



Lincoln University

BA 140 – Fundamentals of Finance

COURSE SYLLABUS

2018

Instructor: Prof. Albert Loh

Lecture Schedule: Monday 9:00am to 11:45am

Credits: 3 units / 45 lecture hours

Level: Developed (D)

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 11:45am to 12:30pm or by appointment

e-mail: aloh@lincolnua.edu

Textbooks: Fundamentals of Financial Management, by Brigham & Houston, 9th edition Concise (January 2016). ISBN-10: 1305635930; ISBN-13: 978-1305635937. Supplemental materials (such as periodical, article, or case study) will be provided in class.

Tools: A handheld calculator HP10bII is required. **Mobile device calculator will not be allowed.**

Last Revision: January 23, 2018

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the financial management of a company. The course includes the study of the financial system, source of funds, different sectors of the economy affecting the business organization and adjustments to changes in capital structure, use of financial statements, planning, and forecasting. (3 units)

Prerequisite: MATH 10 or MATH 15

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course are to study the finance function of a business firm and to introduce the theoretical framework and analytical tools and techniques of financial management to help make appropriate financial decisions. Students will learn about fundamental issues of business finance and key analytic tools used in the real business world. The main topics covered include, but are not limited to, (1) cost of capital and capital budgeting techniques, (2) asset valuation and the trade-off between risk and return, (3) capital markets, and (4) the financing decisions of the firm.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES¹

	Course Outcome	Program LO	Institutional LO	Assessment Activities
1	Apply and analyze concepts, theories, and tools used in financial decision-making.	PLO 1	ILO 1a, ILO 2a, ILO 3a	Assessed by closed-book examination; homework.
2	Analyze financial statements for performance evaluation, including ratio analysis.	PLO 2	ILO 1a, ILO 6a	Demonstrate the ability to explain stock research reports and financials found in Yahoo Finance, MarketWatch, and other related websites and assessed by closed-book examination.
3	Demonstrate an understanding of time value of money related to security pricing, capital budgeting, and the associated cost of capital and capital structure.	PLO 4	ILO 1a, ILO 2a, ILO 5a	Assessed by closed-book examination.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

This is a direct classroom instruction course.

The course will be conducted in the form of lectures and discussions on each topic shown in the class schedule below.

Assignments and projects require students to actively use resources of the library. Detailed guide to business *resources of the library* as well as the description of Lincoln University approach to *information literacy* are available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](#) website (ctl.lincoln.edu).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

The class will not begin until all mobile devices are removed and kept away from the student's desk.

While in class, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Professionalism includes regular attendance, participation in class discussions, civil conduct, and ethical behavior, etc. If a student is observed coming to class late often, being disrespectful to peers, texting or using mobile devices, or carrying on personal conversations during lecture, the professionalism portion of the grade will be reduced based on a demerit system. The course begins with each student having the full 50 points. Any absence after the last day to drop a class and/or tardiness without valid reasons greater than 3 times will result in 5 points deduction, respectively. Behavioral offenses such as texting, using of mobile devices, or engaging in disorderly conduct in spite of reminder or warning will result in 10 points deduction.

¹ Detailed description of learning outcomes and information about the assessment procedure are available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](#) website (ctl.lincoln.edu).

Homework assignment: Every student needs to read the PowerPoint Slides according to the syllabus timetable in preparation for the upcoming class session.

Higher education is about learning how to learn. So in acquiring new knowledge, always pay attention to the learning objectives of each chapter or topic. In addition, you will enhance your understanding by solving the chapter problems to be assigned in class. Of course, you are welcome to bring questions to class for discussion by reading ahead of each classroom lecture. Achievement is assured when done repetitively.

Your performance in this course will be evaluated under the following model:

Mid-Exam 150 points	A = 321 - 400
Final Exam 200 points	B = 261 - 320
Professionalism: 50 points	C = 201 - 260
Total 400 points	D = 161 - 200
	F = < 160

The mid-term and final exams include open-ended, multiple choice, or both types of questions and problems that are similar to the term assignments. They are designed to test both theory and problem solving. There will be no “mark-up credit” or "extra credit" work during and after the semester. The instructor reserves the right to modify the grading system based on class performance and notification to the students about any change during the semester. You are responsible to keep apprised of any change in syllabus. If you plan to be sick on exam days, please do the exam a day earlier before getting sick.

The key to success in this course is communication and interaction. Thus, we will have to work as a team. First, we will create a positive learning environment where everyone can participate without fear. Second, relevant reading and problem assignments will be presented and discussed in class. When in doubt, ask.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students who violate rules of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including failure in the course and/or other actions from the University.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topics
1	Course Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2: Financial Management & Markets and Instruments
2	Chapters 3 & 4: Financial Statement Analysis (Project: TCM Company Research Report)
3	Chapter 6: Interest Rate
4	Chapter 8: Risk & Return
5	Chapters 5: Time Value of Money (HP 10bII calculator)
6	Chapter 7: Bonds

7	Chapter 9: Stocks
8	2-hour Mid-term Exam (Closed Books)
9	Exam results review & Chapter 10: Cost of Capital
10	Chapter 13: Capital Structure
11	Chapter 11 & 12: Capital Budgeting & Cash Flow
12	Chapter 14: Dividend Policy and Share Repurchases
13	Special Project Day – Apple Corporation
14	Chapter 15: Working Capital Management
15	2-hour Final Exam (Closed Books)

ADDENDUM: SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE MATERIALS

The PowerPoint slides are designed to give students a head start in learning course materials in a concise and coherent fashion. They are not intended to substitute, but complement, the textbook and classroom lectures. Don't just read; you need to absorb and understand the body of knowledge through a synthesis of critical thinking and problem solving skills. Thus attending classroom lectures and completing exercises and assignments are critical to your success.