

Financial Management (FIN 6406)

Spring, 2019, CRN 14128

Lutgers College of Business

Department of Economics and Finance

Description	Explores the process of securing and allocating funds within the business organization with emphasis on relevant financial decision-making and policy aspects (3 credits).
Prerequisites	QMB 6303 with minimum grade of C
Delivery Format	Online, Canvas, and McGraw-Hill Connect
Instructor	Tom Smythe, PhD Office Phone: (239) 745-4960 Cell: (864) 346-9230 (This is a last resort and should be prefaced with an email unless it is an emergency). In-person Office Hours: 3362 Lutgers Hall, T/Th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm, by appointment. Online Office Hours: M 5:30-8:00. By appointment. Note: The Monday day/time may change based on feedback from the group.

Required Materials	The textbook and its website are the primary learning resources for this course. Students must have access to <i>Corporate Finance</i> 11th ed., by Ross, Westerfield, Jaffe & Jordan (ebook or hardcopy) and its support website via McGraw-Hill Connect (ebook, practice homework, graded homework, LearnSmart, and exams). A customized, loose-leaf version of the textbook bundled with an access code to the website is available at the FGCU bookstore or directly from McGraw-Hill under the special ISBN of 9781308815343. Students must link their Canvas accounts to their Connect accounts using the link provided in Canvas. Students must have access to, and working knowledge of, a Canvas-compatible web browser, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Adobe PDF Reader.
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Learning Goal, Learning Objective, and Performance Measure

Accreditation Learning Goal	Learning Objective	Performance Measure
Critical thinking & problem solving	Solve business problems using critical thinking skills	Solve and present results to quantitative business problems

Course Policies

- COURSE ORGANIZATION:** The course is organized into weekly modules in Canvas. All supporting material for the course, Learn Smart, videos, static Power Point slides, and Practice HW, are available on Canvas. Graded HW will not be available until the day the final set of material for that module is completed. The two Excel assignments will be open for 3 weeks prior to their due data. While being prepared for class is critical, I would encourage you to work HW practice sets as we go through the material, i.e. don't front load or rear load the work. New modules will open up approximately one week prior to the start of the material. This is to prevent you getting too far ahead. The exception to this policy is the material spanning Spring Break.

2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INBOX:** Announcements and Inbox in Canvas are the official written communication mechanisms for this course. **(Please do not use regular email.)**
 - The Announcement feature in Canvas allows one-way communication from the instructor to students as a group for important announcements that are not specific to particular modules. Announcements are reserved for important, unexpected issues that the instructor wishes to make known to everyone in the class on short notice.
 - Inbox is the appropriate mechanism for communications between the instructor and students regarding topics of a personal nature that are not appropriate for sharing with everyone in the class. It may also be used to communicate information quickly to all students from the instructor.
 - Students should set up their Canvas accounts to receive notifications Announcements and Inbox communications, etc. on their phones and/or email accounts.
3. **READING ASSIGNMENTS, PRACTICE HW PROBLEMS, and LEARNSMART ACTIVITIES:** Each module has learning activities in the form of reading assignments, lecture videos, static Power Point slides, Connect practice problems, LearnSmart activities and Block HW for a grade. You also have access to the end-of-chapter questions in the text. Answers are provided for the textbook end-of-chapter problems both in Word and Excel (when applicable) format, LearnSmart activities, and practice HW for students to self-assess their progress. Practice HW and LearnSmart activities can be attempted as many times as the student wishes prior to the end of the semester. Practice HW problems and LearnSmart activities ARE NOT graded, but the Chapter HW for a Grade is graded. The instructor encourages students to work to help each other master the practice HW and end-of-chapter problems via discussion boards on Canvas or alternative connectivity means. We also have access to a video capability on Canvas called Big Blue Button that can facilitate small group discussions. Students who find themselves stuck on a concept should not hesitate to reach out for help. The instructor is a firm believer in the high value of peer-to-peer learning.
4. **GRADED HW:** Graded HW is administered via Connect. Graded HW is due at 11:59 pm each Wednesday (Spring break is an exception). In all cases, the graded HW will open the Sunday before the due date (Spring break is an exception). The three lowest graded HW scores for each student will be “dropped” in the calculation of course grades. Graded HW is open-note and open-book, but they are NOT open-friend. The purpose of graded HW is to allow me to assess your progress in the course, so you must do your own work. No peer-and-peer cooperation on graded HW!
5. **EXAMS:** Exams will be administered via Connect and will be in a multiple choice format. The questions cover both conceptual and problem based material. Material tested may include topics/issues that are covered in the text, but not explicitly addressed in Power Point slides or videos. Exams are time-limited; however, you will have a week to take it. This will give you time to “study”/organize yourself for the exam. In the event the instructor gives an exam that proves (at the instructor’s sole discretion) to be “too long” for the amount of time allowed, the instructor reserves the right to make upward (only) adjustments to exam scores. Concepts covered on exams carry over throughout the course. The Final Exam is comprehensive by design. Exams may only be attempted and submitted once. There are no make-up exams. In the event of one missed exam (Exam 1 or Exam 2 but not more than one), the weight of the missed exam will be added to the Final Exam. There is no option to drop an exam score once the exam has been taken (or attempted). A second missed exam will receive a score of “0.” A missed Final Exam will receive a score of “0.” Being new to this type of grading strategy, I had a number of students in the past “miss” one of the tests that they believed was hardest, hoping the volume of material would be less on the final. However, because the concepts build, that strategy provide self-destructive. I would discourage using a missed exam as a grade management strategy.
6. **EXCEL HW:** There are three graded Excel HW assignments. The first is simply a series of short videos reviewing major topics and I am looking for whether you do it or not. In essence, it is a free 2 points, but please take it seriously

because you will use the tools on the other two Excel assignments. The remaining two cover certain topics in the course and will require you to build excel sheets to answer questions. In both cases, you will have approximately 3 weeks from the time the assignment is made until the due date. A document outlining what must be done and a grading rubric will be posted on Canvas. The excel file (one for each assignment) will need to be uploaded to Canvas by the assigned due date. Both assignments must be turned in or receive a zero for the assignment.

7. **EXTRA CREDIT, MAKE-UP & LATE WORK:** There are no provisions for extra credit, make-up, or late work. No credit will be given for any graded material submitted after the due date/time.
8. **TECHNOLOGY PROBLEMS:** If a system error occurs within Canvas or Connect that results in a student not being able to complete an online graded activity (i.e. the Canvas or Connect systems goes “down” for an extended period of time near a due date/time), the student must notify the instructor of the date and time of the issue and the graded item involved. The instructor will verify the problem with Canvas or Connect and notify the student of a solution. Students are responsible for resolving any other technology problems that may arise. The instructor provides no technical support.

9. **GRADES:** Course grades are determined as follows:

Canvas Profile Update	2%
Introduction Discussion Board	2%
Graded HW	9% (1% each for the 9 counted)
Excel Videos	2%
Excel HW	10% (5% each)
Exam 1	23%
Exam 2	23%
<u>Comprehensive Final Exam</u>	<u>29%</u>
Total	100%

Cutoffs for letter grades (rounded to nearest whole percentage): A = 90%, B = 80%, C = 70%, D = 60%, F = less than 60%. Grades at XX.5 will be rounded up.

Some Advice from the Instructor

To succeed in this course, students should adjust their life/work/school schedules to allow adequate time each week to master the course material. Scheduling study time and HW time in a calendar can be a huge help. Forming study groups can be a huge help. Students who find themselves spending less than 6-9 hours each week on this course are either very bright (great!) or they are probably not learning everything the instructor hopes they will learn. This is doable while working full time – I am evidence of it having completed my MBA while working for Mobil Oil.

Here is the recommended approach for each module in the course.

1. Read the textbook chapter(s).
2. Read the chapter(s) again, outlining it as you go and making sure you can replicate every example calculation shown. Some students benefit from creating their own personal PowerPoints for each chapter. This is an amazing way to ensure you are fully engaged with the content.
3. Review the PowerPoint for the chapter(s).
4. Watch the chapter lecture videos.

5. Answer the end-of-chapter questions and problems and Practice HW sets. Solutions are provided in Canvas for the end-of-chapter questions. You might recognize some of these questions and problems on the HW and exams (hint hint).
6. Complete the LearnSmart and practice HW as many times as necessary to master the material. These materials will remain open throughout the entire course.
7. Complete the graded HW by the appropriate date and time.
8. Throughout the course, ask questions. While I am pretty good at seeing confused looks in a classroom, I will not have that luxury in an online setting. Make use of the Collaboration Stations set up for each module. This format will also help others who may be having trouble.

University Required Statements

Academic Behavior Standards and Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to demonstrate honesty in their academic pursuits. The university policies regarding issues of honesty can be found in the FGCU Student Guidebook under the Student Code of Conduct and Policies and Procedures sections. All students are expected to study this document which outlines their responsibilities and consequences for violations of the policy. The FGCU Student Guidebook is available online at <http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/judicialaffairs/new.html>

University Nondiscrimination Statement

Florida Gulf Coast University is committed to ensuring equity and fairness for all University employees, students, visitors, vendors, contractors and other third parties. As such, the University prohibits discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, sex (including sexual harassment/assault), gender identity/expression, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status or genetic predisposition with regard to admissions, employment, programs or other activities operated by the University. This prohibition extends to enforcement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Questions or complaints should be directed to the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC). The OIEC's phone number is (239)745-4366; the OIEC email address is OIEC@fgcu.edu.

Mental Health Resources

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides free counseling and therapy services (including psychiatry) to all FGCU students. Please walk in to the second floor Howard Hall office any weekday between 8:30 and 4:30 to schedule an initial contact appointment. Visit the CAPS website at <https://www2.fgcu.edu/caps> for more information. CAPS offers a 24/7 Helpline at (239) 745-3277 (EARS).

Disability Accommodations Services

Florida Gulf Coast University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the university's guiding principles, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you need to request an accommodation in this class due to a disability, or you suspect that your academic performance is affected by a disability, please see me or contact the Office of Adaptive Services. The Office of Adaptive Services is located in the Wellness Building. The phone number is 239-590-7956 or Video Phone (VP) 239-243-9453. In addition to classroom and campus accommodations, individuals with disabilities are encouraged to create their personal emergency evacuation plan and FGCU is committed to providing information on emergency notification procedures. You can find information on the emergency exits and Areas of Rescue Assistance for each building, as well as other emergency preparedness materials on

the Environmental Health and Safety and University Police Department websites. If you will need assistance in the event of an emergency due to a disability, please contact Adaptive Services for available services and information.

Student Observance of Religious Holidays

All students at Florida Gulf Coast University have a right to expect that the University will reasonably accommodate their religious observances, practices, and beliefs. Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Where practicable, major examinations, major assignments, and University ceremonies will not be scheduled on a major religious holy day. A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.

Canvas Tutorial and Distance Learning

A Canvas tutorial and other distance learning information are available online at <http://canvas.fgcu.edu/> and <http://itech.fgcu.edu/distance/>.

Library Resources

Main page: <http://library.fgcu.edu/>; Tutorials & Handouts: <http://library.fgcu.edu/RSD/Instruction/tutorials.htm>;
Research Guides: <http://fgcu.libguides.com/>

Verification of Attendance in Canvas (VAC)

All faculty members are required to use Canvas to confirm a student's attendance for each course by the end of the first week of classes. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of students' financial aid. *The confirmation of attendance is required for all students, not only those receiving financial aid.*