

FIN410- Financial Markets and Institutions

Term: Spring 2023
Classroom: Sierra Hall 1411
Class Schedule: 9-11:50 am Wed
E-mail: Priscilla.liang@csuci.edu
Instructor: Dr. Priscilla Liang
Office: Sage Hall 2131
Phone: 805 - 437 8926
Office Hours: 1-3 pm Wednesday; or by appointment

Course Description

FIN 410 is an upper division required course for undergraduate Finance Option students. The prerequisite for this class is FIN300.

FIN 410 is designed to provide a broad knowledge regarding the operation, mechanics, and structure of the U.S financial system. It includes an in-depth exploration of key elements critical to financial markets and institutions, with an emphasis on their real-world applications. Main topics include the central bank, determination of interest rates, key financial markets and institutions, various financial instruments, commercial banking and non-bank operations, and international dimensions of the financial markets.

Student Learning Outcomes and Expected Competencies

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

- Analyze the impact of macroeconomic variables on financial markets, interest rates, and security prices.
- Explain the organization and functions of major financial markets, evaluate different financial instruments that are traded, and assess the operations and performance of financial institutions.
- Apply key concepts in financial markets and institutions to real-world financial situations.
- Work collaboratively in a group environment.

**The above Learning Outcomes align with MVS's Program Learning Outcomes for: 1) Critical Thinking, 2) Oral Communication, 3) Written Communication, 4) Conduct (Ethics), 5) Competencies in Discipline, and 6) Collaboration*

Required Text and Other Course Material

- *Financial Markets and Institutions*, 13th edition (or an older edition), by Jeff Madura. Cengage Learning (Required). You may [buy or rent](#) a 13th edition of the textbook from Amazon at a low

price. Since a MindTap course is quite expensive, we will use the textbook only. No MindTap access code is needed.

- Business/Finance/Economic news: It is required that you remain updated on current business/finance/economic news. You can find the latest issues of [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [BusinessWeek](#) on the university library's website, or find daily business/finance news on websites such as <http://www.bloomberg.com/> and <http://money.cnn.com/>.

Characteristics of the Course and Course Requirements

- Many chapters to discuss but none are difficult. We need to cover at least 22 chapters during the 15-week semester. Please see the [Tentative Course Outline and Schedule](#) for weekly learning topics. You have already learned some topics in other finance or economics classes, so we will review certain chapters briefly.
- We will flip the classroom. In order to do so, students must be well-prepared before Wednesday's class each week. You will be responsible for reading the textbook, listening to recorded lectures, and preparing weekly in-class assignments before we meet on Wednesday. I will guide your class discussions and problem solving, and answer your questions in class. After Wednesday's class, you will review the course materials again before you take the weekly quiz.
- What you will learn in the classroom is closely related to what will happen in real life. FIN 410 requires students to apply finance knowledge to the constantly changing financial and economic environment throughout the semester. You must follow important news and events - political, economic, business, financial, etc., in order to connect textbook knowledge with real world financial applications.
- This is a reading and research-intensive course that has less quantitative analysis. Please put in the effort necessary to deliver high quality work for this upper division finance course.

Assignments and Weights

Definitions, Concepts, and Problems (14%): Students will prepare answers to these weekly assignments before our face-to-face class on Wednesday, and will be called upon to provide answers in class.

Class Discussions (14%): Students will prepare answers to the weekly discussion assignments before our face-to-face class on Wednesday, and will be called upon to provide answers in class.

Please revise your answers and turn in above two assignments by the end of the class each Wednesday.

Online Quizzes (21%): Weekly Quizzes will be given to help students review chapter contents. You may take each quiz multiple times until you are satisfied with your learning progress. These quizzes are designed to help you learn and prepare for course examinations and credential exams in the finance field.

Weekly Online Quizzes are due midnight Sunday.

Comprehensive Project (16%): The comprehensive course project applies key concepts we learned throughout the semester to real world financial and economic situations. Each student will submit an individual project report. However, you may work with your classmates and help each other during the process.

Examinations (Midterm 17%. Final 17%): Two exams will be given, one during week 8 and one during week 16 of the semester. The final exam is not cumulative. **No Make-up Examinations** will be provided. If you miss an exam, you may choose to take a cumulative make-up exam during the final exam week.

Course survey (1%): A midterm and final course survey will be conducted during weeks 8 and 16 of the semester.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading for the course will be as follows:

A	>94%	B	84-87	C	74-77	D	64-67
A-	90-93	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63
B+	88-89	C+	78-79	D+	68-69	F	<60%

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.** Special permissions for late coursework may be granted without penalty due to illness, injury, or family emergencies **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 due to 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 need appropriate advance notice by the student to avoid a delay in services. Please discuss approved accommodations with me.

Covid-Related Policies

Students are required to abide by all COVID-19 related policies that are mandated by the University. If you have any medical needs, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am only an email away! I am committed to working with students to explore all possible options to achieve your academic goals.

Tentative Course Schedule (1/23 - 5/19)

WK	Topics
1	Chapter 1: Role of Financial Markets and Institutions
2	Chapter 2*: Determination of Interest Rates (Discussed in ECON311.)
	Chapter 3: Structure of Interest Rates
3	Chapter 4*: Functions of the Fed (Discussed in ECON311. Focus on 4-3, 4-4.)
	Chapter 5*: Monetary Policy (5.1&5.2 discussed in ECON311. Lecture 5.3,5.4,5.5)
4	Chapter 6: Money Markets
	Chapter 7*: Bond Markets.
5	Chapter 8*: Bond Valuation and Risk (Discussed in FIN300).
	Chapter 9: Mortgage Markets
6	Chapter 10: Stock Offerings and Investor Monitoring.
	Chapter 11*: Stock Valuation and Risk (Discussed in FIN300).
7	Chapter 12: Market Microstructure and Strategies
	Chapter 13-16: Derivative security markets (Assignments for review/preview purposes only)
8	In-Class Midterm Exam. Catch up with course project.
Spring Recess (3/20-3/24. No class on 3/22)	
9	Chapter 17: Commercial Bank Operations
10	Chapter 18: Bank Regulation
	Chapter 19: Bank Management
11	Chapter 20: Bank Performance

12	Chapter 21: Thrift Operations
13	Chapter 23: Mutual Fund Operations.
	Chapter 25: Insurance
14	Chapter 24: Securities Operations.
	Chapter 22: Finance Company Operations
15	Chapter 26: Pension Fund Operations.
16	In-Class Final Exam
	Comprehensive Project Written Report Due

Disclaimer

Information contained in this syllabus, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change as deemed appropriate by the instructor.