

Syllabus

FIN 300 Business Finance

Instructor: Rachel Koh, PhD, CFA

Term: Fall 2023

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Office: Zoom on Canvas

Office Hours: MW 1:15PM-2:45PM (or by appointment)

Finance is a study of financial resource allocation, money management, investing, and valuation of financial assets. This course is a required introductory course to all undergraduate business students. This introductory finance course will cover basic building blocks that constitute theories and principles of planning, procuring, and controlling long-term and short-term financial resources in business organizations. Main topics include financial statement analysis, time value of money, capital budgeting, debt and equity markets, security valuation, risk/return and diversification, cost and structure of capital, and raising capital.

Lessons to be learned in this course will have practical implications for our own financial decisions. 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 business idea, what should you do to kickstart and raise funds? Answers to these kinds of questions that you must ask yourself at some point in life can be found from lessons in finance!

Course Objectives

1. Understand the fundamental principles and concepts of business finance (4, 5).
2. Analyze financial statements and evaluate the financial health and profitability of a public company (1, 5).
3. Apply time value of money techniques for financial planning and valuation of securities (1, 5).
4. Make informed financial decisions based on financial data and analysis (1, 5).
5. Understand the concept of risk and return.
6. Apply capital budgeting techniques to make investment decisions (1, 4, 5).
7. Understand the concept of cost of capital and perform company valuation (1, 4, 5).
8. Communicate financial information effectively (2, 3, 6).

*Above Learning Outcomes aligns with MVS' Program Learning Outcomes for: 1) Critical thinking, 2) Oral communication, 3) Written Communication, 4) Conduct (Ethics), 5) Competencies in discipline, 6) Collaboration

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

Course materials:

- I. Textbook: *Highly recommended*. Essentials of Corporate Finance 10th Ed. or newer by Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan (McGraw Hill). Reading is required, in addition to the lectures. Especially if you miss any class, you will need to catch up by reading the textbook. Copies are available in the library or in my office.
- II. Calculator: Recommended to have either a graphing calculator such as TI 83, 84, or a financial calculator such as TI BAII or TI BAII Plus. I will be using either TI BA II in class for demonstration. Consult www.tvmcalcs.com for easy tutorials.
- III. Accepi: Accepi.com (details below).
- IV. Canvas and CI email: Students must have access to course canvas and CSUCI email accounts. Turn on the notification for all the updates from the course.
- 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 (40%)

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!, which costs more than \$100) 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 encounter any technical issues, let me know, or please visit accept.com/support or contact support@accepi.com.

2. Applications (20%)

There will be 3 application assignments for which you will be able to use real data and Excel to be able to apply what we learned in class to practice.

3. Exams (40%)

Exams: There will be 3 in-class exams (two midterms and a cumulative final.) 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 plenty of times and practice doing them fast enough. The exam dates have been determined (see the course calendar). If you are not able to take the exams on the designated dates, you must notify me at least 10 days in advance to arrange for the make-up exam. If you fail to notify me at least 10 days in advance, you agree that you forfeit the right to

take the make-up exam. If a sudden illness prevents you from taking it on time, you *must* bring me a doctor's note from the university clinic visitation.

Date for the final exam:

Section 1: December 4th, 4-6PM

Section 2: December 6th, 4-6PM

Letter Grade

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

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.

By enrolling in this course, students acknowledge that they have read and understood the syllabus and agree to adhere to the outlined policies and expectations.