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Ouachita partners with Securities Training Corporation to better prepare finance majors

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For immediate release

Ouachita partners with Securities Training Corporation to better prepare finance majors January 23, 2019

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208



ARKADELPHIA, Ark. – Ouachita Baptist University has partnered with Securities Training Corporation's College Program to prepare finance majors for the new Securities Industry Essentials (SIE) Exam. Securities Training Corporation (STC) is the market leader in financial examination training.

For students pursuing careers as financial advisors, Ouachita's partnership with STC General Securities College Program seeks to prepare students to take the SIE exam before graduation – expediting their entry to the job force.

"STC's General Securities College Program allows our students to gain a better understanding of the world of financial services, but it's also a way to demonstrate their commitment to potential employers," said Dr. Chris Brune, CFP®, Ouachita associate professor of finance and holder of the George Young Chair of Business. "We are one of the first schools in the country to have students sit for the exam, and all nine of our students who participated passed on their first attempt. I couldn't be more proud of them."

The program provides more than 22 hours of on-demand lectures, Crunch Time Facts, online flashcards, online progress exams, final exams, a printed textbook and an online study manual. Students also have access to all courses and materials for one full year after completion of the program.

"While recent graduates typically spend three to five months prepping for the SIE and the Series 7 exams, students who participate in the program can take the SIE exam now, while still in school, and be ready to take the remaining FINRA exam immediately upon graduation and obtaining sponsorship," said Paul Skordilis, president of STC.

Skordilis added that many institutions who work with STC report a 100 percent job placement rating.

This fall, Brune introduced the SIE exam preparation materials as an optional high-impact learning opportunity for his Investments class. Participating students met weekly to study the material and offer accountability for each other's preparation.

"STC's College Program materials are concise and easy to follow. Our students appreciate having videos and text, and the supplemental materials have also been beneficial," Brune said. "STC's College Program gives our students the opportunity to connect with national firms who are seeking quality graduates. As a small school in a small state, we are hopeful that the new SIE program through STC is one way to open additional doors for our graduates."

STC's General Securities College Program provides students with the same content STC used to train more than 1,000,000 Wall Street professionals at more than 3,500 firms for five decades. The College Program combines fundamental principles with real-world examples to equip students with the knowledge required to pass FINRA securities license exams, including the new SIE Exam, Series 6 and Series 7.

For more information, contact Dr. Chris Brune at <u>brunec@obu.edu</u> or (870) 245-4293.

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