

California State University Channel Islands
Martin V. Smith School of Business and Economics

SYLLABUS

FIN 300 - Business Finance
Fall 2016 | Class Number 2658 (Section 03)

CONTACT AND CLASS INFORMATION

Instructor: Ryan J. Ross, CFA
Office: Sage Hall Room 2042
Office Hours: Mon: 4:45pm - 5:45pm and by appointment
E-mail: ryan.ross@csuci.edu
Class Schedule: Mon 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Class Room: Bell Tower 2414

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Text Book: Essentials of Corporate Finance (8th Edition) by Ross, Westerfield and Jordan (McGraw Hill). ISBN: 9780078034756

Financial Calculator: Many financial calculators are available on the market. Make sure the one that you have is able to calculate Net Present Value (NPV) and Internal Rate of Return (IRR). It is a student's responsibility to purchase a calculator with financial functions and learn to operate it. The Hewlett-Packard HP-10B and Texas Instruments BA II Plus are supported by the textbook. In some cases, I may illustrate the use of financial functions with Microsoft Excel as well.

Other: Access to Blackboard: <http://csuci.blackboard.com>
Access to EZ Test Online: <https://www.eztestonline.com>
CSUCI email account

Always bring your financial calculator to class.

Recommended: [The Wall Street Journal](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

FIN 300 is a required introductory finance course for all undergraduate business students. Prerequisite of this class is ACCT 220 (Managerial Accounting), MATH 140 (Calculus for Business Applications) or MATH 150.

FIN 300 introduces students to theories and practices of principles of planning, procuring, and controlling short-term and long-term financial resources of business organizations. Main topics include Time Value of Money, capital budget, debt and equity markets, security valuation, cost and structure of capital, and dividend policies. FIN 300 is a critical element of business education. It helps students understand how financial decisions are made and how they are integrated with other business arena.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students completing this course will be able to:

1. Explain and apply theories and concepts of business finance. In detail, they should be able to:
 - a. Identify the ultimate goal of financial management.
 - b. Analyze and utilize financial statements.
 - c. Calculate Time Value of Money and apply it to stock and bond valuation.
 - d. Estimate various investment criteria and evaluate capital budget decisions.
 - e. Explain the trade-off relationship between risk and return and apply Capital Asset Pricing Theory.
 - f. Calculate the Weighted Average Cost of Capital.
 - g. Evaluate different dividend policies and conceptualize clientele effect.
 - h. Identify various methods of raising capital.
2. Analyze a company's financial performance and financial decisions using business finance theories.
3. Present collaborative works.

GRADING

Grading for the course will be as follows:

	<u>Weight</u>
Midterm Exam #1	25%
Midterm Exam #2	25%
Final Exam (cumulative)	35%
Quizzes	15%

A student's final grade for the course will be curved against the class mean. The distribution is expected to be such that A: 16%, B & C: 68%, D & F: 16%. Plus/minus grades will be given. The probability distribution is assumed to be normally distributed. Note: While there are no explicit points awarded for class participation, regular, meaningful contributions will be perceived very favorably, especially amongst students who may be inbetween grades and/or for plus/minus grades.

EXAMINATIONS

1. The exams will be closed-book and based on assigned readings, lectures, quizzes, and other topics discussed in class.
2. There will be three in-class exams. Exams include multiple choice, problem solving, and short essays.
3. **No Make-up Examination or alternative test dates** will be given under any circumstances. If you miss a midterm exam, the weight of that exam will be added to the weight of the final exam. All students must take the final exam.

QUIZZES

Students are required to read assigned chapters before a lecture. A minimum of five quizzes will be given to check your progress. **There is no make-up opportunity for missing quizzes under any circumstances. Collaboration with other students is strictly prohibited.**

CLASS PARTICIPATION

A very important element in the learning process will be class participation and discussion related to the chapters assigned, as well as current events and other salient topics. Therefore, it is critical that students have completed the assigned readings on time. During the class, students could be called upon to explain chapter topics and answer questions.

CLASS POLICIES

1. **Add/drop, withdraw, and incomplete policy:** Students should comply with the university policy for add/drop, withdraw, and incomplete procedure.
2. **No late work will be accepted.** This policy applies to all exams, quizzes, and the case analysis.
3. **Cell Phones, Calculators, and Laptops:** Cell phone ringtones must be set to “silent.” Texting is not allowed and cell phones shall not be visible during class at any time. Programmable calculators are not allowed on quizzes or exams. No laptop computers are allowed in classroom. In order to follow lectures better, students should print out PowerPoint Presentations for each chapter before the lecture.
4. **Statement of Academic Integrity:** Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to such things as cheating, inventing false information or citations, plagiarism, and helping someone else commit an act of academic dishonesty. It usually involves an attempt by a student to show possession of a level of knowledge or skill that he/she does not possess. Violations could result in **Failed** grade for the course. See “Policy on Academic Dishonesty.”
<http://policy.csuci.edu/sp/13/SP-13-06-PolicyonAcademicDishonesty.pdf>
5. **Disabilities statements:** Students with disabilities needing accommodation should contact the Disability Accommodation Services, located in the Bell Tower, Room 1541 or at 805-437-3331. All requests for accommodations require appropriate advance notice to avoid a delay in services. Please discuss approved accommodations with me.

CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS

Items included in this syllabus, excluding those items that are mandated by the University, may be changed as determined in the instructor’s sole discretion. In the event there are changes made by the instructor, these changes will be provided to students as soon as possible. These notices can include announcements in class, email, and or notices posted on Blackboard. Therefore, it is critical that, at a minimum, students check both email and Blackboard on a regular basis.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic
1	8/29	Course Administration Chapter 1: Introduction to Financial Management
2	9/5	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – NO CLASS
3	9/12	Chapter 2: Financial Statements, Taxes, and Cash Flow Chapter 3: Working with Financial Statements
4	9/19	Continue Chapter 3 Chapter 4: Introduction to Valuation: The Time Value of Money
5	9/26	Continue Chapter 4 Chapter 5: Discounted Cash Flow Valuation
6	10/3	Continue Chapter 5 Review for Midterm Exam #1
7	10/10	Midterm Exam #1
8	10/17	Chapter 6: Interest Rate and Bond Valuation
9	10/24	Chapter 7: Equity Markets and Stock Valuation
10	10/31	Chapter 8: Net Present Value and Other Investment Criteria
11	11/7	Chapter 9: Making Capital Investment Decisions Review for Midterm Exam #2
12	11/14	Midterm Exam #2
13	11/21	Chapter 10: Some Lessons from Capital Market History Chapter 11: Risk and Return
14	11/28	Continue Chapter 11 Chapter 12: Cost of Capital
15	12/5	Continue Chapter 12 Review for Final Exam
16	12/12	Final Exam (Monday, Dec. 12 7pm-9pm)

Note: Information contained in this syllabus, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Assignments and their timing listed under the tentative course schedule may be adjusted during the session depending on the pace and needs of the class.