Course Syllabus
FIR 3410 – 301 – Financial Management
Spring 2016
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Jared Linna
Phone: (901)678-1714
E-mail: jalinna@memphis.edu
Office: FAB 437

Office Hours: TR 12-1pm, or by appointment

Course Overview

Fundamentals of financial management: time value of money, financial risk and return, valuation of stocks and bonds, cost of capital, and capital budgeting.

Pre-Requisites/Co-Requisites:
ACCT 2010, ECON 2020, and either SCMS 2710 or MATH 1530.

Required Texts (and Related Materials):
If you do not require a physical copy of the text, you are able to purchase a digital copy from the publisher (see the topic below for more information).

*Aplia access code*: Homework assignments will be administered through the Aplia platform (Aplia also has several supplementary assignments that will be made available). An access code might have been bundled with your purchase of the physical text, or you are able to buy an access code (which comes with a digital version of the text) from Cengage (the publisher). A document with registration instructions will be emailed to the class and will be posted to the course website on eCourseware.

*Financial Calculator*: It is imperative that you have a financial calculator for this course. Please be clear on the following point – *Students who do not have or purchase their calculator early and invest the time to learn its functions will find it very difficult to do well in the course.*
There are two calculators which are permissible for this course: the Hewlett Packard HP10bII and the Texas Instruments TI-BAlII. When we discuss a problem in class, I will be using TI-BAlII to demonstrate the keystrokes required. You can find either calculator at the U of M bookstore, most office supply stores, and various online or brick and mortar retailers. SMART PHONES/ PROGRAMMABLE CALCULATORS (i.e., TI-83, TI-89, or other advanced graphing calculators) MAY NOT BE USED. *** Again, my recommendation is the TI-BAlII ***

Recommended Texts (and Related Materials):

Business Reading: While not a requirement, I would encourage you to read or follow business (and the world as well) news on a daily basis. As cheesy/cliché as it may sound, an awareness of the current business environment can help to put the content of this course (and others) in greater, more personal context.

Location of Course Materials:

Course materials will be posted to the course website on eCourseware

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should i) have an improved understanding of financial markets and institutions and financial statement analysis; ii) be able to compute the present and future value of a lump sum or a stream of cash flows, and have an understanding of risk measurement and how risk impacts required rates of return on investments; iii) understand basic considerations involved in the valuation of stocks and bonds, including the benefit of portfolio diversification; and iv) understand how to estimate a company's cost of capital. In addition, the basics of capital budgeting will be discussed, as well as the current financial environment.

Fogelman College: Learning Outcomes for Your Degree

http://www.fcbeassessment.net/LearningOutcomes/BBADegreeLearningOutcomes.pdf
Grading and Evaluation Criteria

Homework & Assignments 15%
Honors Project 5%
Exam 1 20%
Exam 2 20%
Exam 3 20%
Comprehensive Final Exam 20%
Attendance & Participation ***

*** While attendance and participation are not formally part of your grade, they will be taken into if your final grade is on the border.

List of Formal Assessed Activities

Homework

Homework will count for 15% of your grade and will be administered through the Aplia platform. Homework will be assigned for each chapter of the text we will cover. Homework is important as it allows you to practice the concepts that we are covering in the material before you take a quiz or exam. The effort that students put forth to complete homework assignments on time counts as much toward the overall homework score as accuracy does. The due date (and time) for each assignment may vary (based on our coverage of the material), and will be shown on Aplia. It is the students’ responsibility to keep up with due dates/times for homework assignments. If you do not make any effort to complete assignments by their due date, no credit will be awarded. In order to allow you some time to get registered with Aplia, the first homework assignment will not deduct from your homework score, but extra credit will be awarded for completing it on time. Also, your lowest homework score will be dropped.

Honors Project

An honors project will be assigned in early February, and is due on March 31st. Details will be provided in class on this financial ratio analysis project.

Exams

There will be 3 exams and the comprehensive final. Exams will be taken in class. In order to compensate for extreme emergencies preventing students from taking an exam, the lowest score among the first three exams, including a zero for a missed exam, will be replaced with a duplicate of your final exam grade.
Final Course Grades
The instructor plans to use the +/- grading system, and may choose to curve grades. Any curve will be to the benefit of the students. Students will need to achieve a weighted average grade of at least 60% to be eligible to earn a grade of “C-“ or better. Grades will be loaded into the grade book on the course website in eCourseware. Students should monitor their grades throughout the semester.

Schedule of Activities
A course schedule is posted on the course website and will be updated as necessary.

Final Exam Schedule
The final exam for this class is scheduled (according to the Registrar’s academic calendar website) for Tuesday, May 3rd, 2016 from 1030a-1230p in FCB 267 (our classroom). Please plan accordingly.

Course Policies

E-MAIL:
Students agree to communicate with the instructor via email, and agree to check their email (U of M provided email) and eCourseware home page regularly for messages from the instructor. Regularly means daily. Additionally, make sure that you have reviewed the syllabus and course website BEFORE you email the instructor.

Attendance:
I plan to take attendance throughout this course, and will report non-attendance to the financial aid office.

Adding/Dropping:
Please consult the Registrar’s website for Add/Drop dates. Also, if you have not met the prerequisites or had some exception issued, you may be administratively dropped.

Academic Integrity:
Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university, and, more broadly, to society at large. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest, whether or not the effort is successful. The University has specific Academic Honesty Policies; please see the policies in the U of M Student Handbook. Because academic honesty is extremely important, the consequences of dishonesty are serious, ranging from probation to expulsion. Please feel free to contact me concerning issues associated with academic honesty or violation of the University’s policies.
Further, note that using a “Solutions Manual” is considered cheating. Should your professor have evidence that using a “Solutions Manual” has occurred, he/she may take steps as described on the campus’ Office of Student Conduct website.

**Participation:**
Like most things in life, what you get from a course depends on your effort. I expect students to attend, be engaged, and have a familiarity with the material (i.e., read the text before class).

**Classroom or Online Behavior:**
I expect students to conduct themselves with courtesy and professionalism.

**Late Assignments:**
This will be on a case by case basis, but I will say that the old adage “It’s easier to ask forgiveness than it is to get permission” does not apply here. Contact your instructor before the deadline has passed.

**Last minute, extra credit essays at the end of the semester**
NO. There will be none of this. The expectations of the course are stated above and I will be happy to provide any clarification that may be needed. I am aware that other professors may have allowed this sort of project in the past, but I find them to be a waste of both student and professor time. Both parties are better served by completing the assigned work in a timely fashion, and so I would like to remove all thoughts about this as an option from the discussion. While the professor may elect to provide extra credit opportunities over the course of the semester, your success in this course should not rely on it.

**Reporting Illness or Absence:**
Since attendance is not an “official” part of your grade, you do not have to report illness or absences. The exception is for the final exam. If you will have to miss the final, I expect you to contact me before the final exam begins. I would encourage students to take a proactive approach in planning and communicating.

**Inclement Weather:**
In the event that inclement weather requires the cancellation of classes at The University of Memphis, local radio and television media will be immediately notified. Additionally, the University of Memphis has established an Inclement Weather Hotline at 901-678-0888 as well as TigerText, an emergency alert text messaging service to students, faculty and staff. This optional service is used in the event of an on-campus emergency, an unscheduled university closing, or a delay or cancellation of classes due to, for instance, inclement weather. Click [here](#) for information on TigerText. In lieu of this, use your best judgment.

**Syllabus Changes:**
Should the syllabus require a change, you will be notified in class and via email. The updated syllabus will be uploaded to the class webpage in eCourseware.
Suggestions for students seeking to maximize achievement

- Read and study all the assigned material in the textbook, before the assigned date.
- Form a study group to review problems and discuss key concepts
- Attend every class session
- Obtain a financial calculator, and get proficient with it, ASAP, for real.
- Work all the homework problems on your own and complete them by their due dates.
- See the instructor when you first notice that you are having difficulties.

Full and Fair Disclosure:

- It is the hope and intention of the instructor that this course will be challenging, but also an enjoyable/satisfying experience for all parties involved. However, be fully aware that this course (much like the financial/business world) will operate on an ethic of 100% personal responsibility. You are in charge of yourself, and there will not be any excuses.
- That being said, please be advised of the following:
  - If alternative commitments (family, work, extracurricular), cause you to miss a class, it is your responsibility to keep up with the material. Do not forget the power of proactive communication.

Student Services

Please access the FCBE Student Services page for information about:

- Students with Disabilities
- Tutoring and other Academic Assistance
- Advising Services for Fogelman Students
- Technical Assistance