BUSINESS FINANCE I
FIN 331, Spring 2008

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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 Statements, cash
flows, time value of money, discounted cash flow valuation, bond and stock evaluation, risk analysis,
financial statement analysis, capital structure, capital budgeting, and making capital investment decisions.

Course Materials:
The required textbook for this course is Essentials of Corporate Finance, Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan,

Strongly recommended: The Texas Instruments BAII Plus financial calculator. A financial calculator is
not required for this course—the time value of money formulas will be provided on all tests. However,
problem solving is much easier with a financial calculator.

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.

Prerequisites:
Accounting 201 and 202 should have been passed prior to enrolling in this course. Also, Economics 202,
Economics 203, and Business 230 with a minimum grade of C.

Classroom:
Lectures are designed to clarify and supplement text material. 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.

This is a problem-oriented course. I will use many numerical examples in class to illustrate the concepts.
You are expected to read the relevant material and attempt the end-of-chapter problems before each class.
Additional problems as well as concept questions can be found on the text’s self-study CD-ROM. It is
very important that you work the relevant problems on a timely basis. Do not put off solving problems
until just before the examinations --- it will be too late for you to truly understand the material.

Grading:
Grades will be based on four mid-semester exams, and a cumulative final exam.

All exams will be closed book/closed notes and will be in a multiple choice and problem solving format.
You will be provided with selected formulae during each exam. The list of formulae to be provided will
be available on my web-site before each exam.
There will be no make-up exams. It is your responsibility to attend all exams at the scheduled time. The exam portion of your grade is calculated on a best 4-out-of-5 basis. If an exam is missed – whether due to an emergency, tragedy, or simply because you are unprepared – then the remaining four test scores will be used to compute your exam portion of the class grade. There are no exceptions to this policy.

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.

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.

Notes:
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 weeks of the course.

I do not e-mail grades and I do not give out grades over the telephone.

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. Please do not wait until the end of the semester or the day before a test to ask for help—there’s not much we can do at that time.

Important Dates:
February 1 – Test #1
February 28 – Test #2
April 3 – Test #3
April 24 – Test #4

March 11& 13 – No Class (University Holiday)