



**Course** FIN 6350: Advanced Financial Management  
**Section** 001  
**Professor** Nina Baranchuk  
**Term** Fall 2016  
**Meetings** Friday 7:00 – 9:45 pm in JSOM 1.107

#### Instructor Contact Information

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| <b>Office Phone</b>      | 972.883.4771  |
| <b>Office Location</b>   | JSOM 14.324   |
| <b>Email Address</b>     | <a href="mailto:nina.baranchuk@utdallas.edu">nina.baranchuk@utdallas.edu</a>  |
| <b>Office Hours</b>      | Wednesday 12:00 – 2:00pm (unless announced otherwise; check eLearning)  |
| <b>Other Information</b> | E-mail is the best way to contact me. You are welcome to email me at any time and I will respond as soon as I am able to do so. |

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

FIN 6301 is a prerequisite for this course.

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#### Course Description:

Advanced analysis of topics in financial management. Capital structure, dividend policy, incentives, and risk management. Topics may vary.

This course starts where Finance 6301 typically ends. Additional topics include financial analysis and planning, business valuation, short and long -term financial management, mergers and acquisitions and corporate restructuring.

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#### Learning Outcomes:

1. Value a firm using different methodologies.
2. Evaluate different options for financing the assets of a firm: their costs and benefits.
3. Evaluate different strategies for managing the current and long-term assets of the firm.

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#### Required Textbooks and Materials

Students should choose a full version finance textbook that covers all the topics listed in the syllabus. Some examples include:

- *Corporate Finance*, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Berk and DeMarzo, Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2014.
- *Intermediate Financial Management (IFM)*, E. Brigham and P. Daves, Thomson South-Western (11<sup>th</sup> edition, 2013).
- *Financial Management Theory and Practice*, 14<sup>th</sup>, E. Brigham and M. Ehrhardt, Southwestern Publishing, 2013.
- *Corporate Finance*, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Ross, Westerfield and Jaffe, McGraw-Hill, 2013.
- *Principles of Corporate Finance*, 11<sup>th</sup> edition, Brealey, Myers and Allen, McGraw- Hill, 2014.

Note: The text should NOT have “Focused” or “The Core” in the title. The “Focused” or “The Core” texts contain fewer chapters and will not include some (or most) of the topics covered in this course.

A financial calculator and access to MS Excel are required. The course involves substantial statistical and financial calculations. Recommended calculators include the HP-10BII, HP-12C, TI BAI Plus, or the TI BAI Plus Professional. These calculators can be used on most certification exams (e.g., CFA, FRM, CPA, etc.). If you use a calculator, then you will be responsible for knowing how to use it. I recommend you bring the calculator to class since there will be occasions to use it. You will only be allowed to use a financial calculator on the exams.

**Excel:** You will find it in your interest to learn how to use spreadsheets to solve financial problems, particularly if you decide to pursue a career in finance or accounting. Good books to learn such skills for corporate finance are: (1) *Spreadsheet Modeling in Corporate Finance*, by Craig Holden, Prentice-Hall, or (2) *Financial Modeling*, by S. Benninga, The MIT Press.

*The Wall Street Journal* is optional but highly recommended since we will discuss current business news.

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#### Lecture Schedule\*

| Class        | Topic <sup>+</sup>         |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| 8/26         | Review and Assessment      |
| 9/2          | Financial Forecasting      |
| 9/9          | Firm Valuation             |
| 9/16         | Options                    |
| 9/23         | Capital Structure          |
| 9/30         | Cost of Capital            |
| 10/7         | Raising Equity Capital     |
| <b>10/14</b> | <b>Exam 1</b>              |
| 10/21        | Shareholder Compensation   |
| 10/28        | Raising Debt Capital       |
| 11/4         | Leasing and Hybrids        |
| 11/11        | Working Capital Management |
| 11/18        | Risk Management            |
| 11/25        | No class (Fall Break)      |
| <b>12/2</b>  | <b>Exam 2</b>              |

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

<sup>+</sup>The chapters to read are listed in a separate spreadsheet. You would select the chapters that are appropriate for your textbook.

You are *expected* to have read the text material prior to class. I will provide additional information about the lectures on eLearning prior to class. While I will discuss some problems, I recommend that you work as many as you need to learn the material. I will provide solutions to selected questions and problems on eLearning to help you.

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#### Grading Policy

Your course grade is a weighted average of your scores on the assigned material. The weights are:

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Presentations: | 15% |
| Participation: | 15% |

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| Exam 1: | 35% |
| Exam 2: | 35% |

Using the weighted average of the scores, a letter grade of A, B, C and F will be assigned. Plusses and minuses will be used sparingly.

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***Presentations:*** You will participate in group projects with class presentations. They will be assigned in class for the next class. While all groups are responsible for these projects, I will only call on a single group to present their work to the class for discussion.

- Peer evaluations may be used to assess your contribution to the group performance when necessary. Poor results on the peer evaluation can affect your presentation grade.

***Participation:*** You will be evaluated on your contribution to class discussions and your ability to answer questions. In-class discussions will include required academic articles (will be posted on eLearning), current business news, and project presentations. I expect you to come to class prepared. If you do not understand the material, then you are responsible for telling me and asking for further clarification.

***Exams:*** Examinations test your knowledge on the theories, practices and analytical methods of financial management. Exam material comes from class lectures and class discussion. All individual examinations should be entirely your own work. I will provide a formula sheet for you to use if necessary.

As with professional certification, you can only use a financial calculator for the exams. No other electronics are allowed for the exam. Cell phones, PDAs, notebooks, MP3 players, calculators that store text and any other wireless communication devices are NOT allowed and should be turned off and put away for the exams. Exams are closed book and closed note. This can be modified at the discretion of the instructor.

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## **Course & Instructor Policies**

**E-learning:** You should check E-learning before class. The site will have lecture information, presentation instructions, any recommended practice problems and any updates to the class material. You are responsible for the material on-line and in-class.

**Make-up exams:** No make-up exams will be given unless the student (1) obtains advance permission from the instructor, and (2) has a legitimate reason for missing the examination. Supporting documentation may be required.

**Late work:** All work is due by the due date and time and will not be accepted after that.

**Extra credit:** There are no extra credit assignments for this class.

**Class attendance:** Attendance at all classes is expected unless there are compelling reasons that prohibit attendance. Students are responsible for all material covered in any missed class.

**UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and procedures:**

The information about the University's policies and procedures segment of course syllabi can be found by following this link: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>