

Financial Markets, Institutions, and Instruments
FIN 570 01W
Meets 1/29/2026 through 5/8/2026
Spring 2026
Syllabus

Instructor: Srinivas Nippani, Ph.D.

Classroom: Online Class

Meeting Time: The course will be based on live (ONLINE) and/or recorded video lectures and D2L Zoom sessions (usually with PowerPoint and/or a calculator) for each chapter. Once you listen to the live/recorded lecture, which I post/Email every week, I encourage you to work on the homework problems given in the Content. I answer my email quickly, usually within a day or two. I encourage you to ask me questions by email. All live sessions will be on Friday mornings at 10 am on D2L on Zoom. Please do your best to attend this live or listen to the recording. I fully understand if you cannot attend any lecture live and can only listen to the recording because of work or time conflicts with other commitments. There is no need to inform me if you cannot attend a session, if you listen to the recording within a day or two. The D2L is your opportunity to have a live and interactive session with me and to check and extend what you are learning. I will also work through real-world applications of the theory.

Office: BA 310 (East Texas A&M University)

Office Phone: 903-886-5659 (Secretary). I have no direct line. The best way to reach me is by email. All emails must contain "FIN 471 01W" in the subject line and be sent from your myLeo accounts.

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 9-11.00 am. (online at:

<https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/96809546087?pwd=BH5VPsuZSvFId9QQBpZyZQlOMqHdJ.1>

And 1-2 and 3.30-4 pm, in person, on Tuesdays and Thursdays in my office in the BA building. You can also email me about an appointment.

Fax: 903-468-3216

Email: Sri.Nippani@etamu.edu

Course Description: Financial Markets, Institutions, and Instruments. A study of structure and functions of financial markets and institutions focusing on political, social, regulatory, and legal effects, as well as demographic diversity, ethical considerations, and changing global financial conditions, in financial decision making.

Notes from the professor: A decent amount of reading based on publicly available articles is used to supplement the text to encourage learning.

Textbook and other materials required (Compulsory):

- Financial Markets and Institutions by Anthony Saunders, Marcia Millon Cornett and Otgo Erhemjants. 8th edition of McGraw Hill Education. ISBN: 978-1-260-77240-1.
- I will also assign some readings from the Internet and publicly accessible Federal Reserve Websites.

- A Good Financial Calculator. I strongly recommend the Texas Instruments BA II Plus Professional calculator, and my explanations will be based on this calculator in the class.
- You will need a computer with access to Microsoft Excel.

Course Objectives: The goal of the course is to provide the students with an introduction and a clear understanding of the financial markets, the institutions that operate in these markets, and the instruments used in the markets. Students are exposed to the financial institution network and the mechanics of operation of the whole financial system.

Attendance, Course Requirements, Assignments, and Grading

Students taking the course are expected to listen to all recorded presentations, attend the live Zoom sessions, and check their email at least once a day, ideally more times. The course will cover the textbook and material presented in class. I prefer that students not miss listening to any recorded lectures. Some material not part of the book will be used in the recordings. **All announcements will be made using email or on the course announcements page. I expect you to know all announcements within 24 hours of receiving the email or posting in the course announcements. Whenever I post a lecture, I will send an email/post an announcement. I encourage you to listen to my recorded lectures several times. Also, use only Chrome to access the class, never Explorer.** The grading is based on the following scale (All exams and quizzes online in class D2L website):

(Mid-Term) Exam 1 posted Online	100 points
(Mid-Term) Exam 2 posted in Online	100 points
Final Exam in the last week of class, online	100 points
Assignment in Ratio Analysis for Banks (online) **	50 points

Total (counting the two mid-terms, the assignment, and the final)	350 points

What you can use on exams: Scrap paper, a calculator, and Excel.

What you cannot use on exams: the help of another person.

All exams are to be taken online on the D2L website. All exams are proctored. You cannot miss any of the exams or the assignment. My exams will be based on the material covered in class. For each student, the total points will be added up and converted to a percentage at the end of the semester to decide the final grade. The following scale will be applied to decide the final grade for students: 90 and above A grade, 80-89.99%: B grade, 70-79.99%: C grade, 60%-69.99%: D grade, and below 60%: F grade. I will try to adhere to the above grading scale, but I reserve the right to deviate from it. My exams typically have multiple choices, and you can use a calculator on them. However, the exams are designed for speed and accuracy. No student will be allowed to make up for an inadequate performance on an exam, and make-up exams will be given for only medical reasons. Makeup exams are likely to be essay-type and may not be given online.

Syllabus:

Chapters 1-7 and 11-13. We will do chapter 14 if time permits. As for the assignment on ratio analysis for banks, it will be based on the supplementary material I will ask you to read from the textbook and from publicly accessible websites like the FDIC, Federal Reserve, and ABI Inform, which you will have access to as a student of ETAMU. I will assign material for the assignment (generally from chapter 12) over other material by email and posting the content/links on the course website. The assignment is due on 4/20/2026 by 5 pm US CST. As you can see above, this accounts for about 14.29% of your grade. Some of the chapters mentioned above may include material not included in the textbook. We may do some chapters only in part. I reserve the right to change the syllabus if I feel it is necessary.

Tentative Class and Exam Schedule

*Only a part of the material will be used in some of the chapters. We may do some chapters only in part. I reserve the right to change anything in the syllabus if I feel it is necessary.

Live Lectures Schedule. We will meet almost every week on Friday Mornings at 10 am for the lecture. If I post pre-recorded lectures, I will link them on the course D2L webpage.

Chapters 1-5, 11, 12, 13, and then 6, 7, and if time permits, 14 (in that order) with approximately one lecture per week (posted in the course webpage or live on Zoom).

Midterm Exam 1: February 26-27 over 1-4

Midterm Exam 2: April 2-3 over chapters 11, 12, 13, and 5

Assignment on Ratio Analysis from chapter 12 due on 4/20/2026 by 5 pm US CST

Final Exam (compulsory): May 3-4 over chapters 4, 6, 7, 11-13, and 14 if done.

A Good Way to Succeed:

This is an online class and requires the student to be more self-directed. Please read the assigned chapter for the week before you attend the class for the best results.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating will not be tolerated in this class. Please remember that this is a graduate-level class, and you are graded against each other. By giving someone answers to exam questions helps neither you nor them. If I catch someone cheating, I will deal with that in accordance with the policies of East Texas A&M University. An academic honesty policy will be posted under the “Content” tab. You should read this document, sign it, and submit it to me via its corresponding “Academic Honesty Folder”.

An Important Note:

Tenets of Common Behavior statement: All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook).

Students with Disabilities:

Students with Disabilities information: 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, Waters Library, Room 162
(903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 phone (903) 468-8148 fax
Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@etamu.edu

Nondiscrimination Statement

Nondiscrimination notice: East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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/rulesProcedure/s/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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University, 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