

SP25.03: Sustainability Linked Investing

Overview

This research project aims to analyze sustainability-linked derivatives (SLDs) within publicly available financial disclosures, particularly from annual 10-K reports. The student intern will assist in collecting and categorizing data on SLDs, which are financial instruments tied to sustainability performance targets that companies voluntarily disclose. This data will be crucial for understanding how corporations use derivatives to address sustainability goals and manage associated risks. By examining and extracting detailed SLD information, the intern will contribute to a broader investigation into the role of these instruments in corporate finance and their implications for sustainable practices. This experience offers hands-on exposure to real-world corporate finance and the intersection of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors within corporate disclosures.

What the student will DO and LEARN

In this internship, the student will actively participate in a finance research project focused on corporate sustainability practices through hands-on data collection and analysis. The student will systematically review 10-K filings to identify and record details on sustainability-linked derivatives (SLDs), developing a robust understanding of how corporations disclose and utilize financial instruments connected to sustainability goals. Through this process, the student will gain proficiency in analyzing financial statements, enhancing their skills in corporate finance research and financial data extraction.

This role offers a unique learning opportunity at the intersection of finance and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices, providing valuable exposure to the tools and techniques used in academic finance research. The intern will receive mentoring on data collection strategies, critical thinking, and the academic research process, building a foundation in both finance and research methodologies early in their academic career. This experience is ideal for undergraduates looking to develop real-world skills in finance, with the potential to inform future academic and career pathways.

Additional benefits

This internship offers the student a comprehensive introduction to academic research in finance, focusing on a high-impact, cutting-edge area within sustainable finance. Beyond technical skills in financial data collection and analysis, the student will gain practical experience in interpreting corporate disclosures, enhancing their understanding of sustainability-linked financial instruments and their relevance to corporate ESG commitments.

The project will also provide mentoring in research methodology, critical thinking, and the academic writing process, fostering skills that are invaluable for future research or professional pursuits in finance. Additionally, the intern will develop a deeper appreciation for the role finance can play in achieving sustainability objectives, positioning them well for future studies or careers in finance, ESG analysis, or sustainable investing. This early exposure to finance research will also help the student build connections within the academic finance community, opening doors to further opportunities in both academic and professional settings.

Additional qualifications

Hard working and diligent

Time commitment

6+ hrs/week for 15 weeks