

Course Syllabus

FIN6301-0W1 – U15

The University of Texas at Dallas

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Course Information

Course

Course Number Section	FIN6301-0W1
Course Title	Financial Management
Term and Dates	Summer 2015 (May 27 – August 8)

Professor Contact Information

Professor	Amal El-Ashmawi
Office Phone	972-883-5883
Email Address	a.el-ashmawi@utdallas.edu
Office Location	JSOM 14.409
Online Office Hours	By appointment
Other Information	Best method to contact me is through course discussion board or eLearning course message system. I do not check my voice mail often, so please do not rely on leaving a voice message. If you have an issue that needs to be addressed over the phone, send me a message through eLearning to set up a time to call or meet.

About the Instructor

Prof. El-Ashmawi has taught finance courses for over 30 years at UTD and UTA. She has also worked in the financial and corporate fields in various roles.

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

Pre-/Corequisite: OPRE 6301; AND Pre-/Corequisite: ACCT 6201; OR Pre-/Corequisite ACCT 6305.

Course Description

Theoretical and procedural consideration in the administration of finance function in the individual business firm; planning, fundraising, controlling of firm finances; capital budgeting and cost of capital.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- 1) Student will be able to apply time value of money concepts to various financial planning and valuation problems.
- 2) Students will be able to analyze strategic investments in real and financial assets using various methodologies

- 3) Student will be able to describe what derive a firm's cost of capital and how to estimate it.
- 4) Student will be able to use spreadsheets in solving a variety of problems related to financial planning and capital budgeting

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Text:

Available in hardcover, Kindle edition, Loose Leaf and eBook.

Corporate Finance; McGraw-Hill/Irwin; 10th ed., by Ross, Westerfield and Jaffe. (with Connect access code*)

Option (a)

Purchase, or rent the book with McGraw-Hill Connect Plus Access card. (ISBN: 978-0077753856)

Option (b)

Purchase the book (new or used) without the access card (ISBN 978-0078034770), then purchase Connect access code from McGraw-Hill at:

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-elashmawi-summer-15-online>

Option (c)

Purchase the Connect Plus code from McGraw Hill at:

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-elashmawi-summer-15-online>

This option includes access to the entire textbook online via an eBook for 5 months and 27 days.

Option (c) is the recommended option since it will direct you to the relevant material in the eBook while working on your assignments.

McGraw Hill Connect offers a 3 weeks free trial. If you decide to utilize this free trial, please make sure you register for the paid version, using the same email address you registered under for the free trial, before end of the 3 weeks. If you do not do so your assignments and quiz scores may be lost.

If in doubt about the required book, please contact me.

*"**Connect**" is online software that allows students to submit homework assignments and take quizzes on line. **Access to McGraw-Hill Connect is required for this course.**

Link to "Connect" is available on eLearning system.

In deciding to use "Connect" in this course I had several objectives in mind among them is to save you money. The eBook will cost you considerably less than the hard copy of the book. The second objective is to allow you access to ample practice through the assignments and the ability to check and review your work.

Calculator:

I will be working with students on using the TI BA II PLUS. (You may also use HP 10 BII or 12c).

If you have access to MS Excel and feel comfortable using spreadsheets instead of a financial calculator you may do so.

Course Policies

Make-up exams

Contact the instructor at least a week before a quiz, if you have a valid reason.

Extra Credit

N/A

Late Work

Generally not accepted.

Class Participation

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in eLearning to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as the discussion board.

Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the professor.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The university is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UTD eLearning Help Desk:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>, 1-866-588-3192. The instructor and the UTD eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

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Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important [technical requirements](#) on the [Getting Started with eLearning webpage](#).

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Course Access and Navigation

This course was developed using a web course tool called eLearning. It is to be delivered entirely online. Students will use their UTD NetID account to login at: <http://elearning.utdallas.edu>. Please see more details on [course access and navigation information](#).

To get familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#).

UTD provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Support Center:
<http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>.

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Communications

This eLearning course has built-in communication tools which will be used for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [eLearning Tutorials webpage](#) for video demonstrations on numerous tools in eLearning.

Interaction with Instructor

The instructor will communicate with students mainly using the Announcements and Discussions tools. Students may send personal concerns or questions to the instructor using eLearning course message tool. The instructor will reply to student emails or Discussion board messages within 3 working days under normal circumstances. Please note that you will get a faster response by using eLearning messages which I also prefer over emails.

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Student Resources

The following university resources are available to students:

UTD Distance Learning:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/cstudents.htm>

McDermott Library:

Distance Learners (UTD students who live outside the boundaries of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Rockwall, or Tarrant counties) will need a UTD-ID number to access all of the library's electronic resources (reserves, journal articles, ebooks, interlibrary loan) from off campus. For UTD students living within those counties who are taking online courses, a Comet Card is required to check out materials at the McDermott Library. For more information on library resources go to <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/distlearn/disted.htm>.

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Student Assessments

Grading Information

Weights

Assignments (1-8) 5% each	40%
Comprehensive Problem (Assignment 9)	6%
Quizzes (4 quizzes) 10% each	40%
Participation/Online Discussions (Minimum of 9 meaningful posts. Multiple posts to same topic will count as one post)	14%
Total	100%

Multiple assignments and quizzes are intended to keep you on track, giving you a chance to improve your grade throughout the semester, and avoid assessing your performance in the class based on few very heavily weighted exams.

Grading Scale

Scaled Score	Letter Equivalent
90% - 100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
Less than 70%	F

Accessing Grades

Students can check their grades by logging in to their “Connect” account and/or clicking “My Grades” on the course menu after the grade for each assessment task is released.

Assignments

You can access your assignment 1- 8 by logging in to your McGraw-Hill “Connect” account.

Problems included in your assignments are chosen by me but the numbers in each problem will be algorithmically generated by McGraw-Hill Connect giving each student a unique set of the same basic problems. You will also be permitted to check the correctness of your answers before submission by clicking on “check my work” link.

Since assignments are intended to test your understanding and comprehension of the topics covered in the lecture, track your progress in the class, give you an indication of your standing in class, and prepare you for the quizzes, it is highly recommended that you complete and turn them in by the due date indicated on the academic calendar. Once you submit an assignment, you will be able to view a file with the solution and explanation of each problem. This is extremely helpful in keeping you on track and preparing you for the quizzes.

To be eligible for maximum credit, assignments must be submitted before midnight by the due date indicated on the academic calendar. Assignments submitted past the due day and time will be assessed a penalty of 5% per day. An assignment that is one minute late automatically be assessed the full 5% penalty by the system.

It is to your benefit to work all the assignments and submit them on time. This is the best practice you can get and will also allow you access to the solutions.

A 9th and final comprehensive problem will be assigned at end of the course. This assignment should be submitted no later than midnight on the due date, indicated on the calendar, by uploading your work using the “Assignment” link on the course menu. It should be submitted in a single file formatted as **“Word” document** using your last name as the file name and formatted to print on 8-1/2 x 11 papers with **your name printed on top of the attached document.** If you want to submit your work in excel you can do embedding your excel file in word document

Assignments submission instructions

Assignment 1 – 8 should be submitted through your McGraw-Hill Connect account.

For the 9th and final comprehensive assignment: Assignment will be posted to eLearning on the last week of the semester. You will submit your assignments in the required file format with a simple file name and a file extension as described in the previous section. To submit your assignment, click the assignment name link and follow the on-screen instructions to upload and submit your file. For additional information on how to submit assignments, view the [Submitting An Assignment video tutorial](#).

Please Note: Each assignment eLearning link will be deactivated after the assignment due time. After your submission is graded, you may go to My Grades on the course menu and click the score link to check the results and feedback.

Participation/Discussions

Students are required to [login regularly to the eLearning online class site](#). I will use the tracking feature in eLearning to monitor student activity. You are also required to participate in discussion board activity on a timely manner, including the “[Personal statement](#)” as described later in the syllabus.

Each student is required to actively participate in the [Assignment discussion board](#). This is intended to encourage interaction with your classmates and instructor. Meaningful participation in the assignment discussion board includes, but not limited to, providing help to your fellow students by responding to their questions. Since assignments are algorithmically generated by McGraw Hill Connect, all students in the course will have the same basic problems with different set of numbers. Because of this your participation will include discussing methods of solving the problems rather than the final answers. Posts related to assignments past their due date will not count.

Although I expect each student to contribute to assignment discussions on a regular basis, I do not expect each student to post a solution to every problem or that each student will contribute to the discussion of every assignment.

Although I am pleased to communicate with students directly by phone or email, comments about homework problems should generally be shared with your fellow students by using the assignment discussion board.

You can also earn credit by participating in the [practice problem discussion board](#), which is related to practice problems (self-test problems) included at the end of each section in the PowerPoint presentations. Solutions to those self-test problems will be posted after each module is completed.

The [Current and relevant topics discussion board](#) provides a forum for discussions concerning the general application of the tools and techniques covered in the course to practical problems.

From time to time, I will post links to papers or articles related to the material covered in the course. My intent is for students to share and discuss their ideas and thoughts concerning the application of the course content. Please note that multiple posts, by a student, to the same topic will count as one post for the purpose of class credit and that each topic will have a deadline after which students will not be able to post to.

Please avoid posting vacuous replies such as “I agree”, “that’s what I got”, or “let’s see what the professor has to say” these types of posts will not earn you credit.

In order to earn maximum credit, your posts have to be meaningful, on time and corresponding to topics of the week.

If you make a total of 9 such timely posts, to the above three categories, during the semester, and complete your personal statement by due date, you should expect to receive full credit for participation.

Personal statement (due before midnight June 1st)

On the Personal Statement Discussion Topic, please provide the following:

- 1) Name
- 2) Degree Program (online MBA, on-campus MBA, MS ...etc.)
- 3) City and country of residence
- 4) Employer and job (if applicable)
- 5) Your professional aspiration
- 6) What you hope to get out of this course.
- 7) Something interesting, or not, you would to share with us about yourself. (optional)

The personal statement helps students get to know each other and assist the instructor in knowing her audience.

Online Tests/Quizzes

There will be four quizzes on the dates provided below. You will have to take these quizzes using McGraw-Hill “Connect” system. They will consist of multiple choice questions and you are to choose the one best answer. You can access quizzes by logging in to your “Connect” account. Each quiz is timed and can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click “start assessment” the quiz cannot be paused once started and I will not reopen quizzes after being closed.

Quiz 1 Window Saturday 6/20- Sunday 6/21

Quiz 2 Window Saturday 7/4 - Sunday 7/5

Quiz 3 Window Saturday 7/18 - Sunday 7/19

Quiz 4 Window Friday 8/7- Saturday 8/8

All quizzes are due before midnight on the date indicated above. There are no make-ups or extra credit opportunities. If you know in advance that there will be an unavoidable conflict, please let me know and we will try to work something out. I will not consider a change after the start date of the quiz.

Academic Calendar

Dates	Lecture /Module	Topic	Assigned Readings	Assessment/ Activity	Assessment DUE DATE
5/27	Course Access and Self-Orientation			Personal Statement	6/1
6/1-6/7	Module 0*	Introduction* And Review of accounting concepts Register with McGraw-Hill Connect	Chapter 1-3	Orientation Assignment Available on Connect (Not for credit)	6/7
6/8-6/14	Module 1	Time Value of Money	Chapter 4	Assignment 1	6/14
6/15-6/21	Module 2	Time Value of Money and Financial Planning	Chapter 4	Assignment 2 Quiz 1 (Module 1-2)	6/21 6/20-6/21
6/22-6/28	Module 3	Bonds and their Valuation	Chapter 8	Assignment 3	6/28
6/29-7/5	Module 4	Stocks and their Valuation	Chapter 9	Assignment 4 Quiz 2 (Module 3-4)	7/5 7/4-7/5
7/6-7/12	Module 5	Capital Budgeting Techniques	Chapter 5	Assignment 5	7/12

7/13-7/19	Module 6	Capital Budgeting – Cash Flow	Chapter 6	Assignment 6 Quiz 3 (Module 5-6)	7/19 7/18-7/19
7/20-7/26	Module 7	Risk Analysis and CAPM	Chapters 10 and 11	Assignment 7	7/26
7/27-8/2	Module 8	Cost of Capital	Chapter 13	Assignment 8	8/2
8/3-8/8	Comprehensive Problem	Discussion and Comprehensive problem		Assignment 9 Quiz 4 (Module 7-8)	Comprehensive assignment due before midnight 8/7 8/7-8/8 (Friday and Saturday)

* **Module 0** “introduction” includes PowerPoint slides without narration. This is intended as a review of the basic concepts and financial statements that you have previously studied and are expected to be familiar with.

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Scholastic Honesty

The University has policies and discipline procedures regarding scholastic dishonesty. Detailed information is available on the [UTD Judicial Affairs](#) web page. All students are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility with respect to academic honesty. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

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Course Evaluation

As required by UTD academic regulations, every student must complete an evaluation for each enrolled

course at the end of the semester. A link to an online instructional assessment form will be emailed to you for your confidential use.

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University Policies

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.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

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