



Lincoln University

BA 443 – International Banking

COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING 2025

- Instructor:** Professor Themis D. Pantos, Ph.D.
Lecture Schedule: Tuesday, 12:30 – 3:15 PM
Credits: 4 units (3 units / 45 lecture hours + 1 unit individual research project)
Level: Mastery 2 / Research (M2R)
Office Hours: Monday, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM or by appointment
Email: tpantos@lincolnuca.edu
Phone: 510 628-8013
- Textbook:** International Money and Finance (2017). Melvin & Norrbin, 9th edition ISBN-13: 978-0128041062, ISBN-10: 0128041064
- Investment Banking: Valuation, Leveraged Buyouts, and Mergers & Acquisitions / Edition 2 Rosenbaum and Pearl. (Wiley, 2013)
- Tools:** A basic handheld calculator is required. Other mobile devices will not be allowed. Supplemental materials (such as periodicals, articles, or case study) will be provided in class.
- Prerequisite:** BA 140 or BA 303
- Last Revision:** January 15, 2025

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An in-depth examination of the development and expansion of international banking; legal aspects of international banking; Eurocurrency/Eurodollar; syndication techniques; letters of credit / banker's acceptances; foreign exchange; offshore banking: Swiss banking; the global debt crisis and debt rescheduling. A one-unit written research project and its oral presentation are required for the course. (4 units)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course are to gain a practical understanding of the global financial market, in particular, foreign exchange markets, exchange rate determinations, tools, and tactics used in the financial management of multinational corporations. Emphasis will be placed on trade finance for import-export businesses.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES¹

	Course LO	Program LO	Institutional LO	Assessment activities
1	Demonstrate an understanding of foreign exchange markets and determination of exchange rates.	PLO 1	ILO 1c, ILO 2c	Midterm exam, final exam, in-class discussions, homework assignments
2	Analyze balance of payments and identify potential risks and policy implications.			
3	Select an appropriate portfolio management strategy	PLO 2	ILO 1c, ILO 2c, ILO 4c	Midterm exam, final exam, in-class discussions, homework assignments
4	Be able to make coherent forecasts of exchange rate fluctuation and identify effective risk management strategies.			
5	Be able to formulate a trading strategy and identify resources needed for its effective implementation	PLO 5	ILO 4c, ILO 5c	Midterm exam, final exam, in-class discussions, homework assignments

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 [LU Library](http://lincolnuca.libguides.com) website (lincolnuca.libguides.com).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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 grade will be reduced based on a demerit system and the student would be subject to disciplinary penalties from the University.

¹ Detailed description of learning outcomes and information about the assessment procedure are available at the [Learning Outcomes Assessment](#) section of LU website.

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.

GRADING POLICY:

Your performance in this course will be evaluated under the following Grading Scale Model:

Midterm Exam:	25%	A = 90-100
Final Examination:	50%	B = 80 - 89
Individual Research Project:	25%	C = 70 - 79
Total:	100%	D = 60 - 69 F = 0 - 59
COURSE ASSESSMENT METHODS		GRADING SCALE

The mid-term and final exams will include both types of theoretical and empirical questions and problems that are similar to the term assignments. They are designed to test both theory and problem solving. There will be NO “make-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 for keeping 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.

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.

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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Weeks	Topics
Week 1	Global financial markets
Week 2	Chapters 3: Financial Modeling and Valuation
Week 3	Chapter 4: International market instruments
Week 4	Chapters 9: Mergers and Acquisitions

Week 5	Chapter 5: Eurocurrency market Chapter 8: Foreign exchange risk and forecasting
Week 6	Chapter 6: Exchange rates, interest rates and interest rate parity
Week 7	Chapter 7: Offshore Banking
Week 8	Mid-Term Examination (Closed Book) 2 Hours
Week 9	Special topic: International capital markets for stocks and bonds
Week 10	Special topic: Leverage Buy Outs (LBO's)
Week 11	Chapter 10: International portfolio management
Week 12	Chapter 11: Syndication and Offshore Banking
Week 13	Special topic: Options and Futures. Currency Options and The Greeks of the Options (Delta, Kappa, Theta, Vega)
Week 14	Special topic: The Global Debt Crisis and Restructuring
Week 15	Final Examination (Closed Book) 2 Hours

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.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH PROJECT (1 unit)

Each student registered for a 400-level course must complete a one-unit research project in addition to the coursework described in this syllabus. The specific topic will be assigned by the instructor.

The project requires 45 hours of independent study with regular consultations in accordance with the schedule determined by the instructor. The project work results in a written report (not less than 15 pages; APA style) and an oral presentation during the class session.

Evaluation of the student's work on the Individual Research Project will be done using the following rubric:

WRITTEN REPORT				
	<i>Exceeds Standards</i>	<i>Meets Standards</i>	<i>Does Not Meet Standards</i>	<i>Not Present</i>
<i>Research Problem Statement</i>	The statement of a research problem is crystal clear, novel and thought provoking	Clearly and concisely identify a research problem	The statement of a research problem is incomplete, lacking precision.	The statement of a research problem is absent.
<i>Organization</i>	The report is logically organized; ideas are exceptionally well-developed and support a thoughtful and engaging conclusion.	The development of ideas is present; the conclusion is effective and directly addresses the original thesis.	Organization is confusing, disjointed, and inconsistent; ideas, if present, are not developed; the conclusion is vague and/or does not address the original thesis.	The report lacks organization
<i>Sources and formatting</i>	A variety of high-quality sources is used; all factual claims are supported with citations. The report follows the APA style guidelines.	A few high-quality sources are used; majority of factual claims are supported with citations The report mostly follows the APA style guidelines.	Sources used are of a questionable quality; factual claims are not supported. Use of APA style is inconsistent.	Sources are not identified or of a poor quality; factual claims are unsubstantiated. The report is poorly formatted
PRESENTATION				
	<i>Exceeds Standards</i>	<i>Meets Standards</i>	<i>Does Not Meet Standards</i>	
<i>Style and Organization</i>	The presentation is clear, confident and fully engaging; the use of visual aids enhances its effectiveness; the presentation is well timed and structured.	The presentation is clear; the use of visual aids is not detrimental to audience engagement; all necessary components are given appropriate time.	Presentation lacks clarity, no attempt is made to engage the audience; visual aids are haphazard and distracting; lack of structure results in inefficient use of time.	
<i>Questions and Answers</i>	Students demonstrate extensive knowledge of the topic by providing confident, precise and appropriate responses to all audience questions.	Students demonstrate knowledge of the topic by responding adequately to questions of the audience.	Students demonstrate lack of knowledge of the topic by responding inaccurately and inappropriately to audience questions.	