
BUSINESS FINANCE I
FIN 331, Section 1 Winter intersession 2010
8:00 – 11:30 M T W TH F, Holman 138

Dr. B. Van Ness
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Goals and Objectives: This course is an introduction to business finance. It emphasizes the financing and investment decisions of the financial manager. Included are topics such as financial statement analysis, time value of money, asset valuation, risk analysis, and capital budgeting.

Course Materials:

The **required textbook** for this course is Fundamentals of Financial Management concise 6th edition, Brigham and Houston © 2009 South-Western, a part of Cengage Learning.

An ebook option is available at www.ichapters.com and www.CourseSmart.com at significantly reduced costs from the hardback text.

A financial calculator: The Texas Instruments BAII Plus financial calculator. Given the speed with which this class must move (in order to cover all material in the time frame allotted) a financial calculator is required. If you have another *financial* calculator that you are comfortable with, you may use it, however, I will only discuss the use of the TI BAII Plus for in-class examples.

I will place chapter outlines on my web site. You should bring the relevant outline(s) to class. It will help you follow the class discussion and examples.

Prerequisites:

Accounting 202 should have been passed prior to enrolling in this course. Also, Economics 202 and Economics 203 with a minimum grade of C.

Course Pedagogy:

Business Finance is a quantitative subject, and much of the content of the course reflects this fact. I will do many examples in class. Mastering these class problems alone is not sufficient. You should work all relevant end-of-chapter problems from the textbook and sample problems on my website. These are for your benefit, and you should work these problems. Unless otherwise instructed, you will be held responsible for all reading assignments (even if they are not covered in the lecture) plus all supplementary material presented in the lecture.

There is a lot of material to be covered in this class. I cannot possibly cover all chapters in their entirety. Rather, I will discuss the more difficult material in class. Since I will often move rapidly through the material, you will benefit from attending class and reading the relevant material from the text prior to each class meeting. Complete the reading assignment even if you do not understand everything in the first pass through the material. After class (and before the next one) you should go back and review the material covered. This is the best way to improve your understanding of the class material.

Grading:

Your grade will be based on 4 exams at 100 points each (and attendance). Exams will count 24% each. All exams will be closed book/closed notes. You will be provided with selected formulae during each exam. You are allowed to use financial calculators during exams.

Attendance will count 4% of your course grade. You will begin the class with 18 attendance points. Attendance will be taken at all scheduled class meetings. It is your responsibility to arrive to class on time and to remain in class until it is complete. Students arriving late for class (after the roll is taken) will be counted as absent. Students departing class before the instructor class has ended will be counted as absent. Each absence will deduct 9 points from the attendance grade.

There will be no make-up exams. It is your responsibility to attend all exams at the scheduled time.

Attendance policy

I recommend that you attend all class lectures. Missing one class period of an intersession term is equivalent to missing more than one week of class during a regular semester. Missing a class will indirectly impact your course grade as you will miss approximately 10% of the material to be covered. If you miss more than class period, the grade received in the course will be reduced.

Notes:

You are encouraged to seek answers to your questions as they arise. The material discussed in class gets progressively more complex. Consequently, you will soon feel lost if you do not get clarification quickly.

Due to privacy issues, I do not e-mail grades and I do not give out grades over the telephone.

It is the responsibility of any student with a disability who requests a reasonable accommodation to contact the Office of Student Disability Services (915-7128). SDC will then contact the instructor through the student by means of an Instructor Notification of Classroom Accommodations form. Please complete the notification procedure within the first two days of the course. Please advise me in advance of any needs you may have as I **CANNOT** accommodate them at the last minute.

Any student caught cheating will be assigned an F in the course. In most cases a statement will also be made to that effect in the student's record.

Cell phone usage

Please silence your cell phone (and store it) when in the class is in session.

All cell phones must be turned off *and stored* during exams as you will not be allowed to use the calculator on your cell phone during exams.

*Please see me prior to class if there is an impending emergency that means that you will need access to your cell phone **during** class.*

School of Business Administration Statement of Academic Integrity

The School of Business Administration upholds honor and academic integrity in all of its teaching, research, and service activities. All business faculty, staff, and students are charged with the responsibility to behave with personal and professional integrity and to refrain from dishonorable conduct.
