FIN 404 – 01B
Advanced Financial Management
Spring 2024

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Office Hours: By appointment
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Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**

All emails must **contain "FIN 404 01W" in the subject line to be treated as high priority** and **be sent from your myLeo accounts**. **The syllabus is tentative and subject to change as the semester progresses. It is the students' responsibility to check school emails, and announcements as well as updates on D2L frequently. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING UP IN THIS COURSE.**

I.   Course Description

        This course is designed to study intermediate techniques of financial management. The core content of this course will provide you with the knowledge specific to the theory and practice of corporate finance. Topics will include financial instruments and valuation, risk/return concepts, CAPM, firm valuation, capital structure, financing decisions, capital budgeting, and other decision rules in the context of the overall goal to maximize the value of the firm.

II.   Prerequisite

        FIN 304, Intro to Business Finance, or consent of instructor.

III.   Learning Outcomes

        Upon the successful completion of Financial Management, the students should be able to perform the following tasks:

        1. Demonstrate an understanding of the advanced concepts of contemporary financial management and the application of its methods.
        2. Demonstrate an ability to analyze and apply asset valuation techniques.
        3. Demonstrate an understanding and the ability to measure strategic financial decisions in a risk/return context as it relates to today's dynamic world.

        Course Learning Objectives 1, 2, and 3 address COB Student Learning Objective 5: Students will be analytical problem solvers in business environments.

IV.   Required Course Materials

        1. Principles of Corporate Finance by Richard Brealey, Stewart Myers, and Franklin Allen, 13th edition, Mcgraw-Hill/Irwin. The ISBN is 978-1260565553.

        2. Financial Calculator: **Texas Instruments BAII Plus Professional** calculator or comparable (not alpha programmable). For TI BAII+ Professional Tutorial, see:

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.   1

https://education.ti.com/en/products/calculators/financial/baii-plus-professional?category=resources

 * PowerPoint slides will be oriented toward the TI BAII Plus Professional.

V.   Recommended Reading

Wall Street Journal

VI.   Policies and Procedures

The class will be conducted in an online format. You will have access to a recorded lecture through D2L, which goes over the main topics of the chapter covered in PowerPoint Lectures along with some questions. *We will have Review & Q&A webinars held via Zoom from 4:00 PM to 5:15 PM every other week on Monday which briefly review main topics discussed and provide you with the opportunity to ask any question that you may have about course materials, including D2L Assignment Questions, Assigned End-of-Chapter problems, and Extra Practice problems. Attendance is optional and live sessions are recorded for you to watch at any time after it is completed.* However, it is strongly recommended that you work through the recorded webinars as soon after the regularly scheduled session as possible, so you will not miss any important information disseminated. Class Progress will be checked from time to time to monitor your utilization of course materials provided.

Email Use

The best way to communicate with me outside of class is by email. **Please put your course number "FIN404 01W" in the subject line to be treated as high priority. You should expect a response to your emails within 24 hours during regular business hours on weekdays and 48 hours during weekend. If you do not hear from me within that time frame, please resend your email. You have to send emails from your myLeo accounts.**

Exams

There will be three exams, including two midterm exams and a <u>Mandatory</u> Final exam.

<u>The lower grade on the two mid-term exams will be dropped. In view of this, there will be no makeup exams or any other provision to make up for a missed mid-term exam.</u>

There will be no makeup exam for the MANDATORY final exam. If you have to miss an exam because of a legitimate and verifiable reason, you must contact me before the exam. Failing to do so or failing to provide documentation of the reason for absence from a medical doctor or TAMU-Commerce official will result in a grade of zero on the exam. Make up exams will not be given online.

Regardless of the excuse, if you miss two exams you will automatically fail the class.

Please mark exam dates on your calendar. "Forgetting", being "out of town" and/or "confused" about the time that an exam must be taken is not an acceptable excuse for missing it.

D2L Assignments

There will be assignments posted in D2L every week or every other week. They will be multiple choice questions with 3 attempts allowed for each assignment.

You will receive a notification email when each assignment is posted. You will complete each assignment through D2L by the due date. You will be given sufficient time to complete the assignment. The purpose of the assignments is to help you review the materials learned every week or every other week.

There would be <u>no extension</u> to the assignment deadline unless with official documents from a medical doctor or TAMU-Commerce official and such documents need to be provided BEFORE assignment answers are released. Documentations submitted after the answers being posted will NOT be considered. Extensions are at the discretion of the instructor. Extensions may include a late penalty.

Assigned End-of-Chapter Questions & Problems and Other Extra Practice Questions & Problems

There will be end of chapter questions & problems and other questions & problems assigned as homework. **You do not have to submit the solutions. Solutions to these homework problems will be available in D2L.** To enhance learning, you should devote some time to these assignments. Some (but not all) of the problems on the exams will be similar to the problems in these homework assignments.

Grading

No assignment for extra credit will be given to any individual student. For grading purposes, the following weights will be assigned:

D2L Assignments	19%
Mid-term examination I	19%
Mid-term examination II	19%
Final examination	43%

and letter grades apply as follows:

90 – 100	A
75 - 89.99	B
60 - 74.99	C
50 - 59.99	D
0 - 49.99	F

- **D2L Assignments and Exams are used to assess course learning objectives which address COB Student Learning Objective 5, Students will be analytical problem solvers in business environments.**

Below are guidelines that help to explain how student work is evaluated:

Criteria (Course Objectives)	1 (Unsatisfactory)	2 (Emerging)	3 (Proficient)	4 (Exemplary)
Demonstrate an understanding of	Student shows limited ability to	Student shows understanding	Student shows understanding	Student shows understanding

the advanced concepts of contemporary financial management and the application of its methods.	understand or apply even the more basic concepts and methods of financial management.	and the ability to apply only the more basic concepts and methods of financial management.	and the ability to apply the basic but not advanced concepts and methods of financial management.	and the ability to apply the advanced as well as basic concepts and methods of financial management.
Demonstrate an ability to analyze and apply asset valuation techniques.	Student shows limited ability to analyze or apply even the more basic techniques of asset valuation.	Student shows the ability to analyze and apply only the more basic techniques of asset valuation	Student shows the ability to analyze and apply the basic but not advanced techniques of asset valuation.	Student shows the ability to analyze and apply the advanced as well as basic techniques of asset valuation
Demonstrate an understanding and the ability to measure strategic financial decisions in a risk/return context as it relates to today's dynamic world.	Student shows limited ability to understand or measure even the more basic financial decisions involved in business management.	Student shows understanding and the ability to measure only the more basic financial decisions involved in business management.	Student shows understanding and the ability to measure the basic but not advanced decisions of financial management.	Student shows understanding and the ability to measure the advanced as well as basic decisions of financial management.

VII.   Progression of Course

This agenda is subject to change. The exact timing of lectures and content of exams will depend on the flow of the course.

Week	Topic	Review Q&A Session	D2L Assignments **(Multiple Choices; 3 Attempts)** **(Grades: Average of Best 5 of 8 Assignments)**
Week 1, January 10	Class Intro		
Week 2, January 15	Chapter 1, 2	January 15th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 1 Ch1_2 Available**
Week 3, January 22	Chapter 2, 3		**D2L Assignment 2 Ch3 Available**
Week 4, January 29	Chapter 3	January 29th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 1 Ch1_2 Due by 11:59 PM, February 1st, 2024, CST**
Week 5, February 5	Chapter 4		**D2L Assignment 3 Ch4 Available**
Week 6, February 12	Chapter 4	February 12th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 2 Ch3 D2L Assignment 3 Ch4 All Due by 11:59 PM, February 15th, 2024, CST**
Exam I: Ch1, 2, 3 and 4 (8:00 a.m., February 17th to 11:59 p.m., February 19th, 2024 CST; Timed, One Attempt)			
Week 7, February 19	Chapter 5		**D2L Assignment 4 Ch5 Available**

Week 8, February 26	Chapter 6	February 26th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 4 Ch5 Due by 11:59 PM, February 29th, 2024, CST** **D2L Assignment 5 Ch6 Available**
Week 9, March 4	Chapter 6 Chapter 7&8		**D2L Assignment 6 Ch7_8 Available**
Week 10, March 11	Spring Break		
Week 11, March 18	Chapter 7&8	March 18th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 5 Ch6** **D2L Assignment 6 Ch7_8** **All Due by 11:59 PM, March 21st, 2024, CDT**
Exam II: Ch5, 6, 7 and 8 (8:00 a.m., March 23rd to 11:59 p.m., March 25th, 2024 CDT; Timed, One Attempt)			
Week 12, March 25	Chapter 9		**D2L Assignment 7 Ch9 Available**
Week 13, April 1	Chapter 9	April 1st 4:00 PM	
Week 14, April 8	Chapter 20		**D2L Assignment 8 Ch20_21 Available**
Week 15, April 15	Chapter 21	April 15th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 7 Ch9 Due by 11:59 PM, April 18th, 2024, CDT**
Week 16, April 22	Chapter 22	April 22th 4:00 PM	
Week 17, April 29	Chapter 22	April 29th 4:00 PM	**D2L Assignment 8 Ch20_21 Due by 11:59 PM, May 2nd, 2024, CDT**
Week 17~18			
Final Exam: Ch9, 20, 21, 22, and Materials Covered in D2L Assignment 4 (Ch5) and D2L Assignment 5 (Ch6) (8:00 a.m., May 5th to 11:59 p.m., May 7th, 2024 CDT; Timed, One Attempt)			

- **The lower grade on the two mid-term exams will be dropped. In view of this, there will be no makeup exams or any other provision to make up for a missed mid-term exam.**

VIII.   Other Information

♦ **SINCE this is an online course, you need to follow your school emails very regularly.** There will be regular announcements and uploads.

♦ You shall start studying early in the course, well before the test/exam, to give yourself a head start in learning the material. When you don't understand course material, ask questions either in class, during office hours or by email. You will not get good grades if you wait until a week or couple of days before the test/exam to start studying.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:
- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
> Pop-ups are allowed.
> JavaScript is enabled.
> Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. 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. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu**.**

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** [LiveChat] or click on the words "click here**"** to submit an issue via email.

System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Email is the preferred method of communication. The instructor will respond to emails within 24 hours during regular business hours on weekdays.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

ADA Statement

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
Texas A&M University-Commerce Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5930
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
Website: http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx

Nondiscrimination Notice

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 Statement

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 the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAnd Students/34.06.02.R1.pdf

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.

Important Information about Counseling Center

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel.