Instructor: Kathleen Towle  
Classroom: BUSN 302  
Class Meeting Time: Mon and Wed 1:30 - 2:50 pm  
Messages: Via Course Messages in Blackboard  
Phone: Text/WhatsApp (703)407-4150  
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesdays from 11:50 – 12:50pm.  
Room BUSN 315  
Remote via Zoom By appointment. You can schedule a meeting via Blackboard Course Messages.

Course Description
A study of the financial manager in decision making involving asset valuation, capital budgeting and financing, and practices in business enterprises. Emphasis is given to illustrative problems and cases.

Course Objectives
By completing the readings, assessments, assignments, and review posted materials for this course, students will be able to:

* Analyze and compute financial planning models,  
* Analyze and apply a capital budgeting process,
* Describe the capital structure process,
* Apply modern financial theory to security and corporate valuation,
* Describe the basic concepts and valuation.

**Prerequisites**
* Fin3310 (Business Finance) w/C or better

**Course Materials**

2. McGraw Hill Connect Companion Website
3. Lecture notes, related materials and announcements will be posted on Blackboard.
4. A financial calculator, such as TI BA II Plus or equivalent is highly recommended. Your calculator should be able to compute the NPV and the IRR of an uneven stream of cash flows.
5. Microsoft Excel.

**Contact and Response time**

Please contact me via Blackboard in Course Messages. Please do not send emails. These can get mixed up with all my institutional mail and it will take me longer to respond.

I check Blackboard Course Messages regularly and you will get a quicker response. Typically, between 24-48 hours when messages are sent during the week. For messages sent on Friday after 12pm or during the weekend, expect responses by Monday.

It is the policy of the department that all messages sent to professors or teaching assistants be of a professional nature and format. A formal greeting and salutation are required. Proper grammar, spelling, and format are required. You must clearly state the problem or question that will be addressed. We reserve the right not to respond to any message that does not meet these requirements and is not of a professional nature.

For emergencies you can reach me via Whatsapp or Text (703)407-4150. Please be mindful of the time of day that you write, and remember to add your name and course number to the message.

Only send emails if Blackboard Messages are not working: mktowle@utep.edu

**Evaluations**

**Homework (15%)**: will be posted on Mc Graw Hill Connect and/or on Blackboard. You must turn in the assignments on the dates and times specified in the instructions. Homework will be announced in class and/or will be Published on Blackboard Learn/Mc Graw Hill Connect, and it will have to be submitted on Blackboard and/or Connect (NOT E-MAIL). To be fair to all students, requests for deadline extensions and “extra credit” assignments will be declined.
Excel Projects (15%): Excel Projects will be assigned throughout the semester. You will work individually, and you must turn in the assignments at the dates and times specified in the instructions. Please note that claims of technical problems or other last-minute excuses will not be accepted.

Exams (68%): All students are required to take the four (4) exams during regular class meeting time. Exam dates will be announced in class. Tentative dates are given in the course schedule. No additional time will be given for those students starting late.

Make-up exams will be given to students who have to miss the exam due to “excused absences due to university-recognized activities”. These students are required to send written notice to the instructor about such activities ahead of time. See student handbook for a description of these activities. Requests for an excuse must be made in writing and, except for extreme emergencies, prior to the test.

Final Exam (Optional)
* If you miss an exam due to anything other than “the university-recognized activities”, you can make it up by taking the optional final exam.
* If you take all five exams (the first four exams plus the final), the one with the lowest grade will be dropped from course grade calculation.

Class Participation and Attendance (2%): Class Participation and attendance will be a component to each student’s final grade. All students are expected to be prepared for class and participate in class discussions and assignments. Student participation is greatly encouraged, whether is in the form of questions, answers, assignments, opinions, or ideas. The instructor welcomes all forms of meaningful participation. Therefore, students who are present and active in class in a meaningful way will receive the full credit allocated to participation.

Each class will begin with a current event discussion related to the class. All students must be prepared to present and to discuss current events that are pertinent to the class.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on homework assignments and exams according to the following weights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excel Lab Projects (3)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required HW 10 x 15 Points each</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes 4 x 150 Points Each</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I reserve the right to alter these percentages up or down depending on the performance of the class.
Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- 90 and above: A
- 80 and below 90: B
- 70 and below 80: C
- 60 and below 70: D
- Below 60: F

**Due Dates**

HW & Course work will be **at 11:59pm on the day listed**. The instructor will not accept any late assignments. *The grade for late or missed assignments will be 0 (zero).* All assignments must be turned in or completed on time. However, if you missed work because of a medical reason, please provide a doctor’s note.

Please follow the link for the latest University policies related to COVID-19:

https://www.utep.edu/resuming-campus-operations/faqs/faculty-and-staff.html#

**Course Expectations:**

Students are expected to interact in a professional, non-adversarial manner and produce work of utmost academic rigor. There are no shortcuts, easy solutions, and magic involved in any of this work. Do not assume that there will be second chances, retries, do-overs, extra credit work, etc. Be sure to put all your effort in doing things right the first time around. I am quite aware of the fact that this is a learning process, and I will do my best to help you along the way. Nonetheless, the major effort should be your effort and not mine or that of your classmates. Independent thinking and strong work ethic are two valued assets of successful businesspeople. Developing and/or enhancing these skills will have a major payoff throughout your careers.

**Class Policies:**

- **Read the assigned material prior to class.**
- **Arrive on time** (5 minutes early or earlier take your seat quickly and quietly. Be ready to answer the first participation question. Late arrivals will not be tolerated. If you consistently arrive late, we will submit an administrative withdrawal from the course on your behalf. Needless to say, consistent late arrivals will have a detrimental effect on the participation grade that you receive in the course.
- Laptops, tablets, and mobile phones are allowed in class as long as they are used for class-related activities. That is, surfing the Web aimlessly, responding to e-mail, texting not related to class, updating your
Facebook site are not acceptable uses. Please do not put me in the position of having to ask you to turn off your laptop, phone, or other mobile device. After the first incident of portable equipment misuse, you will not be allowed to use it in the classroom for the remainder of the course.

- If you must leave early, please let me know beforehand.
- The instructor reserves the right to ask any students disrupting the normal flow of course activities to leave the classroom. Also, during exams you are to sit quietly before you receive the exams materials, during the exam, and after you finish the exam. Please respect the right of your fellow students for peace and quiet during exams.
- Make up exams are only possible with an approved medical excuse. You must show the instructor a note from your physician justifying your absence from an exam. The bottom line is that make-up exams can only be provided for documented medical excuses.
- The instructor will not accept any late assignments. The grade for late assignments will be 0 (zero). Pleading your case and/or begging for mercy will not be tolerated. All assignments must be turned in or completed on time.
- If you have a disability or feel you might have a disability and need assistance, contact the Center for Accommodation and Support Services at 747-5148 or go to Room 106 Union East or send them a message (cass@utep.edu).
- All faculty and staff at The University of Texas at El Paso are fully committed to your success. While we all do our best to navigate through challenging issues and circumstances on our own, it is often extremely useful to seek support from others. If you face a difficult personal situation, there are experts at UTEP that can help you. Please contact Counseling and Psychological services in Room 202 Union West or send them a message (caps@utep.edu).

Deadlines, Late Work and Absence Policy

- Assignments will be due on the dates and times posted in Blackboard. Make sure to check Blackboard frequently so you do not miss any deadlines. No late work will be accepted if the reason is not considered excusable.

Make-up work will be given only in the case of a documented emergency. Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, may require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable, you will receive a zero. It is therefore
important to reach out to me—in advance if at all possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement. Once a deadline has been established for make-up work, no further extensions or exceptions will be granted.

**ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES**

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a backup. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through Blackboard, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your backup document as a last resort.

**Illness Precautions:**

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations.

**Drop Policy**

To drop this class, please contact the Registrar’s Office to initiate the drop process. Make sure to initiate the process prior to the last Drop Date. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an “F” for the course. Withdrawals will NOT be made by the instructor.

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

**Technology Requirements**

Some course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.
You will need to have access to a computer/laptop. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about Microsoft Office 365 and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

**Accommodations Policy**

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services.

**Scholastic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.
GUIDANCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Students must cite any borrowed content sources to comply with all applicable citation guidelines, copyright law, and avoid plagiarism. Instances that violate these guidelines will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

PLAGIARISM DETECTING SOFTWARE

Some of your course work and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase.

Student Resources

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

Technology Resources

- **Help Desk**: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources

- **UTEP Library**: Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- **University Writing Center (UWC)**: Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- **Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS)**: Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- **History Tutoring Center (HTC)**: Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- **RefWorks**: A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.
- **The Miner Learning Center**: Join peer-led study sessions in person or online to review content and discover study strategies in core curriculum courses.
- **UTEP Edge**: UTEP's cross-campus framework for student success and empowerment – develops students’ assets through high-impact experiences made possible by the expertise and dedication of faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners.

Individual Resources

- **Student Success Help Desk (SSHD)**: Students experiencing challenges or obstacles to academic success including registration, financial, food, housing, and
transposition resources my submit a ticket request assistance to studentsuccess@utep.edu

- **Military Student Success Center**: Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- **Center for Accommodations and Support Services**: Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- **Counseling and Psychological Services**: Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.
- **UTEP Food Pantry**: Non-perishable food items are available to students who are currently enrolled in classes. Bring a Miner Gold Card to Memorial Gym, Room 105, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
# 4310 Event Calendar

All graded work is due by 11:59pm MST on the day listed

## August 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intro to Class and Ch 2 &amp; 3 - Financial Statements</td>
<td>Ch 2 &amp; 3 - Financial Statements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## September 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 4 - Discounted Cash Flow Valuation</td>
<td>Ch 4 - Discounted Cash Flow Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 5 - NPV and Other Investment Rules</td>
<td>Ch 5 - NPV and Other Investment Rules</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## October 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 6 - Making Capital Investment Decisions</td>
<td>Ch 6 - Making Capital Investment Decisions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 6 - Making Capital Investment Decisions</td>
<td>Ch 7 - Risk Analysis, Real Options and Capital Budgeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 7 - Risk Analysis, Real Options and Capital Budgeting</td>
<td>Ch 8 Interest Rates and Bond Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 8 - Interest Rates and Bond Valuation</td>
<td>Ch 9 - Stock Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 HW Chapter 2 & 3  
 HW Chap 4  
 Project 1  
 HW Chap 5  
 HW Chap 6  
 Project 2  
 HW Chapter 7  
 HW Chapter 8
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ch 9 - Stock Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 13 Risk, Cost of Capital and Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HW Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Test 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 13 Risk, Cost of Capital and Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Project 3 HW Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ch 16 Capital Structure and Dividend Policy</td>
<td>Ch 16 Capital Structure and Dividend Policy</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HW Chap 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Ch 19 Dividends and other payouts</td>
<td>Ch 19 Dividends and other payouts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Extra Credit Assignment HW Chap 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
<td>Test 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Final Exam (Optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>