

# FIN 411 - Corporate Finance Management

(Fall 2024)

Classroom: Bell Tower 2414                      Class Schedule: 1:30 - 4:20 PM Th  
Instructor: Dr. Priscilla Liang                      Email: [Priscilla.liang@csuci.edu](mailto:Priscilla.liang@csuci.edu)  
Phone: 805 – 4378926                      Office: MVS Hall 1179

## Office Hours:

- Online office hours are on Tuesdays at <https://csuci.zoom.us/j/86544482076>.(5:00-6:00 PM).
- Face-to-face office hours are on Thursdays (12:30 - 1:30 PM & 4:30 -5:30 PM) at MVS Hall 1179.

## 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*, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education, 2021.
2. A Computer with 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. **Finance News Posting and Discussion** (9% total weighting): These assignments help students connect textbook finance theories with real-world finance practices. Students will post finance news and respond to news posted by classmates.
2. **Homework Assignments** (14% total weighting): Homework assignments are designed to help students review financial models and solve quantitative finance problems.
3. **Quizzes** (14%): Two types of quizzes will be given. Review quizzes help students review concepts learned in FIN300, and regular quizzes assess new skills learned in FIN411.
4. **Case Analyses and/or Reports** (18% total weighting): Module-based cases are designed to apply knowledge and skills learned to assess financial management decisions.
5. **Midterm and Final Examinations** (20% and 25%, respectively. 45% total weighting): 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 the theories and models you learned in *FIN300-Business Finance* regularly.** 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 the concepts and theories learned in FIN300 on your own, as we will not have enough time to discuss these foundational business finance concepts again in FIN411 class. I will assign business finance review quizzes to help you refresh your memory.
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 free access to “LinkedIn Learning,” where 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 that 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 a student completes all assignments on time. During the class, students may be called upon to explain concepts/theories and present homework/quiz/case solutions.

- Please **remain current on business/finance/economic news**. Students are expected to discuss business/finance/economic news on a weekly basis.

### Course Policies

- 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**.
- 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.
- 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

<b>Week</b>	<b>Tentative Topics</b>
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
9	Financial Leverage and Capital Structure Policy
10	Leveraged Buyout
11	Mergers and Acquisitions
12	Leasing
13	Short-Term Financial Planning
14	Working Capital Management
15	Credit and Inventory Management

**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.