

FIN 3361- Financial Management Spring 2022

Course Description/Overview

Course Description

This course is designed to develop critical thinking and financial skills necessary for financial policy decisions. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to solve financial problems, gather and analyze financial data, develop critical thinking, ethical awareness, and communication, collaboration and presentation skills. Topics include financial management of the firm, time value of money, valuation of the firm, bond and stock valuations, working capital policy, capital budgeting, cost of capital, and long-term financing.

Prerequisite Knowledge

Students should have junior or senior standing at the university level. A basic understanding of the principles of economics and accounting is strongly advised.

Prerequisites: Accounting 2301 and Management 2331

Course Technology

This is an online course. Use of blackboard is required. It is essential that students familiarize themselves with the use of blackboard. We will also use PDF, MS Excel, Word, and PowerPoint in this class. **Students must have access to a reliable computer that connects to the Internet.** The course materials are only accessible online by logging in to <http://blackboard.angelo.edu>. These applications are also on computers in the MCS Lab on campus.

In addition to a competent level of computer and Internet literacy and capability, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience in blackboard. You will also need to use the Respondus LockDown Browser (this is part of Blackboard and is free to you) and have a web cam in order to take the exams for this course. Please review the important technical requirements and Web browser configuration information

on the blackboard home page. Blackboard support may be contacted by calling (325) 486-6263 or by email at elarning@angelo.edu

Class Meeting Times

This is an online course.

Technical Support

The Technology Service Center (TSC) may be contacted by calling (325) 942-2911 or 1-866-942-2911 or by email at helpdesk@angelo.edu.

Faculty/Instructor Information

Name: Biqing Huang, Ph.D.
Title: Professor of Finance
Office: RAS 249
Phone: (325) 486-6447
E-Mail: biqing.huang@angelo.edu

You are welcome to send emails to or call the instructor (or leave a voice mail) if you have any questions.

Course Objectives

Learning Objectives:

The **essential objectives** of this course are for the student to learn techniques of financial management. Topics include using financial statements in decision making, time value of money, valuation of stocks and bonds, risk and return, capital budgeting analysis, cost of capital, short-term and long-term financing, capital structure, capital markets, dividend policy, derivatives, international financial management, and other topics associated with successful business finance decisions in an internationally competitive environment. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the concept and theory of Time Value of Money and be able to apply it to bond and stock valuation. Develop business skills such as analytical thinking, critical analysis, creativity and problem solving. Incorporate the use of excel.
2. Demonstrate competency in interpersonal, and written communications.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of contemporary theory and practice in finance. Understand the concept of Risk/Return Tradeoff and be able to apply it to investment choices.
4. Understand advanced topics in finance such as dividend payout policy, capital structure and leverage, options, mergers and acquisitions.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of basic international finance.

Assessment Methods:

Goal 1 is assessed through take-home assignments, and quizzes.

Goal 2 is assessed through take-home assignments.

Goal 3 is assessed through take-home assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Goal 4 is assessed through take-home assignments and online discussions.

Goal 5 is assessed through take-home assignments and online discussions.

Course Textbook and Required Readings

Required Text:

Title: Practical Financial Management
Edition: 8th
Author: William R. Lasher
ISBN: 9781305637542
Copyright Year: 2017
Publisher: Cengage South-Western

NO ACCESS CODE IS NEEDED.

Recommended Readings: The Wall street Journal, Financial Times, The Economist

Required Calculator: Hewlett-Packard 10B-II, or Hewlett-Packard 10B-II Plus

The Hewlett-Packard 10B-II (HP 10B-II), or Hewlett-Packard 10-BII (HP 10B-II Plus) calculator is strongly recommended. All examples shown on lecture notes will use this calculator. If you choose to use another, it is your responsibility to learn to use it. Bring the calculator to every class, starting with the second class.

Course Policies:

1. Communication with Your Professor and Fellow Students:

Communications about your course will be in the format of ASU email, announcements on blackboard. I strongly suggest that you check blackboard and your ASU email at least once for every two days. I will make announcements on blackboard when there are any updates of the course (new materials, new HWs, quizzes, exams, etc).

I will respond to your e-mails/posts within 24 to 48 hours during business day. The instructor often checks emails/posts and typically responds promptly. Emails/posts sent on Saturday or Sunday will receive a reply by Monday or Tuesday.

If you call and the instructor does not answer, she is either away from our desks or on the line. You can send an email or leave a message on the voicemail. Please make your message short and leave your phone number and a good time to return your call.

The best way to reach me is via email.

This course does not require synchronous communication.

Email manners: Please include subject, titles or name of the person you are writing to, content, and your names. Usually the instructor will respond within three hours. The instructor **will not respond** to emails that do not meet the requirements.

2. Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

Angelo State University is committed to providing a reliable online course delivery system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected blackboard server outage or any ASU or MyEconLab technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive activity, I will extend the due date and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. The accommodations will be made as soon as the ASU IT Department or MyEconLab confirms that there was such a problem. Students should report any problems to the professor through their ASU email account and also email www.elearning@angelo.edu.

Note that this does not apply to individual technical problems that you may encounter on your personal computer. It is the responsibility of the student to work with a reliable computer and Internet connection and plan ahead.

Policies of student submissions:

Students will need to submit their HWs, exams and quizzes on blackboard using the test format. The students will need to hit the “submit” button at the end in order to submit successfully. Detailed instructions for submissions will be provided on blackboard.

No late HW submissions can be accepted.

Technical Problems with Exams and Exam Policy:

Please plan to take your exams and quizzes on a reliable computer. Wireless and dial-up connections tend to cause problems with quizzes and exams. Do not use these. You should take your quizzes and exams with DSL broadband or cable Internet connections.

Grading Policies

This course employs the following to measure student learning. Grades may consist of exams, assignments, and class citizenship. Specific due dates for each will be announced in a timely manner on blackboard. Students are responsible for being aware of the information.

Course grades will be based on a weighted composite of the following (Please be aware that the **instructor reserves the right to** change the weights of each grading component):

| | |
|--|-----|
| Exam I: | 20% |
| Exam II: | 20% |
| Final Exam: | 30% |
| Others (Assignments, class citizenship, etc.): | 30% |

Please check blackboard announcements regarding each grading component, including class citizenship.

Your grade will be assigned to the following achievements. The instructor reserves the right to change the cutoffs presented below.

| <u>Letter Grade</u> | <u>%</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|
| A | 90% and above |
| B | 80% - 89.99% |
| C | 70% - 79.99% |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| D | 60% - 69.99% |
| F | Below 60% |

Course Policies

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code (www.angelo.edu/content/files/17358-university-honor-code) and the ASU Student Handbook(<http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/17187-2014-15-student-handbook>).

It is the professor's intention to be as fair and impartial as is humanly possible. Therefore, all students will be asked to adhere to the same set of guidelines and rules UNLESS there are disabilities or documented extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with the professor and the Student Life Office. Please make sure you inform the professor as soon as any situation arises. Do NOT wait until the problem is compounded by poor class performance, poor attendance, etc.

Academic integrity is expected. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized sharing of work, or unauthorized possession of course materials. The professor assumes that all students can be trusted. Please do not violate this trust. Violation of academic integrity will result in a failing grade for the course.

Courtesy and Respect

Courtesy and Respect are essential ingredients to this course. We respect each other's opinions and respect their point of view at all times while in our class sessions. The use of profanity & harassment of any form is strictly prohibited (Zero Tolerance), as are those remarks concerning one's ethnicity, life style, race (ethnicity), religion, etc., violations of these rules will result in immediate dismissal from the course.

Accommodations for Disability

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.15 Providing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities), the Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126

(TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Student Life Office will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

Student absence for religious holidays

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day), a student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Incomplete as a Course grade

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures), the grade I is given when the student is unable to complete the course because of illness or personal misfortune. An I that is not removed before the end of the next long semester automatically becomes an F. A graduate student will be allowed one year to remove a grade of I before it automatically becomes an F. To graduate from ASU, a student must complete all I's.

Grade Appeal Process

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances), a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at:

<http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14196-op-1003-grade-grievance>.

Course Revision: Any revisions to this syllabus will be announced in class and supercede this syllabus. Students are responsible for being aware of these changes.

Tentative class schedules

Please note that except the final, the course and exam schedules listed below represent the best information available at the time of course registration. They are **tentative and may change at any time. Adjustments will be made if necessary **based on actual progress**. I will announce the dates of exams/quizzes/assignments at least one week in advance on blackboard.*

Important Dates (Detailed information regarding the submissions can be found on blackboard)

| Things to be Due | Due Date |
|------------------|----------------------|
| | |
| HW1 | By 10PM Dec 23 |
| HW2 | By 10PM Dec 23 |
| HW3 | By 10PM Dec 23 |
| Exam I | On Dec 30 (9AM-10PM) |
| Exam II | On Jan 9 (9AM-10PM) |
| Final Exam | On Jan 14 (9AM-10PM) |

Again, dates listed above are just tentative. Actual dates will be announced on blackboard. Please check blackboard in a timely manner.