

Feedback from BMI Alumni



Steyn Krouse is a junior consultant in the Amsterdam office of Milliman. Steyn completed his MSc BMI degree in 2011 and an MSc in Corporate Finance and Banking at Duisenberg School of Finance (DSF) during 2012 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

"A BMI graduate's first competitive advantage is obvious - a deep understanding of the mathematics behind business problems and the ability to model these. A second competitive advantage is less obvious - "the BMI way of doing things". This entails critical reasoning (challenging the status quo), reactive problem solving (as opposed to prescriptive problem solving), excellent communication, and thorough documentation. The best way to explain the "BMI way" is that I perceive very few of the "professionals" around to be professional after receiving my BMI training. The centre for BMI sets a benchmark that is unrivalled by the internationally trained professionals that I have come across."



Mishka is a Consumer Banking Impairments Analyst at Barclays Africa. Mishka completed her MSc BMI degree in 2012.

"BMI is recognised as one of the best degrees to have in the financial industry. Candidates with a BMI degree are highly sought after because of their versatility due to the BMI's well rounded programme. The BMI programme allows exposure to multiple fields in industry and does not limit its graduates to a specific area. One of my favourite aspects of BMI is that all students and graduates are part of a bigger BMI family. The number of BMI Alumni in industry is outstanding and the success of these Alumni speak volumes of the BMI programme."

AJ Snyman is an Investment Analyst and qualified actuary at Rand Merchant Insurance Holdings. He completed his MSc BMI degree in 2011.



"BMI is more than just a field of study. You become part of a close-knit community where the focus is to equip you with a unique, rare and diverse skill set while aiming to bridge the gap between industry and the academic environment. BMI is well-known and well regarded in industry and opens a variety of different doors for you – albeit in risk management, data analytics, quantitative analysis or actuarial science."

Gordon Molokomme is a Senior Model Risk Internal Auditor at Nedbank Group Limited. Gordon completed his MSc BMI degree in 2011.



"BMI strives to provide a smooth transition from academia to the corporate world, where technical skills learnt (mathematics, statistics, financial engineering, programming skills, economics, etc.) are integrated with soft skills, to empower young analytical thinkers to solve complex real life problems (market crises, credit risks, market trading, etc.). The BMI programme provides an in-depth research into the financial industry, and thus equips one with tools/knowledge that makes it easy to navigate into the corporate world. It is a well-known programme, mostly in the financial industry, that allows one to be more marketable in the corporate markets/industry – making it easy to secure a good job and a good performer."



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Adriaan van Tonder completed his MSc BMI degree in 2011. He recently established a consulting company called DATANALYTIQ (Pty) Ltd, where he serves as Director.

"In my personal experience, BMI has managed to successfully bridge the gap between tertiary education and applying theory in practice."

The programme allows students to mimic the thought processes of seasoned consultants and, in doing so, these students are exposed to fundamental concepts such as defining problem statements, managing expectations, offering technical knowledge and delivering innovative practical solutions in order to drive informed decision making."



Phathu Mutheiwana completed his MSc BMI degree in 2011. Phathu is a Specialist Model Risk Auditor at FirstRand Group.

"This role fits quite well with the in-depth background that BMI provides in the sense that one gets to be involved in applying the knowledge acquired across different risks types."

One important point I can say is the fact that BMI gives one an edge in the risk management environment, especially in the financial services. The amount of background and in-depth knowledge acquired from BMI studies is quite evident in the working environment when one is confronted with different types of risks, such as Credit, Market, Operational, Liquidity and Business Risk.

The approach in managing and dealing with this risks types is built mainly on the background knowledge that was acquired from the BMI programme. I therefore strongly recommend these studies for anyone who wants to be a recognized and well-rounded risk professional in the risk management sector."

Babette Roberts is a Senior Associate at Ernst & Young. Babette completed her MSc BMI in 2014.



"The MSc in BMI with specialisation in Business Analytics is the first of its kind in South Africa. The degree specializes in the exciting new field of data science and big data with the main focus on problem solving in the financial sector."

I found the course to be intellectually stimulating and very challenging. But with the excellent assistance provided by the academic staff of the Centre for BMI, I could easily master complex concepts. In the end, the course - and lessons learnt - opened up a vast number of new career opportunities and equipped me for the challenges I subsequently faced in the professional working environment.

"I highly recommend this excellent course to mathematically talented students who are looking for exciting and well-paying new career opportunities."



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