# Lincoln University

# BA 140 – Fundamentals of Finance

## FALL 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| **Instructor:** | Professor Themis D. Pantos, Ph.D., |
| **Lecture Schedule:** | Wednesday, 3:30 – 6:15 PM |
| **Credits:** | 3 units / 45 hours of lectures |
| **Level:** | Developed (D) |
| **Office Hours:** | Online by appointment<br>**E-mail:** tpantos@lincolnuca.edu<br>**Phone:** (510) 628-8013 |
| **Textbook:** | Fundamentals of Financial Management, by Brigham & Houston, 9th edition Concise (January 2016).<br>ISBN-10: 978-130563-5930.<br>ISBN-13: 978-130563-5937. |
| **Tools:** | A handheld calculator HP10bII is required.<br>**Mobile device calculators will not be allowed.**<br>Supplemental materials (such as periodical, article, or case study) will be provided in class. |
| **Prerequisite:** | *MATH 10 or MATH 15* |
| **Last Revision:** | August 15, 2026 |

**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 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) financial markets and instruments, (2) financial statement and ratio analyses, (3) time value of money, (4) asset valuation and the trade-off between risk and return, (5) cost of capital, cash flow and capital structure, and (5) investment, financing, and dividend policy decisions of the firm.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**[1]

| Course LO | Program LO | Institution LO | Assessment activities |
|---|---|---|---|
| Application and analysis of concepts, theories, and tools used in financial decision-making. | PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4 | ILO 1a, 2a | Assignments and Closed-book examinations. |
| Analysis of financial statements for performance evaluation, including ratio analysis. | PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | ILO 1a, 2a | Able to explain stock research reports and financials found in Yahoo Finance, MarketWatch, and other related websites, assignments and closed-book examinations. |
| An understanding of time value of money related to security pricing, capital budgeting, and the associated cost of capital and capital structure. | PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4 | ILO 1a, 2a | Assignments and Closed-book examinations. |
| Study of various working capital management techniques and dividend policies. | PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4 | ILO 1a, 2a | Assignments and Closed-book examinations. |
| Hands-on experience in the use and application of financial tools. | PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4 | ILO 1a, 2a | Use of financial calculator and Excel spreadsheets, assignments and closed book examinations for financial calculations. |

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**

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 guides to business *resources of the library* as well as the description of Lincoln University approach to *information literacy* are available at the LU Library website (lincolnuca.libguides.com).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

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 despite 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 Learning Outcomes Assessment section of LU website.

**HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:**

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 AND GRADE ASSESSMENT:**

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

| | |
|---|---|
| **Assignments:** | **20%** |
| **Midterm Examination:** | **30%** |
| **Final Examination:** | **50%** |
| **Total** | **100%** |

**GRADING SCALE:**

The grade will be based on a curve, reflecting the standards of Lincoln University. The following table details the satisfactory cut points for the grade, and the corresponding grade.

| **Grade** | **A** | **A-** | **B+** | **B** | **B-** | **C+** | **C** | **C-** | **D+** | **D** | **F** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Points** | **93-100** | **89-92** | **85-88** | **80-84** | **75-79** | **70-74** | **65-69** | **60-64** | **55-59** | **50-54** | **0-49** |

The mid-term and final exams will include both types of theoretical and empirical questions and problems that are like 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. 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.

**WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE**

| Date | Topics |
|---|---|
| Week 1 | Course Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2: Financial Management & Markets and Instruments |
| Week 2 | Chapters 3 & 4: Financial Statement Analysis |
| Week 3 | Chapter 6: Interest Rate and Chapter 7: Risk & Return |
| Week 4 | Chapter 5: Time Value of Money (HP 10bII calculator) |
| Week 5 | Chapter 7: Bonds |
| Week 6 | Chapter 9: Stocks |
| **Week 7** | **Mid-term Examination** |
| Week 8 | Exam results review & Chapter 10: Cost of Capital |
| Week 9 | Chapter 13: Capital Structure |
| Week 10 | Chapters 11 & 12: Capital Budgeting & Cash Flow |
| Week 11 | Chapter 14: Dividend Policy and Share Repurchases |
| Week 12 | Chapter 15: Working Capital Management |
| Week 13 | Options, Warrants and Convertibles |
| Week 14 | International Finance and Exchange Rates |
| **Week 15** | **Final Examination** |

**Addendum: Supplementary 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. Do not 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.