

Certificate (2125)

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Financial Technology (FinTech) refers to the rapidly growing application of technology and innovation to traditional banking and financial transactions.

The Financial Technology Certificate provides cutting-edge training on FinTech application areas such as basic retail banking (mortgages, deposits), payments systems, financial management, commercial and corporate banking, investment banking and capital markets, insurance, commodities and even global currencies.

This program will be of interest to individuals who have previous education or experience in finance, business, information technology, cyber security or related areas. Topics covered include big data; legal and ethical issues in information technology; the intersection of technology and commerce; the associated implications for competitive dynamics, social policies and regulatory frameworks; blockchain technology in the banking and financial service industries; and the latest trends and technologies in FinTech including artificial intelligence.

Students will complete the following four compulsory courses:

- OEL1347 - Introduction to Financial Technology
- OEL1348 - Blockchain: Origins and Applications
- OEL1349 - Artificial Intelligence in Finance
- OEL1350 - Innovative Financial Systems

Students will chose to complete one of the following elective courses:

- OEL1351 - Data Analysis Tools for Analytics
- OEL1352 - Introduction to Data Analysis
- OEL1353 - Visualization, Leadership and Business Communication 1
- OEL1354 - Big Data Tools
- OEL678 - Excel Expert

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates will be able to:

- Identify the various AI and Machine Learning technologies and applications employed by the banking and financial services industries.
- Identify the various blockchain technologies and applications employed by the banking and financial services industries.
- Describe the impact of AI, Machine Learning, and blockchain technologies on the banking and finance industries with respect to traditional business practices and productivity, customer acquisition and retention and regulatory and compliance functions.
- Describe real-world use cases of FinTech and their impact on the Financial Services industry
- Evaluate the impact of AI and Machine Learning on banking and finance in society and the regulatory framework.

- Propose potential future developments in AI and Machine Learning and their implications for the future of the banking and finance industries.

ADMISSIONS

MINIMUM ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), or equivalent, or 19 years of age or older
- Students must successfully complete all courses within 7 years of acceptance into the program in order to graduate
- Students must obtain a G.P.A. of 2.0 or 60% or higher to obtain this certificate
- Students are recommended to have completed Grade 12 U or C Math (e.g. MCT4C) prior to registering in the program.

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CAREER PATHS

This new program will enable students to gain an understanding of the emerging technologies and applications that are redefining traditional financial markets. Developments in this field have a profound impact on almost all areas of commerce, financial management and economic and monetary policies.

Graduates may find positions in a variety of careers such as:

- banking and lending
- wealth management advising
- mutual funds
- insurance
- financial analysis
- technology
- data analysis and management

For more details on related occupations, job market information and career opportunities, see the Government of Canada website: <http://www.jobbank.gc.ca>.

CERTIFICATIONS

Upon successful completion of the online Financial Technology certificate program, students will obtain a Sault College certificate.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

SEMESTER 1

OEL1347-3 Introduction to Financial Technology

OEL1348-3 Blockchain: Origins and Applications

OEL1349-3 Artificial Intelligence in Finance

OEL1350-3 Innovative Financial Systems

Course Descriptions

Semester 1

Introduction to Financial Technology (OEL1347) (3 credits)

This course provides an introductory overview of the major themes and issues in Financial Technology (FinTech). FinTech is a broad term used to refer to a rapidly growing application of technology and innovation to traditional banking and financial services industries. Students will develop a broad understanding of the role banking and financial services play in society and the importance of key FinTech applications. Significant emphasis is placed on understanding the practical implications of the adoption of FinTech on traditional business practices, employees, customers and the impact on society and the regulatory environment.

Blockchain: Origins and Applications (OEL1348) (3 credits)

This course expands on concepts introduced in Introduction to FinTech with an in-depth investigation of the use of blockchain technology in the banking and financial service industries. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the origins of blockchain, the technological principals which underpin the system and the various practical applications for blockchain technology, including, but not limited to, cryptocurrencies. The course will review the important impacts that the adoption of blockchain may have on traditional business practices as well as society and the regulatory environment. The course provides students with the comprehensive knowledge to enable them to assess and evaluate the use of blockchain technology in industry and business applications.

Artificial Intelligence in Finance (OEL1349) (3 credits)

Students study the growing applications of Artificial Technology (AI) and big data in the world of banking and finance. The class covers various applications including marketing, credit decision/underwriting and asset investment/advisory and their impact on retail banking and wealth management. The course addresses the wide ranging legal and social issues around the growing use of AI and data collection.

Innovative Financial Systems (OEL1350) (3 credits)

Students learn about the many implications of virtual banking and financial networks on regional and global financial networks. Topics include discussions of the evolution of traditional banking networks and marketing and the competitive threats and opportunities posed by new entrants/disruptors with a review of developments across a range of countries.