

Course Syllabus
ACCT 6344
Financial Statement Analysis

The University of Texas at Dallas

[Course Info](#) | [Tech Requirements](#) | [Access & Navigation](#) | [Communications](#) | [Resources](#)
[Assessments](#) | [Academic Calendar](#) | [Scholastic Honesty](#) | [Course Evaluation](#) | [UTD Policies](#)

Course Information

Course

Course Number Section	ACCT 6344
Course Title	Financial Statement Analysis
Term and Dates	2015 Fall

Professor Contact Information

Professor	Dr. Umit G. Gurun
Office Phone	972-8835917
Email Address	umit.gurun@utdallas.edu
Office Location	SOM 4813
Online Office Hours	Wednesday 9:30-11:15
Other Information	Please communicate your questions via elearning.

About the Instructor

Dr. Gurun is an associate professor and has been teaching at University of Texas at Dallas for 10 years. He teaches financial statement analysis and investment courses at UTD. He was a visiting faculty at University of Texas at Austin (2010-2011) and Harvard University (2014). His research interests include disclosure strategies of firms to communicate investors using financial statement analysis.

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

ACCT 6201 or equivalent. The quantitative aspects of the course will require only elementary computational skills; however a calculator and/or some spreadsheet knowledge will be required. I assume that you are familiar with basic finance/accounting concepts (such as definitions of debit/credit, balance sheet/income statement etc.) and have introduction level of accounting knowledge.

Course Description

Analysis of financial statements for evaluating firm performance and risk. Topics include interpretation of financial statements and footnotes, managers' incentives for earnings manipulation, comparative analysis of firms, and ethics in financial reporting.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

This course provides you with a framework for business analysis and valuation using financial statement data. The focus is on integrating key concepts from accounting, economics, finance, and strategy areas and applying them to financial decision-making. You can expect to develop the following skills: (1) extract relevant information from financial statements and other disclosures to see the underlying business activities and strategy, (2) assess firm performance and risk, (3) assess managerial strategic motives in reporting financial information and ways to adjust for such motives, (4) forecast firm future performance, (5) value the firm or project.

By the end of the course students should have answers to the following questions:

- How are fundamental values (or “intrinsic values”) estimated?
- How is “value created for shareholders” identified?
- What is the relevance of cash-flows? Of earnings? Of book values?
- How does profitability tie into valuation?
- What is growth? How does one analyze growth?
- How does one analyze the quality of financial reports?
- How does one deal with the accounting methods used in financial statements?

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts

- "Financial Statement Analysis & Valuation" by Peter Easton, Mary Lea McAnally, Patricia Fairfield, Xiao-Jun Zhang, and Robert Halsey. 4rd edition (ISBN: 978-1-61853-104-9)
- The book is available at the UTD bookstore and this website:
<http://www.cambridgepub.com/product/book/financial-statement-analysis-valuation-4th>
Make sure that the book you purchase has “mybusinesscourse” package.

Required Materials

- You will also need to get access to “mybusinesscourse”, the book’s website that contains several course materials we will utilize throughout the course. To access to this site, please do the following:
 - Go to <https://mybusinesscourse.com/?code=1981-93767>
 - Create a username/password. **Make sure that your username is your NETID.**
 - Pick one of the purchase options for the online access.
 - mybusinesscourse will contain quizzes and video solutions to some of the end of chapter problems.

Other Suggested Course Materials

- Financial Statement Analysis and Security Valuation Hardcover – by Stephen Penman
- Financial Statement Analysis Hardcover – by K. R. Subramanyam
- The Intelligent Investor: The Definitive Book on Value Investing. A Book of Practical Counsel, by Benjamin Graham
- The Essays of Warren Buffett: Lessons for Corporate America, by Warren E. Buffett (Author), Lawrence A. Cunningham

Course Policies

Make-up exams

No make up exam will be given unless a proper document is provided (such a doctor’s report) to explain the unanticipated absences.

Late Work

Late work will get no credit.

Extra Credit / Special Assignments

None.

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 discussion board, chat or conference sessions. Class participation will count 10% towards your end of semester grade.

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.

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](#).

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>.

Communications

This eLearning course has built-in communication tools which will be used for interaction and communication.

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 the course email

tool. The instructor will reply to student emails or Discussion board messages within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

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/distance.html>.

[Top](#)

Student Assessments

Grading Information

Weights

Exam 1	45%
Exam 2	45%
Participation	10%

Grading Scale

Scaled Score	Letter Equivalent
95-100	A
90-94	A-
85-89	B+
80-84	B
75-79	B-
70-74	C+
65-69	C
60-64	C- (for UG only)
50-59	D+ /D/D- (for UG only)
Less than 50	F

Grading Policy

10% of the course grade will be given based on participation under elearning. I will utilize textbook's supplementary materials under mybusinesscourse.com to prepare and disseminate weekly quizzes. These quizzes will not be graded however they will constitute the base for discussion board issues as well as office hour discussions.

Accessing Grades

Students can check their grades by clicking "My Grades" on the course menu after the grade for each assessment task is released.

Assignments

Weekly quizzes provided under mybusinesscourse.com

Group Projects

None

Proctored Exam Information

This course requires three proctored exams. Local students can now take their exams on-campus at the **UTD Student Success Center - Testing Center** (no fee charge) during **(First Exam: October 12-13-14 ; Second Exam: December 7-8-9)**. Please see the [UTD Student Success Center - Testing Center Website](#) for more information and check the hours of operation and testing center policies. Please be sure to view and follow the [Test Center Student Guidelines](#). Students can just walk in to the UTD Testing Center to take the exam during the required exam test window as specified. There is no need to submit any paper work in advance. The UTD Testing Center is located at the McDermott Library basement (**Room MC 1.304**). When you arrive to take your exam, you will sign in with your **Comet Card** (or a **photo ID & UTD ID number** if you do not have a Comet Card). The testing center seats are available on a first come, first served basis. You're encouraged to take the exam at early part of the test window to avoid any possible time/seating unavailability.

Students who find UTD geographically inconvenient may use a testing service of their choice at a convenient location to have the exam proctored. All exams must be completed within required exam time windows disclosed above. All students must inform the instructor. A proctored exam application **must** be completed before **the last day disclosed above**. Please go to the [Proctored Exam Information](#) page to check out **Procedures for Arranging an Individual Proctored Exam** and to access and complete the **Online Proctored Exam application**. Please note students are responsible for any fee charge of their testing services. All completed exams must be received by **(Date)** to allow timely grade reporting to the UTD Registrar.

The UTD Testing Center requests all students strictly follow the proctored exam scheduling deadlines. If any student needs special accommodations, please seek the instructor's approval in advance. If you have any questions about using either UTD or outside testing center service, please email TestingCenter@utdallas.edu.

Academic Calendar

Week	Week of	Module	Lecture Note	Assesment	Weight
1	08/24/15	1	1	Quiz 1	
2	08/31/15	2	2	Quiz 2	
3	Labor Day	3	3	Quiz 3	
4	09/14/15	4	4	Quiz 4	
5	09/21/15	5	5	Quiz 5	
6	09/28/15	6	6	Quiz 6	
7	10/05/15	7	7	Quiz 7	
8	10/12/15			Exam I	45%
9	10/19/15	8	8	Quiz 8	
10	10/26/15	9	9	Quiz 9	
11	11/02/15	10	10	Quiz 10	
12	11/09/15	11,12	11,12	Quiz 11,12	
13	11/16/15	13,14	13,14	Quiz 13,14	
14	11/23/15	Fall Break	Fall Break		
15	11/30/15	14,15	14,15	Quiz 15	
15	12/07/15			Exam II	45%

[Top](#)

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.

[Top](#)

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.

[Top](#)

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.

[Top](#)