

	Course	FIN 4390 Breaking Into Wall Street
	Instructor	Kannoo Ravindran (Ravi)
	Term	Spring 2025
	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Study • In Person Monthly Meetings • JSOM 3.423

Instructor's Contact Information

Mobile	515-401-3801
Office Location	JSOM 3.423
Email	kannoo.ravindran@utdallas.edu
Office Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By appointment or whenever you can catch me in person. • 3 pre-scheduled in-person meetings in Feb/Mar/Apr
Other Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email me if you have any issues/questions and I will respond within 24 hours. • All emails must come from a registered UTD email account. • Emails sent from non UTD account will not receive any replies. • If you do not receive any response to your email within 24 hours or need to connect with me urgently, please MESSAGE me at my mobile number (and not AT ANY OTHER NUMBER). When messaging me, please tell me your name and the course you are in and the purpose of the text (including how quickly I need to get back to you by)

General Course Information

Course Description	This course utilizes Breaking Into Wall Street ("BIWS") learning software – an online Excel and financial modeling course. The purpose of the course is to prepare students for a Wall Street career by teaching students details associated with valuation of companies. More precisely, key skills required for interviews, internships, and entry-level jobs in investment banking – examples of which include accounting, financial statement analysis, 3-statement models, equity value and enterprise value, valuation and DCF analysis, M&A and merger models, LBO models, and credit analysis.
Learning Outcomes	At the end of the course, students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build a 3-statement model starting from a blank Excel sheet, • value a company, • build a Discount Cashflow model, • complete M&A and LBO models based on templates and companies' annual reports .
Required Text	<i>Breaking Into Wall Street – Core Financial Modeling</i>
Supplemental Resources & Articles	Students are expected to do their own online research/readings including use of widely available search engines/tools (e.g. Chat GPT) to help answer any concerns

<p style="text-align: center;">Class Schedule</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since this is an independent study course, students are expected to set out their own pace so as to finish ALL 13 modules and comfortably write the BIWS Certification Exam. • To ensure students remain on track, monthly 30-minute 1-on-1 face-to-face meetings need to be set up by students with the instructor ASAP for the months of February/March/April. • To help with the process of this self-study, students are expected to be done with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Modules 1/2/3/4 before the 1st face-to-face meeting ○ Modules 5/6/7/8 before the 2nd face-to-face meeting ○ Modules 9/10/11/12 before the 3rd face-to-face meeting <p>Please note that the above is just a suggested schedule. Students are encouraged to work at a faster pace if their work/study attitude allows for a faster progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the responsibility of the student to keep to all the pre-arranged meeting times unless there is a documentary evidence requiring the need to change the pre-set appointment date due to an extenuating circumstance.
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Course Policies

<p style="text-align: center;">Assessment Composition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The course will be graded as follows: Breaking Into Wall Street Certification Exam 100% • Certification Exam Details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students are expected to complete all the 13 modules so as to help them write the certification exam offered by Breaking Into Wall Street ○ Students are allowed to write the Certification Exam as many times as they wish throughout the course. ○ Only the best of the 5 attempts at the Certification Exam during the period 1 May 2025 (0001 hours) – 5 May 2025 (1700 hours) will be used as a final grade of the course. ○ In the instance that less than 5 attempts have been made during this period of time, the best of the made attempts would be used as a final grade of the course. • Unless there is an extenuating circumstance (supported by proper legitimate documentation), no exceptions will be made for missing the deadlines or attempting the Certification Exam less than 5 times. In the event of such an extenuating circumstance, students need to immediately send me a message informing me of such (i.e. not wait until the exam taking window has ended).
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<p style="text-align: center;">Grading</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All grades will be posted on elearning. While the course will follow UTD's grading policy standards, the following conversion scheme will be used to convert your final scores to letter grades: <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Letter Grade</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Percent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">A+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[97²/₃, 100]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">A</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[93¹/₃, 97²/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">A-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[90, 93¹/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">B+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[87²/₃, 90)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">B</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[83¹/₃, 87²/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">B-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[80, 83¹/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">C+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[77²/₃, 80)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">C</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[73¹/₃, 77²/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">C-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[70, 73¹/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">D+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[67²/₃, 70)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">D</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[63¹/₃, 67²/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">D-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">[60, 63¹/₃)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">F</td> <td style="text-align: center;">< 60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>APPEALS: All mark appeals (for both assignments/in-class exams) must be done within 48 hours from the moment marks are posted on elearning.</p>	Letter Grade	Percent	A+	[97 ² / ₃ , 100]	A	[93 ¹ / ₃ , 97 ² / ₃)	A-	[90, 93 ¹ / ₃)	B+	[87 ² / ₃ , 90)	B	[83 ¹ / ₃ , 87 ² / ₃)	B-	[80, 83 ¹ / ₃)	C+	[77 ² / ₃ , 80)	C	[73 ¹ / ₃ , 77 ² / ₃)	C-	[70, 73 ¹ / ₃)	D+	[67 ² / ₃ , 70)	D	[63 ¹ / ₃ , 67 ² / ₃)	D-	[60, 63 ¹ / ₃)	F	< 60
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<p style="text-align: center;">Final Grade Calculation</p>	<p><u>Grades will not be "rounded up". For example, if you earn a 79.9, your grade is C+. The grades you earn are what are posted.</u></p> <p>Professor reserves the right to make extra credit opportunities available to the whole class.</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Examination Policy</p>	<p>Cheating is a violation of the rules and will not be condoned at UT Dallas. The use or attempted use of any internet searches, information shared by others, materials, resources, and/or study aids, etc. during quizzes is cheating. While there may be significant motivating factors to some, to the student with personal honor and integrity, they are not sufficient to jeopardize a higher education investment. https://www.utdallas.edu/conduct/dishonesty/</p>																												

Others:

Materials

There is no need to pay for the access to the course materials. Please note that you will have lifetime access to the materials - even if you are no longer at UTD.

While the PPF program only covers the expenses associated with the Core Financial Modeling. You are free to subscribe to other modules that interest you at your own expense. However, before doing so, please check with me to see if I can get you a discount on your subscriptions of interest.

Please note that the materials you download should not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved AccessAbility Resource Center accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Attendance

There will be three 30-minute face-to-face meetings in February/March/April that you need to set up with me ASAP. Once set, you are expected to stick with the dates/times for the meetings unless you have documented evidence of an extenuating circumstance needing a change. You are always welcome to reach out if you need to chat with me (or need help) more frequently than the minimum total of 3 in-person meetings.

Certification

Any student getting more than 90% in any attempt of the certification exam, would automatically receive a certificate from Breaking Into Wallstreet (which can/should) be used in your resume – to bolster your standing.

Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the AccessAbility Resource Center 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 AccessAbility Resource Center accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Classroom Citizenship

UTD JSOM is a top-rated business school. The course environment is managed with the expectations, behaviors, protocols and governance of a business professional environment.

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

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

The information (including times/dates) contained in this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.