

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Prefix, Number, Section FIN 4310.503
Course Title Intermediate Financial Management
Term Fall 2020
Day & Time Wednesday 7:00pm - 9:45pm
Room JSOM 1.217

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor Jake Smith
Cell Phone 941-321-5671
Email Address jake.smith1@utdallas.edu
Office Location JSOM 13.301
Office Hours Friday 12:45pm - 1:45pm via [Microsoft Teams](#)

All times in this syllabus are Central Time

Course Modality and Expectations

Instructional Mode	Traditional
Course Platform	<p>In person at JSOM 1.217, virtually via Microsoft Teams, and asynchronously via Microsoft Stream.</p> <p>Please follow the instructions here to download Microsoft Teams: https://www.utdallas.edu/oit/howto/microsoft-teams/#installing-teams-for-mac-pc</p> <p>See the below link for instructions on how to attend lectures virtually using Microsoft Teams: https://dox.utdallas.edu/instruction1160</p> <p>For instructions on how to access recorded lectures in Microsoft Stream, see below: https://dox.utdallas.edu/instruction1159</p>
Asynchronous Learning Guidelines	<p>Students may opt to attend in-person lectures, attend the lectures virtually via Microsoft Teams, or view the recorded lectures. Attending the live lectures virtually or in person is recommended but not required. All assessments will be in eLearning, regardless of how you view the lectures. I will not keep track of who attends the class asynchronously. You may choose whatever format works for you.</p> <p>For more info on asynchronous access, see https://www.utdallas.edu/fall-2020/asynchronous-access-for-fall-2020/</p>

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Pre-requisites: FIN 3320; Pre- or Co-requisite: FIN 3390

Course Description

FIN 4310 integrates a variety of advanced topics in corporate financial decision making in examining the development of the financial strategy of the firm. Emphasis will be placed on the valuation of the firm and the impact of financial markets on corporate investment and financing decisions.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. Be able to value a firm using different methodologies.
2. Be able to analyze how financing decisions influence firm value.
3. Be able to solve complex corporate asset management problems.

Textbook

The following textbook is recommended but not required:

Financial Management, Concepts & Applications, Stephen Foerster (Pearson, 1st edition, 2015) ISBN 13: 9780132936644. Text ONLY.

Communication

Please ask all questions related to the course material via the discussion board. If you have a such a question, it's likely that other students have the same question. By posting your question on the discussion board, all students will benefit from the question and answer

If you have a personal or grade-related question, or any other question that would not be appropriate to post on the discussion board for everyone to see, then you can email me.

Lastly, if you there is an urgent matter that requires my immediate attention, you may call or text my cell phone.

Attendance

Attendance is recommended but not required. All lectures will be recorded to accommodate students who cannot or chose not to come to class.

Homework

I will assign homeworks on a weekly basis. These will be due the Tuesday before class at 11:59pm. They must be submitted in eLearning.

Homeworks submitted late but no more than 1 hour late will receive a 20% penalty. Homeworks submitted more than 1 hour late will not be accepted.

The lowest 2 homeworks will be dropped.

You may discuss the homeworks with your classmates, but each student must submit their own work.

Quizzes

I will assign quizzes on a bi-weekly basis. These will be due the Tuesday before class at 11:59pm. The purpose of the quizzes is to prepare you for the exams. The format of the quiz will be similar to the exam, except it will be shorter.

The time limit will be given in eLearning. Quizzes can be completed at any time until the due date. Late quizzes will not be accepted.

The lowest 2 quizzes will be dropped.

Exams

There will be three exams.

The time limit will be announced prior to the exam. Each exam must be completed at any time on the exam day. That is, you will have a 24-hour window to complete the exam.

Exam and Quiz Policies and Details

There will be multiple-choice, short-answer (calculation with work shown and/or essay), and “calculated numeric” questions. The “calculated numeric” questions will ask you to perform a calculation and enter the answer only. There will be no partial credit for multiple-choice or calculated numeric questions. Partial credit for short-answer questions will be awarded as appropriate.

Quizzes and Exams are open book and open notes. You will be able to use excel for calculations, and you can access course materials that have already been downloaded. You cannot use any online source, nor can you collaborate with other students. The only external device (aside from the device you’re using to take the test) you can use is a calculator. Graphing calculators and financial calculators are fine. You cannot use your phone as a calculator.

Quizzes and exams will be proctored using Honorlock—an online exam proctoring tool. Your webcam is recording you during your test or assessment, but no one is watching your exam in real time. Honorlock uses technology to monitor your session, and, if it senses that something is wrong, it will trigger a pop in by a live proctor. The proctor will assess the situation, help you get back on track, and document this for your instructor. After your test, exam proctors may review the exam session to look for any potential violations, and the recording will also be sent to your instructor along with any notes from our proctors.

To successfully take an exam, you must have a web camera with microphone, a laptop or desktop computer (no tablets/phones), Chrome browser, a reliable internet connection and your photo ID. You will be prompted to install the Honorlock Chrome Extension (which you can remove after you finish the test). You will then access the exam within your eLearning course and go through the authentication process. Your microphone and web camera will be used by Honorlock to monitor you throughout your test or assessment. YOUR ACTIVITIES ARE RECORDED WHILE YOU ARE LOGGED INTO OR TAKING YOUR ASSESSMENT(S). THE RECORDINGS SERVE AS A PROCTOR AND WILL BE REVIEWED AND USED IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN ACADEMIC INTEGRITY. Please see the [Testing Guidelines](#) and [Support Information](#) for additional information.

If, for whatever reason, you will not be able to take an exam on the scheduled date, please let me know as soon as possible. If you miss an exam due to an illness, a doctor's note is required. If you have no legitimate reason to miss an exam, then you will get a zero for that exam.

Grading Policy

Average homework grade (excluding 2 lowest)	20%
Average quiz grade (excluding 2 lowest)	20%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
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Total	100%

Your final score will be rounded to the nearest percent and assigned a letter grade as follows:

A+	97+
A	94-96
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	0-59

Tentative Schedule (Note: "Handout" refers to a set of slides that are not based on the book.)

Week	Date	Time	Description
1	19-Aug	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapters 1-3
2	25-Aug	11:59pm	Homework 1 Due
	26-Aug	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapters 4-5
3	1-Sep	11:59pm	Homework 2 Due
	1-Sep	11:59pm	Quiz 1 Due
	2-Sep	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 9
4	8-Sep	11:59pm	Homework 3 Due
	9-Sep	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 9
5	15-Sep	11:59pm	Quiz 2 Due
	16-Sep	7:00-9:45pm	Review
6	22-Sep	All Day	Exam 1: All prior material
	23-Sep	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Bankruptcy and financial distress handout and chapters 7-8
7	29-Sep	11:59pm	Homework 4 Due
	30-Sep	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 8
8	6-Oct	11:59pm	Homework 5 Due
	6-Oct	11:59pm	Quiz 3 Due
	7-Oct	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 10
9	13-Oct	11:59pm	Homework 6 Due
	14-Oct	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 11
10	20-Oct	11:59pm	Quiz 4 Due
	21-Oct	7:00-9:45pm	Review
11	27-Oct	11:59pm	Exam 2: All material after exam 1
	28-Oct	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 13
12	3-Nov	11:59pm	Homework 7 Due
	4-Nov	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Chapter 13
13	10-Nov	11:59pm	Homework 8 Due
	10-Nov	11:59pm	Quiz 5 Due
	11-Nov	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Leasing handout
14	17-Nov	11:59pm	Homework 9 Due
	18-Nov	7:00-9:45pm	Lecture: Mergers and acquisitions handout
15	24-Nov	11:59pm	Quiz 6 Due
	25-Nov	7:00-9:45pm	Review
Final Exam Week	12/2/2020	All Day	Exam 3: All material after exam 2

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s COVID-19 resources for students and instructors of record.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

Classroom Conduct Requirements Related to COVID-19

UT Dallas requires that all students must wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth in all university buildings and classrooms. To help protect the health and safety of students, instructors, and the University community, students who choose not to wear a face covering may not attend class in person but may attend a course remotely. Anyone attending class in person without a face covering will be asked to put one on or leave. Instructors may end the class if anyone present refuses to appropriately wear a face covering for the duration of class. Students should also be sure they are at least six feet away from their fellow students and faculty, and seated in a seat that is designated to ensure that distance. Students who either refuse to wear face coverings appropriately or to adhere to other social distancing protocols may face disciplinary action for [Student Code of Conduct](#) violations. Students who are unable to comply with the university policies including wearing a face covering should consult the [Comets United](#) webpage for further instructions.

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 or may have been exposed should not attend class in person and should instead follow required disclosure notifications as posted on the university’s website (see “[What should I do if I become sick?](#)” webpage)

Class Attendance

The University’s attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected regardless of modality. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes. These attendance requirements will not be used as part of grading (see Class Participation below for grading information).

In-person participation records may be used to assist the University or local public health authorities in performing COVID-19 occurrence monitoring. Please note – in-person attendance requires consistently adhering to University requirements, including wearing a face covering and other public safety

requirements related to COVID-19, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

The instructor may record meetings of this course. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Materials

The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.