

FIN 3310 - Business Finance
Department of Economics and Finance
Woody L. Hunt College of Business
The University of Texas at El Paso

1 General Information

Instructor: Spencer Barnes, Ph.D.
Email: scbarnes@utep.edu
Office: BUSN 235
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. MW

Course: FIN 3310
Location: BUSN 309
Dates: 01/17/24 to 05/01/24
Time: 09:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. MW

2 Learning Objectives

This class offers an introduction to the field of finance. It includes an examination of financial history, the financial environment, the concept of profit and risk, and the interactive forces between the economy, industries, and individual firms. Business finance is the study of the management, creation, and study of money and firms. The goal of the course is to introduce students to the central questions in the field and the main ideas firms use to think about those questions. We will review standard finance concepts, and then combine them into simple but powerful models that can be used to analyze firms. The core models are simplified versions of theoretical and quantitative models used by banks, firms, institutional investors, and in cutting edge academic research.

3 Course Resources

Textbook: This course will primarily draw from *Financial Management: Principles and Applications, Pearson 13th Edition by Titman, Keown, and Martin, ISBN-13: 9780134417219*. You will also need access to Pearson Mylab. However, certain topics may be presented from other sources, which will occasionally be posted on the course website.

Course Website: When you are officially registered for the course, you should see “FIN 3310, Business Finance,” listed on your course homepage. This is your link to the course website and all course materials.

Communication: Administrative announcements will be placed on the announcements page of the course website and/or distributed via e-mail. This is my primary means of communication with you as a class. I may or may not make announcements or assignments in class, but I will post them either on the announcements page of the website, or distribute them by e-mail, or both. I consider this sufficient notification. For this reason, you should check the announcements page and your e-mail regularly throughout the semester.

Note: Students are not excused from assignments because they do not have the textbook or because they have ordered it by mail but it has not arrived yet; it is your responsibility to obtain access to the required resources in a timely manner.

4 Course Requirements

This course will employ participation, homework, and exams as evaluation methods.

- **Participation:** Each Sunday by 11:59 p.m. you are to submit a one page essay on the material we’ve discussed in class on the course website. Each essay will be worth 5 points.
- **Homework:** Certain slide sets will have homework attached with them. These are typically more analytical to help you build those skills necessary for business finance. They are through Pearson Mylab and are due on the last day of the semester. Each homework is worth 2.27 points.

- **Exams:** There will be three multiple choice exams during the semester that will be completed through the course website. **If you do not start the exam at the stated time, then it will be a zero.** Each exam is worth 100 points.

5 Tentative Outlines

Dates	Subject
01/17/24 - 01/21/24	Introduction
01/22/24 - 01/28/24	Financial History
01/29/24 - 02/04/24	Old Firms
02/05/24 - 02/11/24	Modern Firms
02/14/24 - 02/18/24	Old Financing
02/19/24	Exam 1
02/19/24 - 02/25/24	Modern Financing
02/26/24 - 03/03/24	Microfinance
03/04/24 - 03/10/24	Macrofinance
03/20/24 - 03/24/24	Risk
03/25/24	Exam 2
03/25/24 - 03/31/24	Time Value of Money
04/01/24 - 04/07/24	Valuation
04/08/24 - 04/14/24	Financial Ratios
04/17/24 - 04/21/24	Capital Budgeting
04/22/24 - 05/01/24	Cost of Capital
05/08/24	Exam 3

Assignment	Points	Due Date	Time
Essay	5	01/21/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	01/28/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	02/04/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	02/11/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	02/18/24	11:59 pm
Exam 1	100	02/19/24	09:00 am
Essay	5	02/25/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	03/03/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	03/10/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	03/24/24	11:59 pm
Exam 2	100	03/25/24	09:00 am
Essay	5	03/31/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	04/07/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	04/14/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	04/21/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	04/28/24	11:59 pm
Essay	5	05/05/24	11:59 pm
Homework	25	05/05/24	11:59 pm
Exam 3	100	05/08/24	10:00 am

6 Grading

The points for computing final course grades are given above. The scale for assigning final course grades will follow the distribution given by the University. Specifically, 358-400 points result in an A, 318-357 points

result in a B, 278-317 point results in a C, 238-277 points result in a D, and less than 238 points result in a F.

If you are a finance major, then the passing grade for this class is a C or better. If you are a finance minor, then the passing grade for this class is a C or better. If you are neither a finance major nor finance minor, then the passing grade for this class is a D or better.

7 Policies

Grading Policy

I will not accept late assignments, nor will I allow for make up exams. Unless the situations are dire, with proof adhering to the University attendance policy below, these policies are strict. Adjustments in test grades will be made only within the week following the test; after one week, no grades will be changed for any reason.

It is your responsibility to monitor your grades on all activities on a weekly basis by checking your grades on the course website. If you fail to do so, and later in the semester or at the end of the semester, find an error in an earlier grade, it will not be corrected. You have one week from the time the grade for each activity is posted to the course website to check for errors or other problems with the grade. If you find an error or problem with your grade, you should bring it to my attention as soon as possible and then you should check your grades regularly after that to ensure that it has been corrected.

Technology Policy

Electronic devices are allowed during lectures unless otherwise stated. I will move about the room and if I notice that the technology is being used for something besides my course I will ask you to stow the device. Failure to adhere will result in dismissal from the classroom.

Syllabus Change Policy

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the grading statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

Class Attendance Policy

Class attendance is, of course, encouraged. However, attendance is not required and is actively discouraged for purposes other than listening to the class presentation, asking questions, and participating in organized discussion and learning activities. Discourteous, uncivil, or disruptive behavior is unacceptable.

University Attendance Policy

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

University Withdrawal Policy

A student may officially withdraw from this class with an automatic W at any time before the University's deadline. No withdrawals will be allowed after this date. This is University policy. Automatic withdrawals will not be made by the instructor. To be withdrawn from the class, students must take the appropriate actions on or before the University deadlines.

Academic Honor Policy

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. More information regarding UTEP policies related to academic integrity is available on HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Any student requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal. If you need to discuss accommodations that are already in place, please talk to me within the first two weeks of the semester. I will do my best to provide a positive and accessible learning environment for everyone in this class.

Copyright Policy

Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

Free Tutoring from UTEP

On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at UTEP. For more information, visit the Miner Learning Center (MLC). MLC offers professor, section based supplemental instruction and tutoring. The professors handpick the students working for MLC, so visiting students are sure to have accurate, professor based assistance. High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

Your continuation in this course section beyond the drop/add period is presumptive evidence that you understand and agree to all the policies and expectations set forth in this syllabus.