COURSE NUMBER: FI 301 - online
COURSE TITLE: Fundamentals of Financial Management

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Steigner
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PREREQUISITES AC 223, BU 255, junior standing

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This is an introductory course in managerial finance in which you should attain a clear, basic understanding of the essentials of financial decision making. Emphasis is given to the underlying principles of corporate finance and their associations to the decision-making framework faced by a financial manager who is charged with maximizing shareholders’ wealth. In essence the course covers topics related to financing and investment decisions—that is, how to raise funds and where to invest funds. The focus of the course is to provide an understanding of the tools and techniques required to make informed decisions about which assets a firm should purchase and how such purchases should be financed.

When you finish this course, you should understand (1) the general framework for financial decision making, (2) the role of financial decision making in maximizing the value of a firm, (3) in general, how to determine whether an investment should be made and how to finance acceptable investments, (4) what is meant by the risk/return tradeoff and how risk and return affect investment decisions, and (5) how external factors, such as financial markets, affect financial decisions made by the firm. You will find that much of the information provided in this class can also be applied to make informed personal financial decisions.

Please note that this is a self-paced course that allows students to complete assignments at their convenience but no later than Friday, June 29.

In this course you will:
- Gain factual knowledge
- Learn to apply course material
- Develop skills needed by professionals in the field of Finance
REQUIRED TEXT:

Scott Besley and Eugene F. Brigham, CFIN, 3rd edition. CFIN 3 (with Finance Coursemate with eBook Printed Access Card), 3rd Edition


http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/en/US/storefront/US;CMGTJSESSIONID=HjQxPxVLP9G1p9vGQPcTVWGr0tpFP1K8x6Yl0hRnJGB87LJnVZvy!1141512828!315794035?cmd=catProductDetail&entryPoint=storefront&ISBN=9781133626404&messageType=catProductDetail

Each new text book comes with an access code to CourseMate, which provides an interactive eBook, Flashcards, Quizzes, and other activities that enhance the learning experience for students in this course – definitely recommended to use in your studies!!!


SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:
A financial calculator (e.g., Texas Instruments BAII PLUS) is recommended for this course.

BLACKBOARD MATERIALS:
This syllabus as well as Powerpoint presentations and other useful information will be posted on Blackboard. Your quizzes will also be available on Blackboard under “Assignments.”

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE:
The easiest way to communicate with me if I am not in my office is via email. I attempt to respond to emails within 24 hours (during regular business days); I do not check emails during weekends, holidays, or breaks. Please note that I will respond only to emails that are sent from ESU accounts. As a courtesy, I ask that you put your course and section number in the subject line, together with one or more key words regarding your email’s content (e.g., FI301 ZA – Question about Chapter 1).
Students’ progress will be assessed using both untimed and timed quizzes, called progress trackers.

**Progress-Tracker (PT)**

Throughout this course you have the opportunity to assess your progress with two types of online quizzes, administered via Blackboard. There are a total of four quizzing periods. In each quizzing period you will take one quiz that has no time limit. This provides you the opportunity to become familiar with the type of questions that are commonly asked regarding a certain subject matter, and you have ample time to read up on material that you are not yet proficient in. After you complete the first quiz, you will take a second quiz that does have a time limit. You will know at the beginning of the timed quiz exactly how much time you have available. As a general rule, you will have 30-60 minutes for the timed test, depending on the subject matter. Each test - untimed and timed - will be worth 30 points.

There will be four progress trackers:
- PT1: Chapters 1, 2, 14
- PT2: Chapters 3, 4, 5
- PT3: Chapters 6, 7, 8
- PT4: Chapters 9, 10, 11

Please note carefully that beginning with chapter 4 the material builds on each others, and it becomes imperative that you understand the fundamentals before you proceed!

Please note that there is the possibility that Blackboard experiences technical difficulties while you are taking a quiz, in which case you might not be able to successfully submit the quiz. If this does happen to you (though it rarely does), please contact me asap and I will re-set the quiz for you.

Lastly, please note that there is no deadline for any of the PT quizzes. PT1 will become available at the end of week 1, PT2 at the end of week 2, and PT3&4 at the end of week 3. You decide when you are ready to take a particular quiz. The only time constraint is the Friday, June 29, deadline. At that time all quizzes will have to be completed or scores of zero will be assigned. The PT quizzes will become deactivated at that time. This flexibility allows students to progress at their own speed, and accommodates “late arrivals” to the course, late book shipments, and any other special situations that may occur.

To ease students into the new subject matters, online recordings for the earlier chapters (1-7 & 14) are available on Blackboard under Course Content.
Grading Scale

Course Grades will be assigned using the following system:

A =  216 and above Points  
B =  192-215 Points  
C =  168-191 Points  
D =  144-167 Points  
F =  143 and below Points

Student Work

Please note that all work provided by the students (e.g., quizzes, assignments) can be made available to ESU’s School of Business.

Help

Questions are encouraged in this course; so ask as many as you want! Please get help when you have questions about the material covered - understanding the material covered in this course will benefit you in other business courses as well.

I encourage especially students enrolled in the summer course to make an appointment and meet with me in person if questions arise and a meeting is logistically possible. If you cannot meet with me in person but you have specific questions/comments/concerns, it is your responsibility to contact me and seek for help. I will make every attempt to assist where appropriate if you ask for help. After all, I succeed if you succeed 😊
Academic dishonesty

At Emporia State University, academic dishonesty is a basis for disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting as one’s own the intellectual or creative accomplishments of another without giving credit to the source or sources). The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question and may refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the university. This policy is provided according to the Kansas Board of Regents directive. The student has the right to appeal the charge of academic dishonesty in accordance with the university’s Academic Appeals Policy and Procedure as set forth in Section 9A-04 of the Faculty Handbook.

Students with Disabilities

Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication among students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential. Office of Disability Services is located at 001 Memorial Union. Contact info: (620) 341-6637, (620) 341-6646 TTY, or email disabser@emporia.edu.
The Major Field Test (MFT) in Business contains approximately 120 multiple-choice items designed to measure a student's subject knowledge and the ability to apply facts, concepts, theories and analytical methods. Some questions are grouped in sets and based on diagrams, charts and data tables. The questions represent a wide range of difficulty and cover depth and breadth in assessing students' achievement levels.

There are several incentives for doing well on the MFT

- $300 scholarship to the students who are among the five highest scores on the MFT and who also enroll in the ESU MBA or MS in Accounting and Information Systems program. Those who score in the top five on the MFT and who do not enroll in the ESU MBA or MS in Accounting and Information Systems program will receive $150 awards.
- We will place the name of the highest scorer on a permanent plaque to be placed in a prominent location in Cremer Hall.
- We will publicly announce and recognize the top ten scores
- We will provide a certificate to the five students who earn the highest scores
- You can list your test scores with your credentials

Finance (about 13% of the test questions are from the area of Finance)

A. Corporate Finance
   a. Time value of money
   b. Capital budgeting
   c. Working capital management
   d. Financial statement analysis
   e. Cost of capital and capital structure

B. Investments
   a. Risk and Returns
   b. Valuation of securities
   c. Financial markets and environments

C. International Finance

For more information about the MFT Test, go to http://www.emporia.edu/business/mft.php
Please sign and email this form to me by May 21.

I hereby acknowledge that I have received and read the course syllabus for Fundamentals of Financial Management, FI 301 ZA, Summer Semester 2012. I fully understand all covered issues, and I have no further questions regarding the conduct and/or grading system in this class. I further agree to abide by all points/issues as outlined in the course syllabus, and that I will conduct myself in an ethical manner.

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