Course Syllabus  
FIR 3410 – 002 – Financial Management  
Spring 2021  
Mondays and Wednesdays 12:40 – 2:05pm  
Room FCB261  
(Last updated: 1/15/2021)

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Office Hours: MW 11:30 am -12:30 pm, 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. Publisher: Cengage [https://www.cengage.com/c/fundamentals-of-financial-managementconciseedition-9e-brigham/9781305635937/](https://www.cengage.com/c/fundamentals-of-financial-managementconciseedition-9e-brigham/9781305635937/)

Mindtap Link: [https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPP850QR2W5/initial-course-confirmation](https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPP850QR2W5/initial-course-confirmation) - We will use MindTap for the Chapter Homework Assignments in the course. MindTap does include a digital copy of the text, as well as useful supplemental study tools.

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-BAlI. When we discuss a problem in class, I will be using TI-BAlI 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- BAlI ***

**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 Description and Objectives:**
This course covers the theory and practice of financial management. The objective is to help you understand the fundamentals of finance and the implications of corporate financial policies and practices for value creation. The main learning objectives in this course are for you:

1. To understand the role of financial markets and institutions.
2. To understand financial statement analysis.
3. To understand the time value of money and to apply it to value cash flow streams.
4. To understand and apply ways of measuring the risk and return of financial assets.
5. To understand and apply various ways of valuing financial assets.
6. To understand how to estimate and use a company's cost of capital.

**Fogelman College: Learning Outcomes for Your Degree**
The Fogelman College has established the following learning goals for all students successfully completing the undergraduate degree:

- Graduates will be effective communicators.
- Graduates will demonstrate critical thinking skills.
- Graduates will be knowledgeable about ethical factors in the business environment.
- Graduates will be knowledgeable about the global business environment.
- Graduates will be proficient users of business presentation and analysis technology.
Grading and Evaluation Criteria

Homework & Assignments 25%
Module Quizzes 75%
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/Chapter Assignments

Homework will count for 25% of your grade. Homework will be assigned for most chapters 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 the assignment folder in eCourseware and announced in class. 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. Also, your lowest homework score will be dropped.

Module Quizzes

There will be a quiz for each module (one module usually covers two to three chapters). This will allow many, smaller points of feedback throughout the course. This will provide you an opportunity to assess and correct problems early. Quizzes will be administered through the eLearn system and you will have two attempts at each quiz (the higher score of the two will be recorded).

Important Note: All quizzes are due by midnight on the last day the module is open. Do not wait until the day the quiz is due to take it. You get two attempts at quizzes and the highest is recorded. Treat the first quiz as a practice attempt. Take it at least a couple of days before the due date so you know what areas you need to study more. I cannot reopen a quiz if you miss it.

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 Wednesday, May 5th, 2021 from 1000a-1200p 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/LiveSafe App:
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 LiveSafe, a comprehensive personal safety mobile app. This app allows you to receive instant alerts from Police Services in addition to providing a quick, convenient and discreet way to communicate directly with Police Services. The app will allow you to send text, pictures, video and audio directly to Police Services in real time. It also allows for a live chat with safety personnel. The app includes the option to share tips and information anonymously. In addition, subscribers can use SafeWalk to invite personal contacts to virtually escort you as you chat. 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