



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - SAN ANTONIO

College of Business

Department of Accounting & Finance
FINC 3337-902: Finance for Non-Finance Majors

Spring Semester 2024

Course Web Site: <http://tamusa.blackboard.com/>

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Syed M. Harun, Professor of Finance
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SEMESTER DURATION: Spring 2024 16-week session: 01/16/2024 - 05/07/2024

CLASS MEETING TIME AND LOCATION: T 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm; BLH 155

OFFICE HOURS: T R 3:30 – 5:30 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The objective of the course is to provide a basic understanding of why business entities and financial markets behave the way they do. The course will focus on three major aspects of finance: the financial system, corporate finance, and investments. Focusing on the practical aspects of business enterprise, this course will provide guidelines to analyze problems and find solutions using the techniques, methods, and procedures applied by financial professionals. This course is intended for non-Finance majors. Finance majors may not take FINC 3337 for credit. Credit cannot be earned for both FINC 3310 and FINC 3337. TSI Restriction(s): Reading, Math, and Writing

PREREQUISITES: Completion of the College of Business prerequisites with a grade of ‘C’ or better.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Use time value of money techniques for asset valuation.
- Understand features and valuation of stocks, bonds, and other financial assets.
- Apply the techniques of capital budgeting to evaluate major projects and investments.
- Measure and assess risks and returns for investment decision-making.
- Assess costs of capital and make corporate financing decisions.
- Make decisions about capital structure and payout policies.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- ❖ **Text:** Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, Richard Brealey; Stewart Myers, and Alan Marcus, 11th ed., 2023. McGraw Hill Higher Education. Custom e-book with Connect and Proctorio 9781265803094.
- ❖ **Blackboard:** Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com>. Your user ID is the Jaguar ID (aka J Number, e.g., J00001234). Password is the Date of Birth (MMDDYY). You will have lecture notes, solutions to problems, and other supplementary materials in Blackboard. It will also be used for communication, discussions, assignments, and quizzes.
- ❖ **McGraw Hill Connect:** You will complete assignments, quizzes, and exams in an online homework management system – McGraw HillConnect. Instructions on obtaining online access and a link to the website will be provided separately. Please ensure that you have purchased the appropriate code and registered in the system ASAP.
- ❖ **Spreadsheet software:** Spreadsheet software is required for the course. We will be using Excel in class for problem-solving.
- ❖ **TIME:** You are expected to spend 3-6 hours per week on the course.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS: I recommend you to watch Bloomberg TV. I also encourage you to read the Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Business Week, and other business publications.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Every student must fulfill the following course requirements to succeed in the course:

1. Students should check the Course Calendar, Announcements in Blackboard, and email messages on a regular basis.
2. Students should keep current with all course assignments, quizzes, and examinations.
3. Students should ask questions and communicate with the instructor in class or online.
4. For all classwork, exams, quizzes, etc., if a student is completing it off-campus, they are responsible for the availability of internet connectivity. Extensions will **not** be granted for lack of availability of internet connections.
5. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
6. Everyone in class is expected to follow all rules in the student handbook and the rules of common courtesy during lectures and discussions.
7. Attendance may be taken by an appropriate method by the instructor.

QUIZZES AND EXAMINATIONS: There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. There will also be quizzes on every chapter covered. The quizzes and exams will consist of conceptual and problem-solving questions. The quiz and exam materials will come from lecture notes, the text, and class discussions. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class. Quizzes/exams in this class will be administered using the secure online proctored testing service “Proctorio.” Details regarding “Proctorio” proctored testing administration are posted on Blackboard.

MAKE-UP/LATE POLICY: As a general rule, make-ups or late submissions will NOT be offered or accepted for any missed assignments/quizzes/exams. Late submissions or make-ups may be accepted/administered only in extraordinary circumstances, such as an excused official

university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation before or within a few days of the missed assignment/quiz/exam.

GRADING POLICY: The final course grade will be based on your performance on the assignments, quizzes, and exams using the following weights:

Assignments & Homework	200 points
Quizzes	400 points
Mid-term Exam	200 points
Final Exam	200 points

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows: Above 900 points => A; 800 – 899 points => B; 700 – 799 points => C; 600 – 699 points => D; Below 600 => F.

COURSE DROP POLICY: You may drop the course on or before April 13, 2024, with an automatic grade of W. If you wish to drop the class after that date, you will receive either W (if you have a satisfactory record so far) or F. The last date to drop a course or withdraw from the University is April 20, 2024. If you wish to drop the class, you must submit the necessary paperwork to the proper authority.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: A vital part of every student's education is regular attendance of weekly face-to-face class sessions. Any absences tend to lower the quality of a student's work, and frequent or persistent absences may result in a failing grade. Students are responsible for the materials covered in class. The course covers a lot of material, and most students find at least some parts of it difficult. Class participation is highly encouraged as it makes the class more interesting and enhances the learning experience. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions, participate in class discussions and problem-solving, and visit/contact the instructor during office hours in case of questions or concerns. Good attendance and participation will be rewarded when final grades are assigned.

UNIVERSITY E-MAIL POLICY AND COURSE COMMUNICATIONS: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via tamusa e-mail accounts. You must have your Jaguar e-mail account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at 210-784-4357. The instructor will reply to a student's e-mail and voice messages within two business days on weekdays (Monday-Friday).

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY: Texas A&M University-San Antonio students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education and follow the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Code of Conduct. For more information, please visit the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities website <http://bit.ly/TAMUSAStudentRR>. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions, collusion, lying, and bribery. In cases of academic misconduct, students may be subject not only to grade sanctions in courses but to disciplinary action. If a student wishes to appeal the decision of suspension or expulsion due to violations of academic misconduct, they must initiate their appeal as outlined within the Student Code of Conduct.

SPRING 2024 CLASS SCHEDULE

The provisions and information in this schedule are intended to be informational and not contractual. The instructor reserves the right to amend, alter, or modify the provisions of the schedule. Changes to the schedule will be made only under extenuating circumstances. All the changes will be announced in class and via Blackboard/e-mail, and the students are responsible for the announced changes.

Week	Chapter and Topic	Due Dates
01/16/24	Introduction and Syllabus	01/23/24
01/23/24	Chapter 1. Goals and Governance of the Corporation	01/30/24
01/30/24	Chapter 2: Financial Markets and Institutions	02/06/24
02/06/24	Chapter 5. The Time Value of Money	02/13/24
02/13/24	Chapter 6. Valuing Bonds	02/20/24
02/20/24	Chapter 7. Valuing Stocks	02/27/24
02/27/24	Chapter 8. Net Present Value and Other Investment Criterion	03/05/24
03/05/24	Mid-term Review / Mid-Term Exam	03/10/24
03/12/24	Spring Break – no class	
03/19/24	Chapter 11: Risk, Return, and the Opportunity Cost of Capital	03/26/24
03/26/24	Chapter 12: Risk, Return, and Capital Budgeting	04/02/24
04/02/24	Chapter 13. WACC and Company Valuation	04/09/24
04/09/24	Chapter 16: Debt Policy	04/16/24
04/16/24	Chapter 17. Payout Policy	04/23/24
04/23/24	Chapter 25. What we do and do not know about Finance Final Exam Review	04/29/24
05/01/24	Final Exam	05/07/24