

UNIVERSITY TEXAS AT EL PASO, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS & FINANCE
FIN 3317 PRINCIPLES OF INSURANCE

PROFESSOR:	Mike McGonigle	SEMESTER:	Fall 2021
OFFICE:	BUSN 315, cubicle 11	CLASS TIME:	M/W 1:30-2:50pm
PHONE:	(915) 747-5245	CLASS LOCATION:	COBA 313
EMAIL:	mmcgonigle@miners.utep.edu	CREDIT HOURS:	3 credit hours
OFFICE HOURS:	Tuesdays 12:30-2:30pm	WEBSITE:	Refer to Blackboard

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to introduce students to the principles of risk management and insurance. Students will become familiar with the basic concepts of risk and insurance, introductory and advanced topics in risk management, legal principles, property and liability insurance, life and health insurance, employee benefits, social insurance, and functional and financial operations of insurers. The prerequisite to this course is Business Finance (FIN 3310) with a grade of “C” or better.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the course requirements, students should be able to:

- 1) Explain the characteristics of insurance and insurable risks.
- 2) Understand basic terminology of insurance, principles of insurance and components of insurance contracts.
- 3) Explain the rationale for policy design and provisions.
- 4) Explain different functions in insurance company operations.
- 5) Identify appropriate methods of risk management.

COURSE READINGS & TOOLS:

- Required textbook- Principles of Risk Management and Insurance, 14th Edition, Rejda, McNamara, and Rabel. You can use the eText (ISBN-13: 9780135641293) or hardcover (ISBN-13: 9780135180860) versions of the text. The text can be purchased at the UTEP bookstore or by going to <https://www.pearson.com/store/p/principles-of-risk-management-and-insurance/P100002652088>.

- Required calculator- An approved financial calculator. See section below.

COURSE FORMAT:

The course will consist of assigned readings, homework assignments, and exams. Lectures will be given in a traditional face-to-face format. Students are expected to read corresponding parts of the text prior to lecture and to take adequate notes. Students should complete the review and applications questions found at the end of each chapter to reinforce their knowledge and prepare for the exams.

COURSEWORK AND GRADING:

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS: There will be six timed, open-book, open-note assignments that you will complete throughout the course of the semester that will help you understand the learning objectives and prepare you for the exams. Each assignment will consist of multiple-answer, multiple-choice, short

answer, and true/false questions. You will have three attempts for each assignment, but questions may be different for each attempt. The highest grade of the attempts will be used. You will have seven hours to complete each assignment. Assignments will be due by 11:59pm on the date they are due (see pacing guide below). Late submissions will NOT be accepted. The average of the assignment grades will be weighted at 25% of your final grade.

EXAMS: There will be three exams in this class. Exam dates are listed in the table below. With the exception of our final exam, exams will be given in class at our normally scheduled class time and location. The final exam will be given in our class on the date and time listed in the course schedule. All exams will be timed, closed-book and closed-notes. They will consist of multiple-answer, multiple-choice, short answer, and true/false questions. Questions will test your knowledge of the learning objectives. Practice exams will NOT be provided. I will provide you with a study guide that will let you know which learning objectives you will be tested on. Each exam will be weighted at 25% of your final grade.

Exam	Exam Date
Exam 1 (Covers chapters 2, 3, 6, 9, & 10)	9/27/21
Exam 2 (Cover chapters 11, 14, 15, & 18)	11/1/21
Exam 3 (Covers chapters 19, 20, 22, & 23)	12/8/21

Make-up exams are given only in case of documented medical (doctor note required) or university excused reasons (note required), which unexpectedly prevent attendance of a scheduled exam. Scheduling conflicts with work or other exams do not qualify for a make-up. Apart from documented medical reasons, make-ups must be requested before the exam day and time. There are no exceptions to this policy. A missed exam will score a zero.

FINAL GRADE: Your final grade will be calculated using the following formula, where input grades are in percentage form unless indicated otherwise:

$$.25 \left[\left(\frac{\text{Sum of all assignment grades}}{6} \right) + \text{exam 1} + \text{exam 2} + \text{exam 3} \right]$$

Do NOT use the course grade in Blackboard to calculate or estimate your grade. The course grade shown in Blackboard may not calculate your grade correctly. Please use the formula above to calculate your grade. My grading scale is listed below:

89.5% and above = A

79.5% to 89.4% = B

69.5% to 79.4% = C

59.5% to 69.4% = D

Below 59.5% = F

CALCULATOR:

You will need to use a calculator to complete some of the in-class examples and questions on the exams. Approved calculators are TI BA II Plus, HP 10bII, HP 12c, and HP 17bII+. I will be using the TI BA II Plus in class. Feel free to contact me if you wish to use a calculator other than one on the list. Calculators that store text cannot be used. You may not use your cell phone, computer, palm pilot, or tablet as a calculator. Please note that you are responsible for learning how to properly use your calculator.

COURSE SCHEDULE/PACING GUIDE:

****Please note this schedule is tentative and is subject to change. Version 1.0****

Date	Lecture Topic	Deliverable
08/23/21	Review syllabus, complete pre-class assessment, start chapter 2	
08/25/21	Lecture: chapter 2- Insurance and Risk	
08/30/21	Lecture: chapter 9- Fundamental Legal Principles	
09/01/21	Lecture: chapter 10- Analysis of Insurance Contracts	
09/06/21	No class- Labor Day Holiday	
09/08/21	Lecture: chapter 6- Insurance Company Operations	Homework 1 due (Ch 2, 9, 10)
09/13/21	Lecture: chapter 6- Insurance Company Operations	
09/15/21	Lecture: chapter 3- Introduction to Risk Management	
09/20/21	Lecture: chapter 3- Introduction to Risk Management	
09/22/21	Catch-up day, review exam 1 material if time allows	Homework 2 due (Ch 3, 6)
09/27/21		Take Exam 1 in class
09/29/21	Lecture: chapter 11- Life Insurance	
10/04/21	Lecture: chapter 11- Life Insurance	
10/06/21	Lecture: chapter 14- Annuities and IRAs	
10/11/21	Lecture: chapter 14- Annuities and IRAs	
10/13/21	Lecture: chapter 15- Individual Health Insurance Coverages	Homework 3 due (Ch 11, 14)
10/18/21	Lecture: chapter 15- Individual Health Insurance Coverages	
10/20/21	Lecture: chapter 18- Social Insurance	
10/25/21	Lecture: chapter 18- Social Insurance	
10/27/21	Catch-up day, review exam 2 material if time allows	Homework 4 due (Ch 15, 18)
11/01/21		Take Exam 2 in class
11/03/21	Lecture: chapter 19- The Liability Risk	
11/08/21	Lecture: chapter 19- The Liability Risk	
11/10/21	Lecture: chapter 20- Auto Insurance	
11/15/21	Lecture: chapter 20- Auto Insurance	
11/17/21	Lecture: chapter 22- Homeowners Insurance, Section I	Homework 5 due (Ch 19, 20)
11/22/21	Lecture: chapter 22- Homeowners Insurance, Section I	
11/24/21	Lecture: chapter 23- Homeowners Insurance, Section II	
11/29/21	Lecture: chapter 23- Homeowners Insurance, Section II	
12/01/21	Catch-up day, review exam 3 material if time allows	Homework 6 due (Ch 22, 23)
12/08/21		Exam 3 (4:00-6:45pm) in class

BLACKBOARD:

Please check Blackboard daily. All relevant information regarding the course deliverables can be found on Blackboard. In addition, any changes to the course will be reflected in Blackboard usually through an announcement.

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS:

Your UTEP email account is the official means of communicating with the university. Any email from you to the instructor should be sent through your official UTEP email account. Please be advised that due to privacy and security concerns, I am unable to respond to emails from or about students that do not originate from an official UTEP email address. When sending emails to me please use the prefix "FIN3317:17335" in the subject line so I know which class you are in and please be sure that your email is written clearly and professionally.

CONTACT AVAILABILITY:

I try to be available as much as possible, but please keep in mind that I will not be available 24/7. I am typically available via email Monday through Friday from 9am-5pm unless I am teaching class or in a meeting. If you email me, please allow me 1 business day to respond. If you email me over the weekend, please do not expect me to contact you until the following Monday at the earliest.

USE OF CLASS MATERIALS:

The materials in this class have been created by me or the publisher of our text for the sole use of our students within the context of the class. These materials are copyrighted. Class materials, including but not limited to Blackboard content, assignments, exams, and shared electronic media, may not be shared outside of class for any reason without the written permission of the creator of the material. For example, posting a question from an assignment or exam on a website is a direct violation of copyright laws regardless of your intent. The publisher and I reserve the right to pursue enforcement of copyright protections in the court of law as applicable. Please keep class materials to yourself.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES:

No extra credit work is accepted in this course. An incomplete will not be given for marginal or failing work at the end of the course. I reserve the right to change our syllabus. Students pursuing the S/U option need to earn a grade of 'D' or higher to get an 'S'.

ADA/DISCRIMINATION/UTEP RESOURCES:

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:

The University of Texas at El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In all matters of intellectual pursuit, UTEP faculty and students must strive to achieve excellence based on the quality of work produced by the individual. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. It is imperative, therefore, that the members of this academic community understand the regulations pertaining to academic integrity and that all faculty members insist on adherence to these standards.

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP), and available in the Office of the Dean of Students, and the homepage of The Dean of Students (DOS) at www.utep.edu, may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to failing grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others. Acts of scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class.

CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. It is important to follow all instructions that you receive as part of the diagnosis, including isolation and staying at home until a negative test is produced.

If you experience COVID-19 symptoms, please follow the isolation protocol by staying at home and getting tested as soon as possible. If the test is negative but you are still seeking accommodations, please contact the Dean of Students Office for guidance in a timely manner. Your instructor will work with the Dean of Students Office to determine the extent of any such accommodations.

We strongly encourage you to think and act proactively in all matters related to COVID-19 and your academic endeavors. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.