

## *Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

FIN 4310-001 Intermediate Business Finance  
Fall 2016  
Monday and Wednesday 10:00 – 11:15 pm  
JSOM 2.802

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### **Professor Contact Information**

Jennifer R. Murray 214-435-7428  
[Jrm160330@utdallas.edu](mailto:Jrm160330@utdallas.edu)  
Office hours: Monday 11:30-1:30 or by appointment  
JSOM 14.507

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

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

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### **Course Description**

FIN 4310 integrates a variety of advanced topics in corporate financial decision making and the development of strategy. Emphasis will be placed on value creation and real-world financial tools and examples.

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### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

1. Be able to value a firm using different methodologies
  2. Be able to analyze different financing decisions and the impact they may have on value
  3. Be able to solve complex corporate asset management problems
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### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

*Financial Management, Theory and Practice*, Brigham & Erhardt (Southwestern, Cengage Learning 14<sup>th</sup> edition, 2014) **ISBN 978-1-111-97221-9**  
Financial Calculator, such as the HP-12C or the TI BAII Plus  
Handouts

### **Suggested Course Materials / Readings**

Other financial periodicals, such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *Barron's*, *The Economist*, and *The Financial Times*.

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### Assignments & Academic Calendar – Subject to Change

Week	Topic	Readings	Dates
1	Course Intro/ Overview of Financial Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapters 1 and 2</li> <li>Review Term Project Criteria</li> </ul>	8/22 – 8/24
2	Cash Flow, Taxes, and Financial Statement Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 3 and 16</li> </ul>	8/29 – 8/31
3	Bond Valuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Labor Day</b></li> <li>Read Chapter 5</li> </ul>	9/5 - 9/7
4	Bond / Stock Valuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 7</li> <li>Quiz Likely – 9/12 on bond valuation</li> <li>Submit Term Project Company choice (9/14)</li> </ul>	9/12 – 9/14
5	<b>Exam 1</b> / Cost of Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Exam 1 – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 16 (9/19)</b></li> <li>Read Chapter 9</li> </ul>	9/19 – 9/21
6	Capital Budgeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 10 and 11</li> </ul>	9/26 – 9/28
7	Capital Structure Optimization / Real Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quiz / Homework Likely (10/3)</li> <li>Read Chapter 15 and 26</li> </ul>	10/3 – 10/5
8	Debt Alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term Project Working Session (10/10)</li> <li>Read Handouts</li> </ul>	10/10 – 10/12
9	Debt Alternatives /Exam 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Debt Alternatives – 10/17</li> <li><b>Exam 2 – 10/19 (Chapters 9, 10, 11, 15, 26, Handouts)</b></li> </ul>	10/17 – 10/19
10	Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 17 and 23</li> </ul>	10/24 – 10/26
11	Dividends and Share Repurchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 14</li> <li>Quiz likely 10/31 on Risk Mgmt</li> </ul>	10/31 – 11/2
12	IPOs and M & A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quiz likely on 11/7</li> <li>Read Chapters 18 and 22</li> <li>Written Term Projects Due (11/9)</li> </ul>	11/7 – 11/9

13	Term Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term Project Presentations</li> </ul>	11/14 – 11/16
14	Winter Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RELAX</li> </ul>	11/21 – 11/23
15	Hybrid Securities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 20 and handouts</li> </ul>	11/28 – 11/30
16	Bankruptcy / Reorganization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 24</li> <li>Final Exam Review</li> </ul>	12/5 – 12/7
	<b>Exam Three</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Exam 3</b> - Chapters 14, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 24</li> </ul>	TBD

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### Grading Policy

Class Participation	10%
Quizzes / Homework	15% (will drop lowest of 4)
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	20%
Term Project	20%
Exam 3	<u>20%</u>
Semester Grade	100%

The exam will contain concept questions and analytical problems, including True/False, Multiple Choice, and Short Answer questions. All exams will take place during regular class time on the dates noted above. You can bring with you a non-programmable financial calculator. The traditional 100-point maximum grade per exam will be followed. Final semester grades will be assigned letter grades such as A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), or F (59 and below). In addition, a + or – may be assigned per the following example: 80-83 (B-), 84-86 (B), and 87-89 (B+). Unless there is a computational error, no final semester grades will be changed.

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### Course & Instructor Policies

The above class schedule is tentative; I reserve the right to modify, add homework and quizzes, shift due dates, etc. The best way to keep up with the schedule is to attend class regularly. The reading assigned each week should be done in advance of attending class, as I will be building on that material during the lectures.

**There will be no make-ups of weekly quizzes or homework.** If you have a legitimate reason to be absent from a weekly quiz, please contact me BEFORE the day of the exam or quiz. The instructor reserves the right to determine a legitimate reason for missing an exam or quiz. **Missed exams / quizzes must be taken BEFORE the class does UNLESS you are ill and have a valid doctor's explanation.** You will be given a zero for missed quizzes not taken in advance or excused by a physician's note.

**Class participation is required.** This component can be the critical difference in your grade if you are “cuspy”. In addition to questions and regular contributions to the discussion, I will

require that each student bring something relevant from recent news to present / discuss with the class. Your absence from class will negatively impact your class participation grade.

**All students must take ALL THREE EXAM as well as turn in the term project to receive credit for the course.**

Weekly topic materials and handouts will be posted on eLearning. Please stay current on any materials posted there.

The class period is 75 minutes. Given the brevity of our time together, please refrain from cell phone usage, eating, and restroom breaks during the class period.

### **Term Project**

Details and materials on the term project will be provided in a separate document and will be posted on eLearning. The presentation portion of the project will be conducted during the week beginning November 14. The written part will be due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, November 9.

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### **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.”

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### **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.

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