

FIN 411 - Corporate Finance Management (Fall 2023)

Classroom: Sierra Hall 2422

Instructor: Dr. Priscilla Liang

Phone: 805 - 4378926

Office Hours:

Class Schedule: 1-3:50 p.m. Thursday

email: priscilla.liang@csuci.edu

Office: MVS Hall 1179

- Online office hours on Tuesday <https://csuci.zoom.us/j/81685694857> (5:30 p.m.-7 p.m.). Starting in Week 2, 8/29.
- Face-to-face office hours on Thursday (7-8:30 p.m.). MVS Hall 1179. Starting in Week 1, 8/29.

Course Description

FIN 411 is an upper division required course for undergraduate Finance Option students. The prerequisite for this class is FIN300.

FIN 411 provides in-depth coverage of financial theories and financial models of modern corporate finance management. Main topics include financial planning and forecasting, financial policies and growth, capital investment decisions, capital structure, leverage and valuation, risk and cost of capital, mergers and acquisitions, leasing, and short-term financial management. FIN411 is a case-based course in which students apply knowledge and skills acquired to the corporate financial decision-making process.

Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply finance theories and concepts to assess financial management decisions.
2. Analyze finance cases using quantitative analytical tools and finance models.
3. Apply corporate finance knowledge to develop critical thinking, problem solving, and decision-making skills.

The above Learning Outcomes align with MVS's Program Learning Outcomes for: 1) Critical Thinking, 2) Oral Communication, 3) Written Communication, 4) Conduct (Ethics), and 5) Competencies in Discipline.

Course Materials

1. Required Text: *Fundamentals of Corporate Finance*, 13th Edition, by Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education, 2021.
2. A Computer with the Microsoft Excel function: We will use Microsoft Excel to solve cases. If you don't have a computer and/or Excel, please let me know as soon as possible.
3. A financial calculator such as the one you used in your FIN300 class.

Course Assignments

1. **Homework Assignments** (16%): Homework assignments are designed to help students review financial models and solve quantitative finance problems.
2. **Quizzes** (18%): Two types of quizzes will be given. Review quizzes help students review concepts learned in FIN300. Regular quizzes assess new concepts acquired in FIN411.
3. **Case Analyses and/or Reports** (21%): Module-based cases are designed to apply knowledge and skills learned to assess financial management decision-making.
4. **Midterm and Final Examinations** (20% and 25%, respectively; 45% total): Students will complete midterm and final exams during week 8 and week 16 (tentatively). These exams will be closed-book and based on assigned readings, lectures, quizzes, cases, and homework problems.

Grading Policy

Grading for the course will be as follows:

A	93	B	83-87	C	73-77	D	63-67
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
B+	88-89	C+	78-79	D+	68-69	F	<60%

Course Expectations

1. **Please be prepared to review theories and models you learned in *FIN300-Business Finance* on a regular basis.** The prerequisite *FIN300* course gives students the basic skills and knowledge to move on to advanced topics in FIN411. It is important that students review concepts and theories learned in *FIN300* class on your own, as we will not have enough time to discuss these foundational business finance concepts again in the FIN411 class. I will assign Business Finance review quizzes to check your progress.
2. **Please be prepared to use Microsoft Excel for module-based case analyses.** We will utilize Microsoft excel to analyze corporate finance cases. If you are not familiar with Microsoft Excel, please learn how to use it. As a CSUCI student, you have a free access to “LinkedIn Learning” in which you will find many Excel tutorials/classes.
3. **Please be prepared to participate in class activities.** Active learning is a key to success. This is a case-based upper division class which requires students to take an active role in the learning process. A very important element in the active learning process is class participation. It is critical that you complete all assignments on time. During the class, students may be called upon to explain concepts/theories and present homework/quiz/case solutions.

Course Policies

1. **No late assignment will be accepted unless you have a legitimate reason.** If you are not able to turn in an assignment on time due to a special circumstance, **please notify me immediately (24 hours is the maximum limit).** Special permission for late coursework may be granted without penalty due to illness, injury, or a family emergency with **documented proof.**
2. 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 if the student engages in academic dishonesty.

3. 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 require appropriate advance notice by the student to avoid a delay in services. Please inform me of any approved accommodations at the beginning of the semester.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Tentative Topics
1	Financial Statements and Analyses
2	Long-Term Financial Planning and Growth
3/4	Net Present Value and Other Investment Rules Making Capital Investment Decisions
5/6	Project Analysis and Evaluation
7	Cost of Capital
8	Midterm exam/Behavioral Finance and its Implications in FM (Optional)
9	Financial Leverage and Capital Structure Policy
10	Mergers and Acquisitions
11	Leasing
12	Short-Term Financial Planning
13	Working Capital Management
14	Thanksgiving holiday (No class on 11/23)/ Enterprise Risk Management (Optional)
15	Credit and Inventory Management
16	Final Exam

Disclaimer: 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. Topics listed under the tentative course schedule may be adjusted during the semester depending on the pace and needs of the class.