

FIN 300 Business Finance Syllabus

Section 1 : M 3:00-5:50PM (Smith Decision Center 1908)

Section 2 : W 3:00-5:50PM (Smith Decision Center 1908)

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Term: Spring 2022

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Office Hours: MW 10:15AM - 11:45AM (or
by appointment)

Why should you learn finance? Finance can be intimidating. However, a lot of things to be learned in finance are very intuitive and have much to do with our everyday lives. For instance, have you ever financially planned for your dream house, car, vacation, or post-retirement life? How much and when should you start saving to send your children to college in the future? If you have a great business idea, what should you do to kickstart and raise funds? Answers to these kinds of questions that you ask yourself at some point in life can be found from lessons in finance. Because this course is “business finance,” we will put things in the business context, but as you will see, everything is easily applicable to our very own financial decisions.

Course Description: This course is a required introductory course to all undergraduate business students. FIN 300 introduces students to theories and practices of principles of planning, procuring, and controlling long-term and short-term financial resources of business organizations. Main topics include financial statement and analyses, time value of money, capital budgeting, debt and equity markets, security valuation, risk/return and diversification, cost and structure of capital, dividend policies, and raising capital. FIN 300 is a critical element of business education, and it will demand a great amount of time and work from students. At minimum, students are expected to dedicate 9-12 hours per week on average for successful completion of the course. The effort will pay off, and students will come out of the course well-equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge for their career.

Prerequisites: ACCT 220 (Managerial Accounting), MATH 140 (Calculus for Business Applications) or MATH 150, or any equivalent, and MATH 201

Course materials:

- I. Textbook: Essentials of Corporate Finance 10th Ed. or 9th Ed. or newer By Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan (McGraw Hill). While **not required** to purchase or rent, reading the chapters covered in class is highly **recommended** (the page numbers will be in the detailed schedule). Copies are available in the library and in my office for supplementary reading.

- II. Course workbook: **Required**. Printed double-sided, binded. No need to color-print. I won't be making any more study guides other than this. Try to make your own, shorter-version study guides. Trust me, it will help.
- III. Calculator: If you don't have any calculator at all (that supports advanced computations such as exp(), log(), ln(), etc.), please purchase the TI BAI or TI BAI Plus financial calculator. It supports every application and function needed for class. If you already have TI 83, 84, or a similar graphing calculator, purchasing a financial calculator (TI BAI or TI BAI Plus) is still encouraged if you are serious about pursuing a career in finance. You will need it at some point in the future. However, a graphing calculator does support financial applications **but** just be aware that it will demand some extra work for you to figure out how to use a TI 83 or 84 instead of TI BAI for financial applications, because I will only explain the TI BAI functions in class. You will have to consult the tutorials on www.tvmcalcs.com or the youtube videos I will post on Canvas.
- IV. Canvas and CI email: Students must have access to course canvas and CSUCI email accounts.
- V. Business/Finance/Economic news: For the news article talk that is part of the class participation grade, you can find the latest issues of The Wall Street Journal and BusinessWeek at the university library, or find daily business/finance news on websites such as <http://www.bloomberg.com/>, <http://money.cnn.com/>, <http://finance.yahoo.com/>.

Course Grade Composition:

- 1. Accepi Assignments (20%)
- 2. Canvas Assignments (20%)
- 3. Project (20%)
- 4. Exams (40%): two midterms and one cumulative final.

Details on the Grade Components

- 1. Accepi: You're required to watch all the posted recordings and review course workbook. This platform will be used to help you practice a variety of problems based on the lectures and posted materials.

You'll access the system through Canvas. The first time you do, you'll be asked to pay \$9.95 (Much more cost efficient than comparable platforms, like McGraw Hill Plus!) by credit card. You can then start working on the first assignment. Once you've completed the assignment, you can practice the same problem again with new numbers without affecting your overall score. If you have questions, let me know, or please visit accept.com/support or contact support@accepi.com

- 2. Canvas Assignments: There will be a number of small assignments, throughout the course. Each assignment will be different in format and the number of points, so please read the instructions carefully.
- 3. Project

- **Group Project Report:** Everyone is responsible for working on the case study report but submit in groups. It is meant for you to learn a real-world application of concepts and tools learned in class. More detailed instructions will be given out.
4. **Exams:** There will be 3 exams (two midterm and one cumulative final.) Some practice questions will be uploaded on Canvas. It is HIGHLY recommended that you solve every practice question more than once. The exam has a time limit and you will have to work under the time pressure. The only way to overcome this pressure is to practice A LOT and practice doing them fast enough.

Letter Grade: Course letter grade will be determined based on the percentage of your points out of 1000. The “ABCD” grading system will be used with the addition of “+” or “-“ to any grade except “F.” By adding a “+”, the grade points earned shall increase by 0.33 (except that A+ shall still be 4.0 grade points). By adding a “-”, the grade points earned shall decrease by 0.33.

Percentage grade	Letter grade	Grade points of a four-point scale
100% or above	A+	4.0
93% to 99%	A	4.0
90% to 92%	A-	3.66
87% to 89%	B+	3.33
83% to 86%	B	3.0
80% to 82%	B-	2.66
77% to 79%	C+	2.33
73% to 76%	C	2.0
70% to 72%	C-	1.66
67% to 69%	D+	1.33
63% to 66%	D	1.0
60% to 62%	D-	0.66
Below 60%	F	0

Final Exam Schedule:

Section 1: Dec 5 4-6PM

Section 2: Dec 7 4-6PM

Course Policies

A. **No late assignments will be accepted.** If you will not be able to turn in an assignment on time due to a special circumstance, **please notify me immediately.** Special permissions for late coursework may be granted due to illness, injury, or family emergencies.

B. **Cheating and Plagiarism:** This course will adhere to CSUCI’s academic dishonesty policy. "CI values academic integrity and will not tolerate acts of academic dishonesty. If a student commits an act of academic dishonesty in a course, the faculty member shall handle the

incident based on applicable campus procedures. " A student will automatically **fail** the class due to academic dishonesty.

C. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Cal State Channel Islands is committed to equal educational opportunities for qualified students with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The purpose of Disability Accommodations and Support Services is to assist students with disabilities to realize their academic and personal potential. Students with disabilities needing accommodation are required to contact the Disability Program office at (805) 437-3331. All requests for accommodations need appropriate advance notice by the student to avoid a delay in services. Please discuss approved accommodations with faculty.

Our Class Disruption Plan

Disruption?

Yes! A disruption means you, me, or all of us cannot participate in 'class as usual' for a reason we could not predict at the beginning of the semester. After COVID-19, we are well aware that disruption can happen fast. While we hope to avoid any closures due to COVID related reasons, let's face it, disruption happens every semester. You may get sick, I may get sick, or campus may close due to a wildfire - this is California afterall. Life happens! Our goal as a learning community is to do our best to keep teaching and learning with as little interruption as possible. This page explains what you can expect from me and what I expect from you when facing disruption - small or big!

If I am 'out'

If for any reason I have to be absent unexpectedly for at least a week or longer, I will make sure to announce it as soon as I can through Canvas announcements. I will most likely have some materials for you to work on, such that you know what to do without my immediate instruction. Please keep an eye out for all the announcements I send out.

If you are 'out'

If you know ahead of time you're going to be absent for a certain length of time, then let me know, such that I can provide directions as to how to keep pace and stick with the course without falling too behind.

If your absence is not expected (due to illness, family emergency, etc), then contact me when you can, at your earliest convenience. In case of illness, if you can keep the doctor's note from your illness, then it'd help. Once you return and resume work, contact me such that I can provide directions as you how to catch up.

If Campus Closes

If all of campus closes, which has happened at least once over the last three or more academic years, I will communicate to you through the Canvas announcements, which will arrive in your email inbox.