



FITZGERALD INSTITUTE
FOR REAL ESTATE



BUILDING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE AT NOTRE DAME

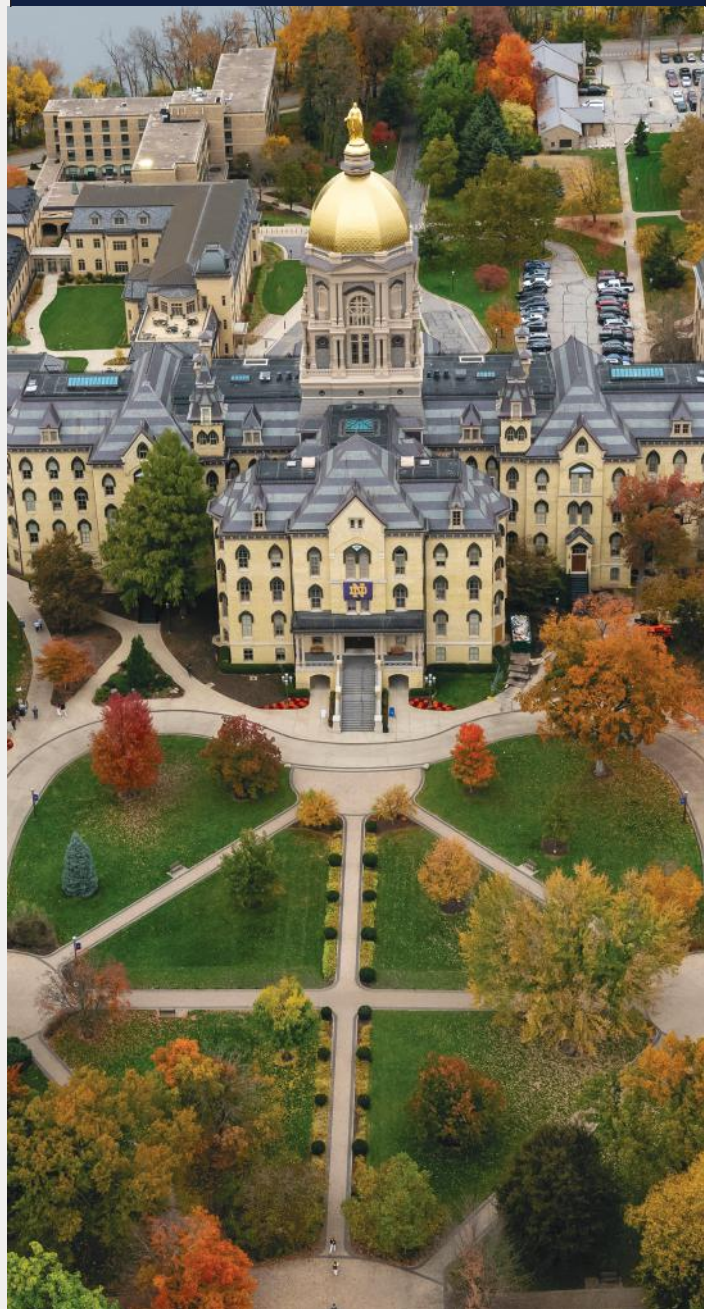
*Educating and developing ethical future leaders while
advancing multidisciplinary research and thought
leadership in real estate.*

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Why Real Estate?

Real estate is the world's largest asset class and one of its most powerful forces for change. The Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate (FIRE), studies how investment, development, and innovation in real estate can drive economic growth, support communities, and promote the common good.

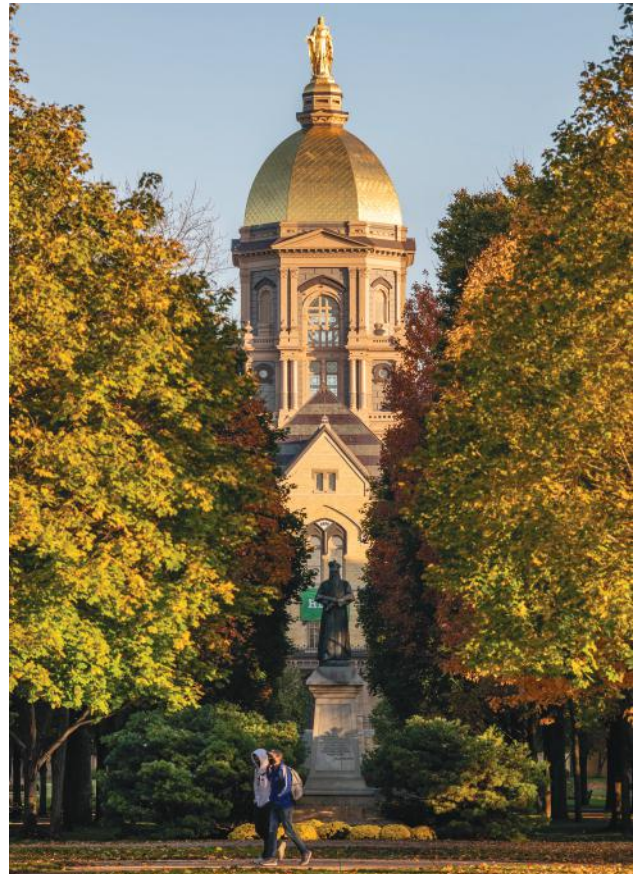


OUR MISSION

MISSION STATEMENT

Notre Dame's Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate educates and develops ethical future leaders and advances multidisciplinary research and thought leadership on real estate, the world's largest asset class.

By working with leading academics and thought-leaders, connecting key stakeholders who will develop and build sustainable and thriving communities, and partnering with mission-focused organizations to leverage their real estate assets in thoughtful and socially beneficial ways, we will work to address global challenges.



VISION STATEMENT

Through undergraduate and professional education, applied research, and top-tier student outcomes, the Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate seeks to transform how the real estate industry functions.

Through education and research, and consistent with the University's Catholic mission, FIRE focuses on innovative, data-driven, and scalable solutions that facilitate wise investment, promote sustainable development, and create places of lasting value.

INCEPTION

The Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate at the University of Notre Dame was established in 2019 through a generous gift from Ward and Kathy Fitzgerald. Ward, a Notre Dame ('85) and Harvard MBA ('89) graduate, is the CEO and founder of ExCorde Capital, a real estate private equity firm.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

► Why Our Work Matters

Our students are the heart of FIRE, embodying the values of leadership, integrity, and innovation. Over 500 students are engaged in real estate studies through FIRE, preparing them for impactful careers in one of the world's most influential industries. These students receive a multidisciplinary education including finance, law, technology, sustainability, and urban planning, providing a comprehensive understanding of the industry.

Since 2021, over 100 firms have hired FIRE students into full-time real estate roles, demonstrating the program's strength in career placement. Our students secure positions at top public and private investment and development firms, lenders, and brokerage firms, where they apply their knowledge to drive meaningful change in the built environment. Approximately 35% of our real estate minors begin their careers directly in real estate, a testament to the program's ability to inspire students to pursue their passion in the industry.

The impact of our work extends beyond career placements. Our students choose to tackle some of society's most pressing challenges, such as creating affordable housing and sustainable development. Through hands-on experiences such as student treks, competitions, and international coursework, they develop the skills needed to lead and innovate in an evolving marketplace.

IMPACTFUL FIRE COURSES

- Real Estate Fundamentals
- Real Estate Finance
- Real Estate Development Process
- Real Estate Private Equity
- Real Estate Investment Trusts
- Real Estate Underwriting
- Disruption and AI in Real Estate Markets
- Church Real Estate
- Real Estate Capital Markets
- International Real Estate Capital Markets
- Climate Change and Real Estate
- Real Estate Tax and Business Law
- Net Zero Development
- Real Estate Valuation and Investment
- Placemaking and Urban Design in Real Estate Development
- Real Estate Transactions
- Real Estate Investment Practicum

FIRE IGNITE

FIRE Ignite is the Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate career accelerator that helps students in the real estate minor launch into their career journey.

The program blends practical training, industry insight, and hands-on experience. Corporate partners help shape the content, so students build the skills employers look for today.

Participants grow in technical ability, professional confidence, and understanding of the real estate business. Along the way, they become stronger candidates for internships and full time roles.

Students who complete FIRE Ignite signal to employers that they are well prepared for internships and entry level positions after graduation.

FIRE Ignite is open to Notre Dame students first year through senior year with the final step being to complete the real estate minor. It is a collaboration between the Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate and the Real Estate Club of Notre Dame, providing a supportive and structured pathway into the industry.



FIRE IGNITE PILLARS

FIRE Ignite gives students strategically selected ways to get involved and grow. Students are encouraged to seek real estate financial modeling training, join networking and interview workshops, earn ARGUS certification, go on real estate career treks, and pursue leadership roles in real estate while at Notre Dame.



REND

Joining the Real Estate Club of Notre Dame (REND) takes a student's Real Estate experience to the next level. They'll connect with mentors, attend hands-on workshops, compete in case competitions, and meet top employers, gaining opportunities and support they won't find anywhere else on campus.



MCQUAIG

Each FIRE Ignite student completes the McQuaig assessment, a tool widely used by employers to understand personality and workplace strengths. Students receive a personalized report and meet one on one with our Careers Director to talk through their results and explore real estate roles that align with their strengths, interests, and working style.



FIREworks NETWORKING AND HIRING EVENT

This is our signature hiring event, held each September on the Thursday before Notre Dame's first home football game. Employers join at no cost and have the opportunity to meet and connect with students who are exploring careers in real estate.

TECHNICAL
SKILLS

01



EXPERIENTIAL
LEARNING

02



BUILDING SKILLS THAT *SPARK* SUCCESS

03

WORKSHOPS



04

LEADERSHIP



FIRE IGNITE PILLARS

TECHNICAL SKILLS

FIRE Ignite prepares students for commercial real estate with A.CRE training, hands-on experience through Project Destined, and ARGUS Enterprise certification to launch their careers.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

FIRE Ignite gives students real-world experience through career treks, SIBC, case competitions, and internships, helping them build skills, networks, and connections for a career in real estate.

WORKSHOPS

FIRE Ignite helps students explore real estate careers and prepare for the job market. They attend workshops on career paths, networking, and interview skills, participate in company info sessions, and receive personalized resume reviews to meet industry standards.

LEADERSHIP

FIRE Ignite pairs students with mentors through REND, giving first and second years guidance and upperclassmen leadership experience. Students also apply for REND officer roles and complete the McQuaig personality assessment to better understand their strengths and career fit.



PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES OVERVIEW

FIRE is shaping the next generation of real estate leaders through a dynamic blend of academic challenges, real-world experiences, and mission-driven learning.

Our real estate minor offers students a comprehensive education. Through a robust curriculum that combines technical training with strategic thinking, students explore real estate's impact on the global economy, society, and the environment. The program includes mission-oriented courses focusing on affordable housing, sustainability, and the unique challenges of church property stewardship.

Beyond the classroom, FIRE offers immersive career treks to Chicago, New York, California, Florida, and Texas. These treks provide valuable networking and learning opportunities, connecting students with industry leaders and providing an understanding of the various roles within the real estate industry.

A signature FIRE program, the Church Properties Initiative (CPI) supports the Church in stewarding its real estate assets to meet the needs of a changing world. CPI helps faith communities make data-informed decisions around land use, sustainability, and community impact.



Study abroad programs offered through the Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate provide students with invaluable opportunities to explore international real estate markets, urban planning, and cultural integration firsthand. Recent programs have taken students to Thailand, London, and Singapore, where they engage in case studies, site visits, lectures, and hands-on projects alongside local professionals and industry leaders. These immersive experiences in vibrant destinations deepen students' understanding of real estate in diverse contexts and equip them with global insights essential for their future careers.

01 London

Notre Dame's London program offers multiple real estate courses, alongside opportunities to engage with the city's historic and urban landscape. It's one of the most popular programs, balancing rigorous study with cultural exploration.

02 Singapore

This program focuses on real estate development and sustainability in Singapore, including site visits and lectures on urban planning. Students gain insight into how cutting-edge architecture and policy drive sustainable development in Asia.

03 Thailand

Tourism is a vital driver of Thailand's economy. This course offers a unique focus on hospitality, retail, and office mega-projects that are reshaping the skyline of this remarkable country. Students gain hands-on experience with one of Thailand's largest developers while exploring Bangkok, one of the world's most visited cities.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Support. Mentor. Lead.



ATTEND OUR SIGNATURE EVENTS

FIRE hosts events that unite students, alumni, professionals, and scholars to explore real estate's most pressing issues.

- FIRE Fall Kickoff: Held each fall on the Friday of the first home football weekend, this event features the Coppola Speaker Series keynote lecture, networking opportunities, and our annual real estate careers event.
- Church Properties Conference: A spring gathering of Church leaders, practitioners, and scholars exploring faith-based land use and stewardship
- Conference on Housing Markets and Housing Affordability: Top researchers share insights on housing markets and affordability, driving dialogue on today's housing challenges



PARTNER WITH US

Alumni, employers, and friends of the Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate play a critical role in shaping the next generation of leaders.

- Mentor: Share your expertise to guide and inspire students as they navigate the industry
- Hire: Connect with talented, well-prepared Notre Dame students ready to make an impact
- Engage: Join our events, panels, case studies, and career treks



SUPPORT THE INSTITUTE

FIRE has built a strong foundation thanks to the generosity of our benefactors. To elevate Notre Dame into a global real estate leader, ongoing investment is essential. *The Institute does not receive any revenue from the University and relies entirely on external support.*

Your gift helps:

- Educate the next generation of real estate leaders
- Develop experiential learning initiatives
- Expand career access and mentorship
- Accelerate impactful research



BECOME A FIRE FELLOW

FIRE Fellows are a distinguished network of alumni and industry leaders who champion FIRE's mission through engagement, mentorship, and annual philanthropic contributions (\$5,000+).

Fellows connect with FIRE through:

- Exclusive networking events
- FIRE Fall Kickoff VIP Lunch
- Recruiting and mentorship opportunities

Be part of a community shaping the future of real estate through leadership, legacy, and lasting impact.

SCAN TO EXPLORE
WAYS TO GET
INVOLVED



EMPOWERING STUDENTS, SHAPING FUTURES

FIRE students are future industry leaders, driven by purpose and prepared to make an impact through real estate. Through hands-on learning, global experiences, and mission-driven work, they gain the tools and values to lead with integrity.

From career treks and study abroad to mission-driven initiatives like the Church Properties Initiative, FIRE students explore real estate's power to serve communities and shape lives.

JOIN US IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE.

Support our programs,
engage with our students,
and explore how your
organization can join us
in creating meaningful,
lasting impact.

Learn more



Study
Abroad in
London



Career
Trek to
California



Career
Trek to
New York



Study
Abroad in
Singapore



