

*Department of Accounting & Finance
College of Business
Texas A&M University-Commerce*

**FIN 304 (01W) – Introduction to Business Finance
Summer I, 2020**

Instructor: Dror Parnes, Ph.D.
Office: BA204 (Texas A&M Commerce)
Email: Dror.Parnes@tamuc.edu
Class Hours: Any day – Online course

Course Description and Objectives


This online course provides students with a rigorous introduction to the fundamental principles of business finance. The primary concepts covered include the time value of money, different interest rates, principles of valuation and risk, the nature and characteristics of domestic and international financial securities and markets. Specific applications include the valuation of debt and equity securities and capital budgeting analysis.

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of Calculus, Statistics, and Accounting

Textbook

“Fundamentals of Financial Management,” Concise edition, 7th Edition; Brigham and Houston, South-Western, 2012, ISBN: 978-0-538-47711-6

 We will not strictly follow this textbook. There are topics in the course that somewhat deviate from the book. The textbook can be used as a further reading material, but all you need for the course is my Power Point slides, my practice questions and answers already posted, and my recorded lectures.

Exams and Grading


There will be 2 online exams during the course and one online Assessment Case. Each exam will last for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Each exam contains 12 multiple-choice questions (8.333 points each question, 100 points altogether). These relatively short exams will cover the most recent lectures, and they will be non-cumulative. Once you start an exam, you have to complete it within the allowable time. Make sure to have a fast Internet connection. Since you will take the exams online at your convenience, there will be no makeup exams. The Assessment Case will contain several multiple-choice questions as well, but it will have no time constraints.

Course Content and Communication

All communications will take place through TAMUC official website (MyLeoOnline or D2L).

Grading System

Your final grade will be based on a simple average of the two exams and the Assessment Case during the course (with equal weight of 1/3 to each thing). Once this average is computed, I will assign a final grade according to: 'A' (from 90 to 100), 'B' (from 80 to 90), 'C' (from 70 to 80), 'D' (from 60 to 70), 'F' (less than 60). *There will be no more optional bonus points or mercy assignments, so make sure to do your best on these tasks! I do preserve the right, however, to curve up (never down) grades whenever necessary.*

 We will use a lot of calculus and statistical methods during the course. I will attempt to clarify these techniques when it is relevant, yet I can only do that concisely. Make sure to refresh your memory with those techniques. The best time to do that is yesterday!

Attendance and general behavior

This is an online course and students must have high self-discipline. It is your responsibility to listen to the online lectures (available throughout the entire semester), to download / print the Power Point presentations and the practice questions and answers, and to take as many notes as you can. If you have additional questions, catch my attention right away (likely through email), but please don't wait until the last moment before the exams.

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Gee Library Room 132

Phone: (932) 886 – 5150 or (932) 886 – 5835

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Scholastic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the university. Any student, who attempts to gain an unfair advantage over other students by cheating, will fail the course and be reported to Texas A&M University-Commerce. "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment" Student Handbook.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all Federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Technology Requirements

Please note that personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely manner. To fully participate in online courses you will need to use a current Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. For Mac users, the most updated Firefox is recommended.

Please check that you have access to broadband Internet with enough cash memory and a sound card (speakers or headset and a microphone) on your computer / laptop. Also check that you have the latest version of Java (32 and 64 bit). In addition, current anti-virus software and supporting tools such as Adobe Reader and Adobe Flash Player should be installed and kept up to date. Finally, you should enable popups.

Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. If you do not have Microsoft Office installed, you can check with the bookstore for a student copy.

For additional information about system requirements, please visit:

<https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical>

You may also get technical support by contacting helpdesk@online.tamuc.org.

Suggested Class Schedule

Date	Class	Topic
6/1/2020	1	Introduction to the course, Review of some statistical methods, Introduction to Financial Management
...	2	Financial Statements & Ratio Analysis
...	3	The Time Value of Money
...	4	The Time Value of Money
...	5	Risk and Rates of Return
...	6	Risk and Rates of Return
...	7	Exam #1
...	8	Bonds
...	9	Bonds
...	10	Equity Valuation
...	11	Equity Valuation
...	12	Capital Budgeting Decision Criteria
...	13	Capital Budgeting Decision Criteria
...	14	The Cost of Capital
...	15	The Cost of Capital
7/2/2020	16	Exam #2 and Due Date for Assessment Case



The schedule is due to possible changes.

Good luck...