

FINANCE FOR MANAGERS (FIN545)
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - TEXARKANA
Spring 2016
Course Syllabus

Instructor: James Nguyen Office: UC 311
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Office Hours: TBA on Blackboard by 01/22/16. Outside of in-office hours I will reply to emails within a reasonable time not to exceed 24 hours during the normal work week.

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Catalog Description:

The organization, the instruments, and methods of financing corporations with reference primarily to the effects on the corporation and its stockholders. Previously listed as FIN 454.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will have:

1. Student will be proficient in stock and bond valuation
2. Student will demonstrate competence in basic financial planning
3. Student will be able to demonstrate understanding of time value of money
4. Student will demonstrate competence in capital budgeting
5. Student will be able to exposed to several special topics in international financial management, financial distress, and risk management

The course is designed to fulfill the following BBA Learning Goals:

Learning Goal 1: Our graduates will be competent in the broad business disciplines that underlie the BBA degree.

Learning Goal 2: Critical Thinking/Problem Solving: Upon completion of their degree program, students will be able to demonstrate critical thinking, including the ability to explain issue; find, analyze, and select appropriate evidence; and construct a cogent argument that articulates conclusions and their consequences.

Learning Goal 3: Communication: Upon completion of their degree program, students will be able to express ideas clearly and coherently orally, in writing, and electronically to a diverse range of audiences and interact with others in large and small group settings.

Learning Goal 4: Upon completion of their degree program, students will be able to analyze the impact of multiple factors on the interconnectedness of diverse peoples in the global environment.

Course Prerequisites: ACCT 2301 and 2302, ECON 2301 and 2302.

Required Text: Introduction to Corporate Finance: What Companies Do, 3rd edition (ISBN-13: 978-1111222284) by Megginson and Smart (available at the bookstore and online).

Computational Device: Each student **must** have a financial calculator. I have not had a student without a financial calculator passing this course and strongly recommend the Texas Instruments BA II Plus or Professional as your textbook also uses this particular calculator.

GRADING POLICY

The course grade will be determined by a series of multiple-choice tests (usually one test for every 3 or 4 chapters), a comprehensive final examination, HW and/or a short case analysis. Depending on overall course performance and your (active) participation in the course, one of your lowest or missing test grades will be dropped from your course grade computation. There is *no* makeup (in the event that a student is permitted to take a make-up exam, there will be no grading “curve” as there is no point of reference). The dates and times of the exams will be posted at least two weeks in advance on Blackboard under the “Announcements” tab. Study materials will be posted under “Contents” section. The multiple-choice tests will be based on text reading assignments, practice problem and other reading assignments. You will typically have a 48-hour window to take each of the exams.

COURSE EVALUATION AND POINT DISTRIBUTION

Tests	60
Homework/Case	10
Good citizenship	5
Comprehensive Final Examination	25
Total	100%

The following scale will be followed for the course letter grade assignment.

> 90%	... A
80 - 89	... B
70 - 79	...C
60 - 69	...D
< 60	...F

Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data,

plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of 'F' in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information, see the university catalog.

A&M-Texarkana Email Address: Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

Drop Policy: To drop this course after the census date (see [semester calendar](#)), a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website <http://tamut.edu/Student-Support/Registrar/Dropping.html> or obtained in the Registrar's Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an "approval" to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar's office for processing in person, email Registrar@tamut.edu, mail (7101 University Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar's Office for processing. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.

Class Participation (For web courses): Students are responsible for beginning their participation on the FIRST CLASS DAY by logging on and completing assignments according to the COURSE CALENDAR. Failure to submit online assignments between the first day of classes and the "university census date" (according to the university schedule) will result in an ADMINISTRATIVE DROP from the course. Students who have federal loans and grants must be aware that participation is monitored in online courses. In the event a student withdraws from a course the student will be required to refund all federal funds prorated from the last date of participation. A student's last access to Blackboard would not suffice as participation. The required weekly activity could include a comment to a blog, a discussion board posting, a journal entry, a quiz or exam, a submitted assignment, or other measurable and tracked activity.

For web and web enhanced courses:

Student Technical Assistance:

- Solutions to common problems and FAQ's for your web-enhanced and online courses are found at this link:
<http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/index.php?pageid=37>

- If you cannot find your resolution there, you can send in a support request detailing your specific problem here:
<http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/gethelp2.php>
- Blackboard Helpdesk contacts:

Office hours are: Monday - Friday, 8:00a to 5:00p

Julia Allen (main contact) 903-223-3154 julia.allen@tamut.edu

Frank Miller (alternate) 903-223-3156 frank.miller@tamut.edu

Nikki Thomson (alternate) 903-223-3083 nikki.thomson@tamut.edu

Technical Requirements: Minimum Windows Requirements:

- Pentium IV 1.5GHz+ (preferred: Core Duo)
- 1 GB RAM minimum (preferred: 2 GB)
- 128MB Video Card minimum --- Sound Card is required for some courses
- 56K modem minimum (Cable or DSL required for some courses)
- Windows 2000, XP, Vista or 7
- Web browser (Internet Explorer 7.0+; Firefox 3.0+)
- Microsoft Word, minimum Office 97

Some courses will need plug-ins such as Flash player 10 +, QuickTime player 7.0+, Adobe Reader 9.0+, Java Runtime Environment (Java 1.6.0_15), Windows Media Player 10+, RealPlayer, and Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave.

Some online courses may also require a CD ROM (8x minimum, higher recommended) Blackboard has certified the following browsers for computers running Windows Operating Systems:

- Internet Explorer 8 or 9 (IE is not supported on Windows XP)
- Mozilla Firefox 3.6+
- Google Chrome

Minimum Apple Macintosh Requirements:

- Intel Core 2.0GHz+
- 1 GB RAM (preferred: 2 GB)
- 128MB Video Card minimum --- Sound Card is required for some courses
- 56K modem minimum (Cable or DSL required for some courses)
- Web browser (Firefox 3.0+ ; Safari 3.0+)
- Microsoft Word, minimum Office 97

Some courses will need plug-ins such as Flash player 10+, QuickTime player 7.0+, Adobe Reader 9.0+, Java Runtime Environment, RealPlayer, and Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave. Some online courses may also require a CD ROM (8x minimum, higher recommended).

Blackboard has certified the following browsers for computers running Macintosh

Operating Systems:

- Mac OS 10.2 (Jaguar): (Safari 1 is compatible)
- Mac OS 10.3 (Panther): Safari 1.2 (Firefox 1.5 is compatible)
- Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger): Safari 2 and Firefox 1.5
- Mac OS 10.5 (Leopard): (Firefox 2.0 is compatible)

I-OS and Android Devices: These devices are currently supported using the Blackboard Mobile App, available for free from your App Store or scan the code below:



To access Texas A&M University - Texarkana, there is an individual license fee of \$1.99 per year or \$5.99 lifetime. This fee gives you access to the university from all your (same platform) devices; it is not necessary to pay the fee for each device you own.

COURSE OUTLINE

Part 1 (1/19-2/15)

- Scope of Corporate Finance (Chapter 1)
- Financial Ratio Analysis (Chapter 2)
- Time Value of Money (Chapter 3)
- Valuing Bonds (Chapter 4)

Part 2 (2/16-3/20)

- Valuing Stocks (Chapter 5)
- Risk and Return (Chapter 6)
- Capital Asset Pricing Model (Chapter 7)
- Capital Budgeting Process (Chapter 8)
- Risk and Capital Budgeting (Chapter 10)

Part 3 (3/21-5/01)

- Capital Structure (Chapter 12)
- Payout Policy (Chapter 14)

- Financial Planning (Chapter 15)
- International Financial Management (Chapter 18)
- Bankruptcy (Chapter 22)

Final Exam (Comprehensive): 05/07/16

Disclaimer

I reserve the right for subsequent changes to be made to any aspect or detail of this syllabus if and when necessary. These changes may or may not affect the point distribution stated in this syllabus.