


Course Syllabus

	Course	FIN 3320.002
	Professor	James R. Richards, CFA
	Term	Spring 16
	Meetings	Monday/Wednesday 1:00 to 2:15 P.M. in JSOM 2.903

Professor's Contact Information

Office Phone	214-533-6822
Other Phone	
Office Location	JSOM 14.329
Email Address	james.richards@utdallas.edu and jrichards@texasbusinesscapital.net
Office Hours	Make sure to include your class and section number on any emails Tuesday/Thursday 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. or by appointment.

General Course Information

Pre-requisites	Math 1326, Math 2333, AIM 2301
Co-requisites	STAT 3360
Course Description	This course introduces concepts and analytical techniques to identify and solve financial management problems. It serves as the basis for all other courses in the area of finance as well as providing those basic tools that every business student will need to be successful in her/his chosen career. Those students majoring in business administration and accounting, as well as those going further in the study of finance, will find this material an essential part of their business education. Regardless of the student's chosen career, these tools and techniques will provide the foundation for making personal financial decisions.
Learning Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be able to apply time value of money concepts to various valuation problems. 2. Be able to describe what drives a firm's cost of capital and how to estimate it. 3. Be able to analyze investments in real and financial assets using various methodologies.
Required Texts & Materials	<p>Ross, <i>Fundamentals of Corporate Finance</i>, Standard 11th edition, included in McGraw-Hill Connect and Learn Smart: ISBN: 978007786170-4 Available at https://connect.mheducation.com/class/j-richards-spring-16-fin-3320002</p> <p>Note that there are four (4) options and the least expensive option (option 1) includes Connect Plus and Learn Smart. Learn Smart includes a digital copy of the textbook. Both are required and the package price for the two of them, Connect and Learn Smart (the digital book) is \$125.00.</p> <p>Connect is an online software that allows students to submit homework assignments and check their work on line. Access to McGraw-Hill Connect and Learn Smart is required for this course.</p>
Suggested Texts, Readings & Materials	
Practice Problems	Practice problems from the end-of-chapter problems sets are assigned as Homework Sets in the section below. We will go over some of these in class. These will be done on McGraw-Hill Connect graded by the Connect Plus system. Each of the Homework Sets for chapters covered by each exam should be completed by exam day.

Calculators	<p>For this course's exams, you are allowed to use any calculator that you prefer except for any calculator that (i) resides on a smart phone and/or (ii) has wireless access to the internet. Also, if you use a programmable calculator (e.g., TI-83 Plus or TI-84), you are <u>not allowed to use the calculator's programming features</u>. An exam proctor will monitor calculators before (or during) each exam to be sure that they comply with this rule; if a calculator is not compliant, the proctor has the authority to remove the calculator from further use on that exam. Please do not risk having to incur the consequences. If you plan to use an unfamiliar, obscure type of calculator, you should check with your instructor any time to see whether it meets the above rules. Time-value-of-money material in this course will be taught to you in two ways: (1) using five fundamental math equations and (2) using financial-function keys on a calculator. If you master either approach, you are well-equipped to be successful in this course" mastering both approaches makes you even more competent. Your course instructor is required to be fluent in the financial functions for only calculators that are made by Texas Instruments and contain financial functions (e.g., TI BA II Plus and Plus Professional, TI-83 Plus, TI 84 Plus, TI-86, etc.). If you choose to use the financial functions on any calculator that is not of the Texas Instruments brand, you are required to learn these keys on your own. Any common calculator will have a user's manual, as well as tutorials on YouTube for how to use it. SUGGESTION: If you use a TI BA II Plus (or Plus Professional), you will be wise to change the order of operation on your calculator, so that the keystrokes "2 + 3 x 4" yield 14 (and not 20) or so that "6 + 3 ^ 2" yields 15 (and not 81!). Also, you also almost certainly want to re-program your calculator so that it reports results to five or six decimals (as opposed to two).</p>
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THE CALENDAR SHOWN BELOW IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Date	Learn Smart Chapters	Problems and Exams
11-Jan	Introduction	
13-Jan	Chapters 5	Homework Chapter 5
Jan 20 and 25	Chapter 2	Homework Chapter 2
Jan 27 Feb 1	Chapter 3	Homework Chapter 3
3-Feb	Managing Your Balance Sheet	
Feb 8 and 10	Chapter 6	Homework Chapter 6
15-Feb	Catch up and Review	
17-Feb	1,2,3,5,6	Review and Exam One
Feb 22 and 24	Chapters 7 and 8	Homework Chapter 7
Feb 29 Mar 2	Chapters 8 and 9	Homework Chapter 8
Mar 7 and 9	Chapters 9 and 10	Homework Chapters 9 and 10
Mar 14 and 16	Spring Break	
21-Mar	Catch up and Review	
23-Mar	7,8,9,10	Exam Two
Mar 28 and 30	Chapters 11 and 12	Homework Chapter 11
Apr 4 and 6	Chapters 12 and 13	Homework Chapter 12
Apr 11 and 13	Chapters 13 and 14	Homework Chapter 13
18-Apr	Chapter 14	Homework Chapter 14
20-Apr	11,12,13,14	Exam Three
Apr 25 and 27	Review	
7-May	Comprehensive	Uniform Final Exam - Davidson Auditorium (JSOM 1.108) Time TBA

Course & University Policies

Grading (credit) Criteria	<p>Problems on McGraw-Hill Connect will be worth 10%, Readings and exercises on Learn Smart will be worth 10%, each of the first three exams will be worth 19 % and the final exam will be worth 25%. The Homework Sets and Learn Smart are an excellent way to master the material. Students may drop one of the first three exams and replace that grade with your final exam grade. All students are required to take the final exam. A typical scale will be used for assigning letter grades: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, and below 60 = F.</p>
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Course Syllabus

Final Grade Policy	You will be given several opportunities to achieve the grade that you may require, want or need. Homework and Learn Smart (each 10% of final grade) is a completion grade. Do the work and you will get 100% credit. If you make a higher grade on your final exam than on one of your first three exams, I will substitute your higher final exam grade (as curved) for the lower grade on either exam one, two or three. That said, your final grade will be your final grade, notwithstanding any scholarship, graduate school admittance, ability to take a course or financial aid requirements.
Make-up Exams	Should you miss any of the first three exams for any approved and validated reason, your final exam grade will be in place of the missed exam. See below if you miss the Uniform Final Exam. Approved absences: Death of a close relative, serious illness (you), religious events, or participation in a University of Texas at Dallas sanctioned athletic event (with advance notice). All absences must be documented by a third-party in order to be validated. Documentation must be written and must be received by me no later than ten days after the missed exam.
Uniform Final Exam	The final exam will be a uniform finance department final exam on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at a time to be announced. There is no makeup and you will not be allowed to bring backpacks, bags, books, cell phones, laptops, notebooks, scratch paper, calculators that store text such as graphing calculators...etc. to the exam. See Calculators section for admissible calculators. You will have to bring pencil, eraser, financial calculator (see above), scantron form 882-E and a photo ID (UTD issued, state drivers license or passport). Students will not be able to take the exam without a photo ID. Emergencies such as hospitalization, car wrecks on the way to the test, etc. will have to be substantiated by supporting documents and in these cases the students will receive an incomplete in the course and will take the exam during a common hour sitting during the next semester. There will be no exceptions. Place Davidson Auditorium JSOM 1.108.
Late Work	Late work will not be accepted except under the same criteria and documentation requirements for a missed exam.
Class Attendance	Your attendance and participation in class discussion is expected in this class. You should be prepared to intelligently discuss the topic of the day when called on (and you will be called upon), and you should feel free to volunteer your thoughts and questions during the class. All material assigned or discussed is fair game for examinations. It behooves you to both read the assignments in the books and <u>attend class regularly</u> .
Classroom Citizenship	You may not use or even turn on any cell phones, messaging devices, pagers, audio players, video players, sound recorders, video cameras, headphones, or any other electronic devices during class time. Visits outside of the classroom during class time are strongly discouraged. You may use a laptop computer in class for note taking or working problems.
Field Trip Policies	No field trips are planned.
Student Conduct & Discipline	<p>The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, <i>A to Z Guide</i>, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.</p> <p>The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the <i>Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part I, Chapter VI, Section 3</i>, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).</p> <p>A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.</p>

Course Syllabus

Academic Integrity	<p>The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.</p> <p>Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.</p> <p>Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.</p>
Email Use	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.</p>
Withdrawal from Class	<p>The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled</p>
Student Grievance Procedures	<p>Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>.</p> <p>In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the deal will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.</p> <p>Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations</p>
Incomplete Grades	<p>As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.</p>
	<p>The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)</p>

Course Syllabus

Disability Services	<p>Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.</p> <p>It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.</p>
Religious Holy Days	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.</p> <p>The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.</p> <p>If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.</p>
Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities	<p>Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.</p>

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