prospective/en

APPLICATION PERIODS
WU employs a rolling admissions policy, allowing students to apply from the beginning of September until spring. Rolling admissions for the academic year 2017/18 start in September 2016 with the following three priority deadlines: beginning of October, beginning of January and beginning of March (March is not applicable for International Management/CEMS).

PROGRAM DETAILS

Information Systems
› Focus on IT-related knowledge with a particular emphasis on management and research topics
› Students acquire skills ranging from system analysis to system implementation
› Based on state-of-the-art research

International Management/CEMS
› Joint program: MSc (WU) and CEMS MIM degrees
› Focus on international strategy and cross-cultural management
› Internship abroad, business project and exchange semester

Marketing
› Focus on customer-oriented management concepts, marketing research and decision tools
› Qualifications for marketing specialist/executive positions, academic careers & advanced management consulting with a wide choice of marketing electives

Quantitative Finance
› Focus on building strong quantitative skills coupled with a solid knowledge base of the underlying theory of finance
› Students can choose between an Industry Track or a Science Track
› Strong networks and links to the finance industry

Socio-Ecological Economics and Policy
› Focus on socioeconomic analysis of sustainability issues
› Students choose two of four concentration areas in the fields of Environment, Population, Multi-Level Policy, and Social Policy

Strategy, Innovation, and Management Control
› Optional double degree in cooperation with selected partner schools
› Focus on all major aspects of organizational leadership, as well as corporate development and strategic management
› Case studies, business projects and exchange semester

Supply Chain Management
› Focus on design and analysis of supply chains for focal companies
› Management and coordination of global supply chains
› Learn to measure, evaluate and control the quality of supply chain processes
› Discussions of recent issues in SCM with industry experts

For further details see: wu.ac.at/master/en
WU is a truly international university: It recognized the necessity of thinking beyond Austria’s borders early on and has made internationalization a number one priority.

CONFIRMED QUALITY
Becoming one of the world’s top business and economics universities has always been a high priority at WU. With its prestigious triple international accreditation, WU has achieved this goal. Fewer than 1% of universities worldwide can claim triple accreditation by EQUIS, AACSB, and AMBA, the three most well-respected accreditation agencies. WU is one of only two universities in the German-speaking world to belong to this exclusive group of schools.

WU is also a member of respected associations like CEMS (Global Alliance in Management Education), an alliance of 30 top business schools and 67 of the world’s leading multinational companies (cems.org), and PIM (Partnership in International Management), a network of 72 highly-renowned business schools and universities around the globe (pimnetwork.org).

RANKINGS
International ratings like the Financial Times Ranking have repeatedly positioned WU and its programs among the top universities in its field, and document WU’s continuous progress each year (rankings.ft.com).

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS
WU has successfully integrated many international aspects in its research and teaching over the past few years. With around 240 partner universities all over the world, WU maintains a strong international network. Today WU is involved in numerous externally-funded international research projects and has increased the number of its faculty members with international backgrounds, especially over the last few years.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
As a result of these efforts, WU has a high percentage of international students: Today, more than one out of every four WU students comes from outside of Austria (not including exchange students). Currently, most of WU’s international students are from Germany and the CEE region. Together with around 1000 exchange students, they contribute to the international and diverse atmosphere at WU.
Living in Vienna

Vienna is consistently ranked the city with the world’s highest quality of living according to Mercer’s Quality of Living Survey.

HOUSING/ACCOMMODATION
WU has no on-campus dormitories or housing services. Still, international students can choose from various accommodation options:

› **Student residence halls:**
  WU cooperates with the OeAD Housing ([housing.oead.at/en](http://housing.oead.at/en)) to guarantee a limited number of places in residence halls. Other providers include: [stuwo.at](http://stuwo.at), [wihast.at](http://wihast.at), [akademikerhilfe.at](http://akademikerhilfe.at), [milestone.net](http://milestone.net), [linked-living.at](http://linked-living.at)

› **Private accommodation:**
  WU recommends housinganywhere.com, a peer-to-peer platform for finding private student apartments.

WORKING IN VIENNA
WU’s ZBP Career Center is the first place to go for any questions regarding working in Austria ([zbp.at](http://zbp.at))

› Job openings for students, graduates and young professionals
› Contacts to over 500 national and international companies
› Approx. 1,500 job vacancies/year

Please note that good German language skills are often required for jobs or internship positions in Vienna, both at local and international companies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIVING COSTS</th>
<th>Life in Vienna is quite affordable, especially for a capital city</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>approx. €400–600 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>approx. €50 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essentials (food, personal expenses)</td>
<td>approx. €300 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>approx. €150 per semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>approx. €75–150 per semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In October 2013, WU relocated to an impressive new campus in Vienna’s 2nd district. As a public institution, WU is aware of its responsibility, and built its campus in an economical, ecological, and socially sustainable manner. We have not only constructed new buildings, but in the process we have also given concrete realization to our ideas of what the university of the future should look like. The campus is more than just a place for academic research and teaching and learning practical skills; it is also designed to create a new space for social, cultural, and political life.

The imposing Library & Learning Center (LC), designed by the Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid, is a testament to the central importance of research and teaching at WU. The Library & Learning Center is surrounded by six building complexes, including the Teaching Center, which houses most of WU’s auditoriums. The Teaching Center is intended mainly for bachelor’s degree students, while the master’s degree programs are taught primarily in the individual Department buildings. The Executive Academy building is the home of continuing education and life-long learning programs. In this way, the various buildings and their functions reflect the three tiers of teaching and learning represented by the Bologna Process.

WU’s department-based organizational structure was also a contributing factor. In its former location, various academic units were scattered across the district. Now they have been brought together in four department buildings, making life much easier for both students and faculty.

The campus infrastructure features auditoriums with state-of-the-art teaching equipment, including digital whiteboards. There are 3,000 student workplaces, located not only in areas intended for individual study, but also in project rooms that can be booked by teaching
staff and students alike. They cater to different needs by providing quiet spots for focused academic work as well as opportunities for work on group projects in communication-friendly study areas.

The campus provides an environment for WU students and staff that encourages productive work and communication. Not only the buildings themselves, but also the surrounding grounds offer plenty of opportunities for communication and meeting people. 55,000 m² of Campus WU’s total surface area of 90,000 m² is open, publicly accessible space. Fences or barriers would contradict our vision of an open campus.

Visitors and area residents are more than welcome on Campus WU. The campus offers not only food for thought, but also restaurants, cafés, and shops, all in a stimulating architectural environment.

The campus is not only architecturally outstanding, the entire complex was also designed in accordance with “green building” principles. Much of the required energy is obtained using geothermal energy from groundwater, and “green IT” systems capture the heat from server facilities and recycle it back into the buildings’ energy supply.

Another key feature of Campus WU is barrier-free accessibility. All auditoriums are specially equipped for people with disabilities, all areas are designed to be wheelchair accessible, and the campus also features a tactile guidance system for the visually impaired.

We have not only made sure to comply with all relevant legal guidelines, but we have also drawn on experience gained from best practice examples. WU aims to play a pioneering role – in all respects.
INFORMATION AND CONTACT
To find out more about the Master’s Program in Quantitative Finance please visit wu.ac.at/qfin

Academic Director of the Master’s Program in Quantitative Finance:
Kurt Hornik and Rainer Jankowitsch

For further questions please contact:
Georg Mikula
Program Manager
qfin@wu.ac.at

For information concerning applications and admissions please contact: master.application@wu.ac.at

For all other study-related matters please contact: admission@wu.ac.at

Visit us on social media:
WU Blog: blog.wu.ac.at
WU on Facebook: facebook.com/wu.wirtschaftsuniversitaet.wien
WU on Twitter: twitter.com/wu_viena
WU on Instagram: instagram.com/wuvienna
WU on LinkedIn: linkedin.com/edu/10216
WU on Google+: google.com/+wuwien

WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business)
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Arriving by public transport:
Subway: U2 stations “Messe-Prater” or “Krieau”
Bus: 82A, “Südportalstraße” stop

07/2016