

FIN 300 – BUSINESS FINANCE SYLLABUS

Fall 2021 | Class Number 1548 (Section 04)

CONTACT AND CLASS INFORMATION

Instructor: Ryan J. Ross, CFA

Office: Sage Hall 2042

Office Hours: Monday: 11:00AM - 12:00PM and 3:00PM - 4:00PM
Wednesday: 2:00PM - 3:00PM and 6:00PM - 7:00PM
And by appointment

E-mail: ryan.ross@csuci.edu

Class Schedule: Monday 12:00PM - 2:50PM

Class Room: Bell Tower 2424

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Text Book: Essentials of Corporate Finance (Either the 8th Edition or 9th edition will work) by Ross, Westerfield and Jordan (McGraw Hill).
8th edition ISBN: 9780078034756
9th edition ISBN: 9781259277214

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 textbook supports the [Hewlett-Packard HP-10B](#) and [Texas Instruments BA II Plus](#). **Programmable/graphing calculators are not permitted. A financial calculator is required to pass this class.**

Other: Access to CI Learn (Canvas): <https://cilearn.csuci.edu/>
CSUCI email account

Recommended: [The Wall Street Journal](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND TOPICS

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.

GRADING

Grading for the course will be as follows:

	<u>Weight</u>
Midterm Exam #1	30%
Midterm Exam #2	30%
Final Exam (cumulative)	40%

Students will receive a numerical grade on each assignment. However, I may choose to “curve” for the course grade. Plus/minus grades will be given. Participation can have an impact on students who may be inbetween grades and/or for plus/minus grades. Note: Participation does not mean attendance; rather it involves regular, meaningful contributions to class discussions.

EXAMINATIONS

1. The exams will be closed-book and based on assigned readings, lectures, and other topics discussed in class.
2. This is an “in person” course and all exams will be taken in the classroom. There will be three in-class exams.
3. Exam questions are typically multiple-choice format.
4. **No Make-up Examination or alternative test dates** will be given under any circumstances. If you miss a midterm exam for extenuating circumstances, the weight of that exam will be added to the weight of the final exam. All students must take the final exam.
5. Only approved financial calculators will be permitted.
6. Smartphones, watches, earphones, and earbuds are not permitted.
7. No scratch paper or cheat sheets are permitted.
8. A formula sheet will be provided.

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.
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 exams. Laptop computers are only permitted for note taking.
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:” <https://policy.csuci.edu/sp/13/sp-03-006.htm>
5. **No recording and copyright notice.** It is a violation of CSUCI’s Academic Integrity Policies to share course materials with others without permission from me. No student may record any lecture, class discussion, or meeting with me without my prior express written permission. The word “record” or the act of recording includes, but is not limited to, any and all means by which sound or visual images can be stored, duplicated or retransmitted. I reserve all rights, including copyright, to my lectures, syllabus, and related materials, including summaries, PowerPoints, prior exams, answer keys, and all supplementary course materials available to the students enrolled in my class whether posted on Canvas or otherwise. They may not be reproduced, distributed, copied, or disseminated in any media or in any form, including but not limited to all course note-sharing websites.
6. **Disabilities statements:** Students with disabilities needing accommodation should contact the Disability Accommodation and Support Services at 805-437-3331 or accommodations@csuci.edu. All requests for accommodations require appropriate advance notice to avoid a delay in services. Please discuss approved accommodations with me. More details can be found at <https://www.csuci.edu/dass/policies-procedures/>

OTHER

The material presented and the classroom discussions are not intended to be financial advice to students in connection with any issue(s) they or others may have. If students have a financial matter, they are advised to promptly consult an experienced professional who can fully review the facts and advise them accordingly.

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 Canvas. Therefore, it is critical that, at a minimum, students check both their CSUCI email and Canvas on a regular basis.

COVID RELATED COMMENTS AND POLICIES

CSUCI recognizes that this is a difficult time, which may be filled with uncertainty as we move forward with the academic year. Your safety, health, and well-being, as well as that of the faculty and staff are our primary concern and we want to be able to support you in any way that we can. All we ask is that you respect the COVID-guidelines that are in place and designed to keep yourself and others safe. We have expectations that you act responsibly in order to mitigate risk to others. As your instructor and an employee of the University, I too am committing to these guidelines that I will ask you to follow.

The University understands that at this time you may be facing some obstacles that would make it difficult to meet your academic goals. Please use the **Fall 2021 Semester News Center** webpage for information and resources on basic needs such as housing, food, financial aid, and medical and mental health. The webpage also offers information on University communications, access to technology, and student services. Visit this webpage regularly as information may change as the semester rolls out.

I am committed to working with students with pre-existing medical and mental health needs, as well as new needs that may arise within the semester. I encourage you to reach out to me as early as possible to discuss any potential adjustments you think may be necessary in this course. Reasonable accommodations may include leveraging the course modules that have been developed in creative ways to maximize your access during times when students need to quarantine due to COVID exposure, or during an absence related to a disability or COVID-19 diagnosis. While I cannot guarantee any specific outcome, I am committed to working with you to explore all the options available in this course.

Remember, you are not alone and together we will navigate these extraordinary and challenging times.

Students are required to abide by all COVID-19 related policies that are mandated by the University.

Up-to-date policies and notifications can be found here:
<https://www.csuci.edu/news/campus-updates/fall-2021/>

A few of the key current University policies (subject to change/modification during the semester):

- Based on present health guidance, students will be required to wear a mask while indoors on campus, even if they are fully vaccinated. However, students who certify that they are fully vaccinated will not be required to submit for routine COVID-19 testing;
- Students will be required to complete the online training: [CSU-Student Safety on Campus During COVID-19](#). Unvaccinated students, including those who are eligible for a medical or religious exemption, will have **two** key requirements:
 - Face masks will be required while indoors (campus buildings, the library, etc.) except when eating or drinking. Outdoors, face masks are optional but encouraged.
 - Participate in weekly COVID-19 testing
- Students who cannot wear a face covering due to a medical condition or disability, or who are unable to remove a mask without assistance, should seek an accommodation through the [Disability Accommodations and Support Services Office](#). If you do not adhere to this practice you will be asked to leave the room.
- Complete a [COVID-19 Self Symptom Check](#) prior to visiting the campus. If you are not feeling well, please do not visit the campus or affiliated location.
- Report a positive case of COVID-19 or possible exposure at the [COVID Cases](#) web page

Is a COVID-19 vaccination required to return to campus?

Yes. Following the [CSU's announcement](#) that it would implement a COVID-19 vaccination requirement for the Fall 2021 term, President Yao provided additional information in [his message to students on Aug. 4](#). All CSUCI students will be required to provide proof of vaccination or provide an approved medical or religious exemption and submit to regular testing. In addition, masks will continue to be required indoors, regardless of vaccination status, while at CSUCI or an affiliate location (Channel Islands Boating Center, Santa Rosa Island Research Station, or Goleta instructional site).

TENATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic
1	Aug. 23	Course Administration Chapter 1: Introduction to Financial Management
2	Aug. 30	Chapter 2: Financial Statements, Taxes, and Cash Flow Chapter 3: Working with Financial Statements
3	Sept. 6	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – NO CLASS
4	Sept. 13	Continue Chapter 3 Chapter 4: Introduction to Valuation: Time Value of Money
5	Sept. 20	Continue Chapter 4 Chapter 5: Discounted Cash Flow Valuation
6	Sept. 27	Continue Chapter 5 Review for Midterm Exam #1
7	Oct. 4	Midterm Exam #1 Chapter 6: Interest Rate and Bond Valuation
8	Oct. 11	Continue Chapter 6 Chapter 7: Equity Markets and Stock Valuation
9	Oct. 18	Continue Chapter 7
10	Oct. 25	Chapter 8: Net Present Value and Other Investment Criteria
11	Nov. 1	Continue Chapter 8 Chapter 9: Making Capital Investment Decisions Review for Midterm Exam #2
12	Nov. 8	Midterm Exam #2 Chapter 10: Some Lessons from Capital Market History
13	Nov. 15	Continue Chapter 10 Chapter 11: Risk and Return
14	Nov. 22	Chapter 12: Cost of Capital
15	Nov. 29	Continue Chapter 12 Review for Final Exam
16	Dec. 6	FINAL EXAM (10:30AM -12:30PM)